

Agenda Item No

Report No 826/99

## ANGUS COUNCIL

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE

26 AUGUST 1999

SUBJECT: SITE FOR TRAVELLING PEOPLE  
TAYOCK, MONTROSE

## REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

**Abstract:** This report advises the Committee on the successful outcome of an application to the Scottish Office for grant for the upgrading of the Travelling People's site at Tayock, Montrose.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is asked to note that the Scottish Office has approved a grant, at the rate of 100%, to cover the capital cost of extending and upgrading the Travelling People's site at Tayock, Montrose, subject to an overall cost ceiling of £141,750, plus professional fees.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 Following Local Government reorganisation in 1996, the Secretary of State for Scotland issued revised targets regarding the number of pitches required in local authority areas to meet the needs of travelling people. These targets take account of long-term and seasonal provision and provision available on private sites.
- 2.2 In Angus, the target provision has been set at 35 pitches (the site at Balmuirwood, Tealing now lies within the Angus Council area but still contributes towards the City of Dundee Council's target). There are currently 15 local authority pitches at Tayock, Montrose, and a total of 17 private pitches leaving a shortfall of three pitches. It has been agreed previously that this shortfall could best be met by increasing the number of pitches at Tayock.
- 2.3 An application for capital grant to cover the extension and other upgrading works was lodged with the Scottish Office and, following lengthy discussions, has been approved in full.

**3 PROPOSED WORKS**

- 3.1 The St. Christopher site at Tayock, Montrose was one of the first travelling people's sites to be provided in Scotland. The site provides 15 caravan pitches, ablution blocks and six work bays, all in accordance with best practice at the time. The work bays have, however, been an ongoing management problem and it is intended that they be removed thus creating the space for the additional pitches. The provision of work bays are no longer regarded as good practice nor are they supported by the Secretary of State's Advisory Group.

3.2 The proposed works include:-

- provision of three caravan pitches and associated parking;
- provision of 3 unit ablution block with disabled facilities;
- provision of new warden's accommodation;
- installation of petrol interceptor and other drainage improvements;
- upgrading of existing ablution blocks;
- additional landscaping along boundaries;
- other minor upgrading works.

3.3 It is anticipated that the works will be carried out during early spring of next year.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 All of the proposed works are grant eligible and grant has been approved at a rate of 100%. There are, therefore, no financial implications on the Council.

4.2 The grant is offered subject to an overall cost ceiling of £141,750 plus professional fees which are limited to 11.5%. The Director of Property Services has confirmed that this is acceptable. Should the lowest tender exceed the grant ceiling, the level of proposed works would be amended to contain the cost within the grant limits.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

5.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration, Director of Housing and Director of Property Services have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

#### **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/RM/KW  
16 August 1999

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