

Transport & Environment Committee

10am, Tuesday, 29th October 2013

Saughton Park & Gardens

Heritage Lottery Fund Project Board

Item number	8.7
Report number	
Wards	Sighthill/Gorgie

Links

Coalition pledges	P31 P48
Council outcomes	CO7 CO19 CO20
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4

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Executive summary

Saughton Park & Gardens

Heritage Lottery Fund Project Board

Summary

Following the Council's success in securing Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) to restore the historic Saughton Park & Gardens, project governance and project management arrangements are being put in place. Elected member support is required and will be facilitated by the establishment of a project elected member sounding board

Recommendations

1. To note the project governance and management arrangements being put in place.
2. To agree the establishment of a project elected members sounding board consisting of local ward members and the Convenor of the Transport & Environment Committee.

Measures of success

- Securing the Delivery Stage funding of £3.7m from the HLF and third parties to renovate an historic park and gardens in urgent need of restoration.
- Securing a Green Flag Award for this Premier Park once restoration works have been completed.
- Evidence of increased visitor numbers to the park and gardens.

Financial impact

The total estimated project cost is £5.83m. Funding of £4.09m is sought from the HLF and £233k from third party sources. There is an expectation of £1.25m capital from the Council, phased over a six year period. This includes an already approved £250k from Corporate Governance to install a micro-hydro turbine (originally championed by the Lord Provost) to generate power for the proposed garden café and community facility. The Council will be required to contribute £141,233 over the two year development stage and then a contribution of £1,108,766 (inclusive of the £250k for the micro-turbine) over the following four years to complete the Delivery Phase.

Equalities impact

No equalities impact at this stage.

Sustainability impact

The restoration works will ensure the sustainable future of these historic gardens and park. The creation of a community café and community space within the restored stable block, along with a partnership with the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society and establishment of a Friend's Group, will significantly improve the likelihood of sustaining the long-term future of this Premier Park.

All works will be undertaken to BREEAM "Very Good" standards, and future energy will be generated through a micro-hydro scheme on the adjacent Water of Leith.

Consultation and engagement

An on-going programme of consultation with park user groups and community group representatives is in place. During the Development Phase of the project the appointment of a Project Manager and Development Officer to manage the project will allow a more fully engaged consultation with users and the wider community, ensuring that community involvement is embedded and that all ideas and requirements are considered prior to the Delivery Phase.

Background reading / external references

Transport & Environment Committee Report – Heritage lottery Funding Approved
Saughton Park & Gardens 27 August 2013

Transport & Environment Committee Report - Heritage Lottery Fund Application
Saughton Park & Gardens 17 March 2013.

A copy of the funding application is available on request.

Saughton Park & Gardens

Heritage Lottery Fund Project Board

1. Background

- 1.1 As approved by the Transport and Environment Committee on 19 March 2013, the City of Edinburgh Council submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) on 28 February 2013 to fund the restoration and regeneration of the historic Saughton Park and Gardens.
- 1.2 An HLF Development Grant was awarded to City of Edinburgh Council on the 2 July 2013. This grant of £392k, along with a Council contribution of £141k, secures funding for up to two years to appoint a Project Manager and Development Officer, and for the Council and community to undertake further consultation, research and design work and prepare a more financially detailed second stage submission in 2015. This was reported to the Transport and Environment Committee at its meeting of 27 August 2013.
- 1.3 Partnership with The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society (“The Caley”), who supported the Council’s bid, will be an important element of the development phase. The Caley will base their operations from Saughton Gardens, will work closely with the Council to plan the renovation and development of the gardens and will also be involved in supporting the Council raise third party funds and lead the development of a horticultural volunteer programme and community outreach initiative

2. Main report

- 2.1 A proposed project governance structure, based on the Council’s Programme Management Approach, formed part of the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Now that funding has been approved this project governance will be implemented. A Project Board will established comprising of:
 - Parks & Greenspace Manager
 - Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society representative

- Parks & Gardens Manager
 - Project Manager
- 2.2 The Board will be chaired by the Parks and Greenspace Manager and is expected to meet once a month. It will have responsibility for overseeing the direction of the two year Development Phase and the successful completion and submission of the second stage funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. A Project Team will report to the Project Board. This team will be expected to meet once a month. It will be responsible for ensuring delivery of the project, consultation and engagement with key partners and stakeholders including the local community, commissioning of detailed designs and production of a second stage funding application. It will also be responsible for organising and managing contractors, consultants and community input including events and activities.
- 2.3 The Project Team will consist of:
- Parks & Gardens Manager
 - Project Manager
 - Project Development Officer
 - Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society (Historic Garden Expert)
 - Community Representative
 - Finance Manager
 - Parks Strategy Manager
 - Community Parks Officer (South West Neighbourhood)
 - Botanical Services Manager
- 2.4 Additional teams will be established to provide specialist input (e.g. Architect, Landscape Architect, Specialist Contracts, Planning & Building Control etc) and community input (e.g. Community Council, Neighbourhood Partnership, Friends Group, other user groups etc).
- 2.5 As the project develops, regular consultation with, advice from, and the continued support of elected members will be important. It is therefore recommended that local ward members, along with the Convenor of the Transport & Environment Committee come together as a Project Sounding Board. The proposed remit for the sounding board will be to:

- Provide elected members with an opportunity to consider the project's impact on the local community.
- Ensure that the local community are involved in the development of the detailed proposals for the renovation and regeneration of the park.
- Receive regular project progress reports.
- Scrutinise the work of the project board.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To note the project governance and management arrangements being put in place
- 3.2 To agree the establishment of a project elected member sounding board consisting of local ward members and the Convenor of the Transport & Environment Committee.

Mark Turley

Director of Services for Communities

Links

Coalition pledges	P31 Maintain our City's reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure. P48 Use Green Flag and other strategies to preserve our green spaces.
Council outcomes	CO7 Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration. CO19 Edinburgh remains an attractive city through the development of high quality buildings and places.

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Single Outcome Agreement	CO20 Edinburgh continues to be a leading cultural city where culture and sport play a central part in the lives and futures of citizens. SO4 Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric
Appendices	None