

Calders Regeneration Update - Briefing Paper

Environmental Works

- Subsequent to the Community & Stakeholder consultation programme undertaken in the Calders area during 2013, a work package for a range of Environmental Improvements has been put out to tender and is currently with CEC internal Procurement. Following completion of the procurement process and contract award sign off, a pre-start meeting will be arranged with the successful contractor where a firm start date will be agreed. However, subject to the approval process above, it is anticipated that work will start on site in early spring 2014.

Canal College – Calders Gateway Signature Project

- As part of the Scottish Waterways Trust, the Canal College, which is an exciting new outdoors heritage skills training programme for young people aged 16-25 (see attached leaflet) will be running six 14 week programmes over the next two years. As part of the Canal College Project Programme, work is scheduled to start on Calder Crescent and Union Canal Gateway Project in late January/early February 2014.

This project will see groups of approximately 12 young people undertake 3 key strands of work:- Built Heritage, Natural Heritage and Cultural Heritage.

The signature project, (Calders Gateway) will be delivered over the next two years with the young people working on a number of projects to create a wonderful space which will connect Calder Crescent with the Union Canal. Improvements will include, native species tree planting, hedgerow planting, the creation of a wildflower area, installation of picnic benches, installation of signage and information boards. All of this will link to the work currently being developed with Edible Estates and the Calders Community Garden.

The Cultural Heritage element will seek to create a heritage trail using information from local Archives and people who worked on or lived next to the Union Canal.

Calders Community Centre

- Following the Calders Tenants and Residents Association decision not to pursue the transfer of the Community Centre to community ownership, it has been decided that due to the prohibitive costs of bringing the building back into effective use and remaining concerns over the safety and security of the building, the most appropriate course of action is demolition. This will take place in the financial year 2014/15.

St Stephen's Court

- This project aims to regenerate the currently vacant building (previously used as a Sheltered Housing Complex) into 27, 1 bedroom flats. This project is scheduled to be delivered over several phases. Phase 1 being the refurbishment of the external fabric of the building including the roof, to ensure provision of a sound "shell" and selective strip out of the existing internal structure. Phase 2 will be the construction of the revised internal layout. A contractor (Wates Living Space) has been appointed; however, due to problems arriving at the final internal design, phase 1 of the project is now anticipated to start towards the end of January 2014 instead of October 2013 as originally envisaged.