

## **ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED ADAPTATIONS PROGRAMME – PHASE 3**

### **Abstract**

This report seeks approval to the provision of supplementary funding from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund to allow the third phase of an extensive programme of adaptations in non-housing properties to be undertaken, at an estimated cost of £175,000.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committees for their respective interests are recommended to:

1. approve the bid for supplementary funding in the sum of £175,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05 for Phase 3 of an access for the disabled adaptations programme.
2. instruct the Director of Property Services to progress these adaptations and submit further reports detailing later phases of this programme.

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 places a responsibility on Angus Council to take appropriate measures to ensure, so far as is practicable, equality of access to council services for all members of the community with disabilities.

The Property Services department has identified a need to undertake accessibility adaptations to Council non-housing properties as part of these measures and having completed Phases 1 and 2 of the programme of adaptations it proposes to undertake Phase 3 in Financial Year 2004/05.

This report seeks approval to supplementary funding being made available from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05 to enable this programme to be undertaken.

### **2 BACKGROUND**

The implications of The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 were reported to Angus Council by Report 86/96, DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT 1995 - CONSULTATION ON CODE OF PRACTICE submitted to the Personnel and Property Services Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1996.

It was recognised by the Director of Property Services that an extended programme of physical adaptations to non-Housing properties were necessary to enable the Council to meet its obligations and funding for a short and small scale programme was established within the Financial Plan.

This was supplemented by additional funding from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund to permit the provision of improved access to at Polling Stations as detailed in Report 1271/98, PROPERTY RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND - FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS AND PROGRAMME OF URGENT REPAIRS - PHASE 6, approved by Personnel and Property Services Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1998.

A programme of adaptations commenced in 1998, as reported by Report 1269/98, PROGRESS REPORT ON ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED TO COUNCIL PROPERTIES, submitted to the Personnel and Property Services Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1998 and this has been completed.

A further report, No 556/01 ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED - PROGRESS, POLICY AND STRATEGY, was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee on the 8th May 2001 establishing a corporate policy and strategy. It incorporated accessibility adaptations for school properties and recognised the requirement to undertake an extensive ten year programme of accessibility adaptations to Council non-housing properties, revising the programme as necessary to accommodate changes in needs, priorities and cast as they occur.

The Property Services department has completed Phases 1 and 2 of the programme of adaptations to non-housing properties and proposes to undertake Phase 3, as detailed in Appendix 1, in Financial Year 2004/05 with a funding package comprising provisions within the 2003/2007 Financial Plan and supplementary funding being made available from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Accessibility Adaptations programme for 2004/05 comprises projects wholly funded from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05 and projects where a contribution is being made from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05 to complement Capital funding provisions. These arrangements are detailed in Appendix 1.

The balance of costs cannot be contained within the Property Maintenance elements of the respective departmental revenue budgets for 2004/05 and it is considered appropriate for £175,000 supplementary funding to be made available from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund.

The cost of the programme of work detailed in this report can be contained within the provisions of the Property Renewal and Repair Fund for 2004/05 and the 2003/2007 Financial Plan.

### **4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights Act implications specific to this report.

Any implications, as a consequence of discharging recommendations detailed in this report, will be managed in accordance with the standing procedures and processes established by the Property Services department.

### **5 CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## 6 CONCLUSION

The Committees for their respective interests are recommended to approve the bid for supplementary funding in the sum of £175,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund in 2004/05 for Phase 3 of an access for the disabled adaptations programme and instruct the Director of Property Services to progress these adaptations and submit further reports detailing later phases of this programme.

## REFERENCES

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Personnel and Property Services Committee	28 <sup>th</sup> June 1996	86/96	Disability Discrimination Act 1995 - Consultation on Code of Practice
Finance and Information Technology	10 June 1997	678/97	Composite Report on Special and Other Funds
Policy and Resources Committee	10 February 1998	191/98	Special Funds 1997/98 and Beyond - Review
Policy and Resources Committee	8 May 2001	556/01	Access for the Disabled - Progress, Policy and Strategy

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Access for the disabled adaptations programme - Phase 3

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

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.

M G Lunny  
Director of Property Services

## Appendix 1 Access for the disabled adaptations programme - Phase 3

### Access for the Disabled - Phase 3

Name	Town	Client	Project Description	Expenditure
Inch Park, Sports Centre	Brechin	Leisure Services	New front doors and accessible counter. Upgrading of showering and changing facilities.	£5,000 1
Websters Sports Centre	Kirriemuir	Leisure Services	New front doors and accessible counter. Upgrading of showering and changing facilities.	£60,000 2
Various	Various	Various	Front door adaptations programme	£66,000
Library	Carnoustie	Leisure Services	New lift. Report 98/04	£44,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>£175,000</b>

1. £5,000 contribution to a £65,000 project, funding as detailed below.
2. £60,000 contribution to a £100,000 project, funding as detailed below.

	2004/05			2005/06			2006/07			Total
	PSD Cap	QoL	R&R	PSD Cap	QoL	R&R	PSD Cap	QoL	R&R	
Inch Park Sports Centre	£35,000		£5,000	£10,000	£10,000		£5,000			£65,000
Websters Sports Centre			£60,000		£35,000		£5,000			£100,000