

**ANGUS COUNCIL****ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 16 JANUARY 1997**

**SUBJECT: RAF EDZELL: PRE-BID FEASIBILITY STUDY/SCOTTISH INSTITUTE OF SPORT  
REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Abstract: This report advises the Committee on actions proposed to appraise the issues involved in a prospective Edzell based bid for a Scottish Institute of Sport, and recommends that Angus Council contributes to a partnership study to obtain expert advice.**

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee -

- a note the RAF Edzell Taskforce support for the approach of commissioning expert advice in the form of a pre-bid feasibility study at an estimated cost of £12,000
- b note that Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Grampian Enterprise Ltd have each agreed contributions of £3,000.
- c agree that Angus Council make a contribution of £3,000 towards the total cost of the study;
- d remit to the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Development the responsibility for participating in the selection and appointment of consultants to undertake the feasibility study.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 Reference is made to the meeting of Angus Council on 19 September 1996 (Report 770/96 and Article 4F refers) wherein the Council agreed as part of its proposed Action Plan (in response to the Edzell Base closure) to ask the Edzell Taskforce to establish a consortium to commission the formulation of a bid for a campus based centre of sporting excellence.
- 2.2 This report indicates the progress made with this proposal and makes recommendations on the proposed action to be taken.

### 3 PROGRESS

- 3.1 The Edzell Taskforce meeting of 22 November agreed that a decision to form a Consortium should be based on expert advice as to whether the substantial cost involved in making a serious bid, would be justified on the basis of the best advice available on the likely prospects for success of an Edzell bid.
- 3.2 Given the role of the Scottish Office in assessing bids for the Scottish Institute of Sport the Taskforce partners in any prospective consortium would be restricted to the local authorities and local enterprise companies. Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Grampian Enterprise Ltd have already agreed to contribute towards the costs of obtaining this advice, and a number of consultancy firms with appropriate skills in this field have been identified.
- 3.3 It would be appropriate for Angus Council to agreed to participate in this pre-bid feasibility study on an equal share basis.

### 4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The estimated cost of obtaining the expert advice required is £12,000 with the four partners each contributing £3,000. This sum can be financed from the Departmental Revenue Budget 1996/97 for "Assistance to Industry".

### 5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Executive, Directors of Law and Administration, Finance and Recreation Service (Client) have been consulted and are in agreement with the terms of this report.

### 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 In view of the complexity and substantial costs involved in making a serious bid for the Scottish Institute of Sport which would have to be submitted by the Spring of 1997, there is a need to obtain expert advice on the likely prospects of success in a possible Edzell based bid.

#### NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/SW/DV/LJP

Alex Anderson  
Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Development

30 December 1996