

## **The Vale of Glamorgan Council**

### **Cabinet Meeting: 4 July, 2016**

## **Report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Social Care and Health**

### **Castleland Renewal Area Programme of Works 2016-17**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Cabinet's endorsement of the Castleland Renewal Area programme for 2016-17 as detailed in this report and agree the services' fee structure.

#### **Recommendations**

1. That Cabinet endorses the Castleland Renewal Area 2016-17 programme.
2. That Cabinet agrees a fee based on officer time and hourly rate is charged for implementing and managing the Castleland Renewal Area programme.

#### **Reasons for the Recommendations**

1. To enable the 2016-17 Castleland Renewal Area programme to be implemented.
2. To ensure the cost of officer time in implementing and managing the Castleland Renewal Area programme is recovered.

#### **Background**

2. On the 28th April 2010, the Castleland Renewal Area was declared for a period of 12 years (C860).
3. The Castleland Renewal Area forms an integral part of the Council's Private Sector Housing Renewal Strategy and through declaring a Renewal Area the Council is stating its intention to focus action on improving housing, the general amenities and the local environment, increasing community and market confidence, maximising external investment in and regenerating the area.

#### **Relevant Issues and Options**

4. Over the last 5 years a work programme was developed for the Renewal Area focusing on:

- The delivery of a Face-lifting programme to residential properties within the area
  - Maximising funding available to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock and reduce fuel poverty in the area.
  - The declaration of an additional Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licensing scheme for the area to improve the physical quality and management of poorly converted HMOs
  - Focused support to owners of empty properties in the area to return them back into residential use
  - The delivery of a package of financial assistance to improve the commercial and vacant property in the upper section of Holton road
  - Maximising funding opportunities to improve the physical environment in the area, and Working with Communities First to deliver initiatives to support the resident's wellbeing.
5. During those 5 years this programme has been successfully developed.
  6. The financial year 2016-17 is the final year of allocated capital funding to the Castleland Renewal Area. This funding year the budget is approximately £1.2 million consisting of £678,000 from Welsh Government Specific Capital Grant and the remaining amount from Council Capital Funding. Slippage from 2015/16 has also been sought.
  7. To maximise the final year of funding and continue to achieve a positive impact on the community, the Castleland Renewal Area Steering Group has considered a proposed programme of work for 2016-17. The group considered that priority residential improvements had been achieved, and increased priority should be given to public realm/environment in the renewal area to deliver a rounded project. The group proposes:
    - Continued improvements to upper Holton Road to include a highways improvement scheme to renew pavement surfaces, improving drainage, consolidating signage, reviewing street lighting and replacing property boundary walls where necessary.
    - A repairs and cleaning scheme to Holton Road Primary School similar to the work completed on the rows of terraced properties along the road. This work will support and enhance the current investment made in the improvements to the residential and commercial properties on this section of Holton Road.
    - Improvements to Gladstone Park to compliment/ enhance planned section 106 funded improvements
    - Review Coigne Terrace Play Area and develop a scheme to improve the community open space/ facility in this location. This work will include public consultation as proposals are developed.
    - Scope and carry out improvements to Hill Street Allotments. This could include the renewal of road and pathways, boundary fencing and facilities in the allotments. Again, this work would include consultation with allotment holders before a scheme is undertaken.
  8. To enable the final year of the Castleland Renewal Area programme to be progressed, this report seeks Cabinet's endorsement on the above programme.
  9. If Cabinet endorses the programme of works, the Castleland Renewal Area team will project manage the programme. To support this function a fee will be charged by the

service for officer time spent delivering and managing the programme at the officer's hourly rate. This fee will be charged against the programme's capital budget.

### **Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)**

10. There is an identified capital funding for the delivery of the Castleland Renewal Area.
11. There is a revenue budget for the Renewal Area team. This budget includes a revenue income target. The income generated from work to implement the 2016-17 Renewal Area programme will assist the service achieving this income target.

### **Sustainability and Climate Change Implications**

12. The Renewal Area Programme aims to support the sustainability of the community by improving the general amenities and environment in the locality and increasing community and market confidence in the area to maximise external investment and reverse historic decline.

### **Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)**

13. The programme will improve Council owned assets.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

14. There are no crime and disorder implications arising as a direct result of the 2016-17 Castleland Renewal Area programme

### **Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)**

15. The project will be delivered in accordance with the Council's equal opportunities policies and ethos.
16. There are no particular Welsh Language issues associated with this programme. All promotional material produced in association with the programme will be bilingual in accordance with Council Policy

### **Corporate/Service Objectives**

17. The proposals recommended will support the following objectives in the Corporate Plan:

#### Well-being Outcome 1

- An Inclusive and Safe Vale - Citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan have a good quality of life and feel part of the local community.

#### Well-being Outcome 2

- An Environmentally Responsible and Prosperous Vale - The Vale of Glamorgan has a strong and sustainable economy and the local environment is safeguarded for present and future generations.

### **Policy Framework and Budget**

18. This is a matter for Executive decision

## **Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)**

19. This report affects the Castleland, Court and Buttrills wards and ward members have been consulted accordingly.
- Elected Member, Councillor Stuart Egan, Buttrills Ward commented as follows:  
I am happy with the recommendations.
  - Elected Member, Councillor Ian Johnson, Buttrills Ward commented as follows:  
With regards to the Buttrills ward which I represent, I support proposed improvements to Holton Primary School and to Gladstone Gardens, and await further details of these.  
  
With regards to the Upper Holton Road area, I welcome the proposed investment, but would also welcome publication of clear aims and success indicators for this area so that we can be assured that there is a successful outcome to this regeneration project.
  - Elected Member, Councillor Richard Bertin, Court Ward commented as follows:  
As a local ward member I note the programme of works to be carried out and I am especially pleased to hear that the Upper Holton Road area will be included in this latest round of schemes, and specific attention is going to be given to the pavements and lighting.

## **Relevant Scrutiny Committee**

20. Housing and Safe Communities.

## **Background Papers**

None.

## **Contact Officer**

Elen Probert - Team Leader, Community and Housing Renewal

## **Officers Consulted**

Legal Services, Committee reports  
Accountant, Finance  
Highways, Visible Services  
Parks, Visible Services  
Operational Manager, Regeneration

## **Responsible Officer:**

Rob Thomas, Managing Director