



PARC – Report to Craigmillar/Portobello Neighbourhood Partnership

20 January 2010

Planning

- Former Niddrie Mill Primary School site – to be determined.

Construction & Sales

- Wauchope Square Phase 1 (63 houses) – complete.
- Wauchope Square Phase 7 (22 houses) – further 4 properties disposed to CREHA for affordable rent. First resident of owner occupied housing moved in. 12 to sell.
- Greendykes Phase B (92 houses) – construction completed. 14 properties disposed to Linkwide for affordable rent and 12 for low cost home ownership. 34 to sell.
- Wauchope Phase 2a (26 houses) – under construction for CREHA / Lothian Homes.
- Wauchope Phase 8 (58 houses). Proposals for finalising funding package at advanced stage which could permit Spring start.

Town Centre

- Town Centre Regeneration Fund (£2m). Grant to cover works to White House and town centre infrastructure and public realm.
- **White House** - surveys and investigations complete. Scope for works to interior of White House largely agreed with Historic Scotland to enable designs to be progressed and works procured to achieve target of letting contract by end March. Various uses under discussion. Exhibition space for part of the building could provide an early temporary use, which could be added to on a more permanent basis with café / catering training centre / wi-fi café. Space is limited and constrained by Listed status, however, ideas as to uses have been invited. Grant should enable the building to be fitted out internally to a basic specification to permit occupation.
- **Infrastructure** – originally anticipated that essential water and drainage works to unlock Town Centre development sites could be funded through the TCRF, however, as works fall outwith the boundary of the Town Centre, the Government have confirmed that they are not eligible.

- **Public Realm** – improvements to the public realm surrounding the White House under consideration to compliment its refurbishment, including removal of clutter from footways, lighting for White House, possible higher specification of materials in streetscape around White House, and exposing original Art Deco features in framework surrounds to shop units. Improvements to path from Peffers to Town Centre with potential to upgrade to cycleway under consideration.

Scottish Sustainable Community Initiative (SSCI)

- SSCI status for PARC has led to the following projects being supported by limited grant funding but critically support from Government with facilitation:
 - Public Arts Strategy
 - Strategic Open Spaces – engagement with Health sector and Forestry agencies.
 - Temporary use of brownfield land
 - Active Travel Plan
 - District Heating system.

PARC Business Plan

- Initial Plan for 2009-2012 fully funded and approved by CEC Holdings.
- Issues for Plan post 2012 under discussion with stakeholders including:
 - Delivery of mixed tenure housing in constrained funding environment
 - Location of next residential phase
 - Prioritising community assets given reduced funding through sales receipts and land sales.