

ALBION SQUARE DESIGN CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Elaine Woodburn – Project Champion
LEAD OFFICER: Pat Graham Head of Development Operations
REPORT AUTHOR: Chris Lloyd Contracts and Property Manager

Summary and Recommendation:

To advise Members on progress with the project and with procurement of design and technical support team

Recommendation:

Executive is asked to delegate the approval of an Ad hoc list of design and technical support teams to the Head of Development Strategy and the Head of Finance and MIS in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. A report was considered and approved by Executive on 10th February 2009 in connection with this project and potential Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). As part of the CPO process it is necessary for the Council to demonstrate that it genuinely intends to proceed with a scheme.
- 1.2. A further report was also considered on 10 March where Pre Application Expenditure was approved for this stage of the project, comprising funding provided by the Council with matched funding provided by Westlakes Renaissance (£155k each).
- 1.3. The project group now wishes to appoint a design team to develop the scheme to the stage when a Planning Application may be made.
- 1.4. The estimated cost of the design and technical support fees for the complete project is above the threshold for meeting the European Union competition requirements (£139,893).
- 1.5. To expand on the above, the project group wishes to structure the design services so that the appointment will be progressed in stages, linked to provision of funding. The extent of the design services to the making of a Planning Application will be within the level to which the council can currently commit, having established a budget for design and CPO.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. Executive is asked to note the requirements of Contract Standing Orders where the approval of an Ad Hoc list is required from Executive and acceptance of the most economically advantageous tender by the Chief Executive. In order to streamline the process executive is asked to delegate the approval of an Ad hoc list to the Head of Development Strategy and the Head of Finance and MIS in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder.

3. FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOURCES OF FINANCE)

- 3.1. Budgetary provision exists for a commitment up to £190,000. As the design develops there will be participation and consultation with Members and stakeholders.
- 3.2. Further report(s) will be presented to executive prior to any additional design service expenditure above this level.

4. IMPACT ON CORPORATE PLAN

- 4.1. The development of Albion Square is a key project within the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme which will assist in meeting the Council's Regeneration and Corporate objective for the transformation of Copeland to deliver a prosperous future.

List of Appendices: None

List of Background Documents: None

List of Consultees:

Councillor Elaine Woodburn, Leader
Councillor Cath Giel, portfolio-holder
Head of Development Strategy
Head of Finance and Management Information Systems
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

CHECKLIST FOR DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES

Please confirm against the issue if the key issues below have been addressed. This can be by either a short narrative or quoting the paragraph number in the report in which it has been covered.

Impact on Crime and Disorder	None
Impact on Sustainability	None
Impact on Rural Proofing	None
Health and Safety Implications	None
Impact on Equality and Diversity Issues	None
Children and Young Persons Implications	None
Human Rights Act Implications	None
Monitoring Officer comments	Executive can approve the method of compiling as Ad Hoc List under CSOs
S. 151 Officer comments	None

Is this a Key Decision? Yes