

## Invitation to Bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games

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### The City of Edinburgh Council

29 April 2004

#### Purpose of report

- 1 To inform the Council of an invitation to submit an initial bid to the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland (CGCS) for Edinburgh to be the host city should the 2014 Commonwealth Games be awarded to Scotland.

#### Main report

- 2 In early February 2004, the Lord Provost received an invitation from Louise Martin, Chair of the CGCS, inviting the Council to enter a bid to the CGCS for Edinburgh to be the selected host city to work with the CGCS to bring the 2014 Commonwealth Games to Scotland. Other Scottish cities had also been invited to submit bids.
- 3 The CGCS selection process was in two parts:
  - an expression of interest, to be sent by 3 March 2004; followed by
  - a more detailed bid document, to be submitted by 19 July 2004.
- 4 As a result of the short timescale for the sending of the expression of interest, it was not possible to prepare a report seeking the Council's views on the invitation. However, to ensure that the matter was progressed appropriately, discussions were held with the Council Leader and the Political Group Leaders to ascertain if an expression of interest would have broad support from within the Council. Following the discussions, the Director of Culture and Leisure was requested to lead a short-life, inter-departmental working group to prepare the necessary information required for the expression of interest. This was lodged with the CGCS on 3 March.
- 5 Confirmation was subsequently received from the CGCS that they wished Edinburgh to go to the next stage by completing more detailed bid documentation in line with a framework drawn up by the CGCS. The City of

Glasgow Council also had submitted an expression of interest, and similarly has been invited to progress to the next stage.

- 6 Preliminary discussions have been held with officers of Glasgow City Council over some form of joint bid but indications have been received that Glasgow favours a bid in partnership with the Clyde Valley local authorities. Also, it has become clear that under the Commonwealth Games rules a single host city has to be nominated.
- 7 Authority is now sought to prepare more detailed bid documentation for the submission deadline of 19 July 2004. This will include information on the structure of the organising committee, Scottish Executive support, the programme of sports which would make up the Games, the proposed venues, including arrangements for the Games Village, and an outline of the total costs for staging the Games. The CGCS has indicated that these details should extend to no more than 25 pages.
- 8 It is intended that discussions should take place with neighbouring local authorities within the East of Scotland Institute of Sport area to ascertain what interest there would be in working with Edinburgh in developing a broader geographically based bid.
- 9 Following the submission of the bids, the CGCS will assess them and decide in mid to late 2006 which city, if any, will be selected as the proposed host for Scotland's bid to the international Commonwealth Games Federation. It is expected that any prospective bid city would have a presence at the Melbourne Games in 2006. All of the bids from around the Commonwealth will be evaluated around March 2007, and an assessment team from the Commonwealth Games Federation will visit all the prospective cities in the summer of 2007. The successful bid will be announced at the General Assembly of the Federation in September 2007.
- 10 As can be seen from the above, the overall bid process is incremental, and at present authority is only sought to progress the matter to a Scottish level. It is intended that the main elements of the bid documentation would be reported to the Council meeting on 24 June 2004, when authority will be sought to lodge it with the CGCS. Further progress reports will be submitted as appropriate.
- 11 The Director of Culture and Leisure will lead an inter-departmental working group to prepare the bid documentation. The work will be supported by an external firm of consultants, Genesis Consulting, who have worked on the Sport and Physical Recreation Strategy for the City, and are therefore fully conversant with the provision of sport in Edinburgh.

### **Financial Implications**

- 12 The cost of producing the initial bid documentation is estimated to be up to £25,000, which will be contained within the Culture and Leisure Department's revenue budget for 2004/05.

## Recommendations

13 It is recommended that the Council approve:

- the preparation of initial bid documentation in support of Edinburgh's case to be selected by the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland to be the host city for the 2014 Commonwealth Games; and
- the submission of a further report on this matter to the Council meeting on 24 June 2004, in advance of the lodging of the bid documentation with the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland.



**Tom Aitchison**  
Chief Executive

*13/05/04*

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<b>Appendices</b>	None
<b>Contact/tel</b>	Tom Aitchison 0131 469 3002
<b>Wards affected</b>	City-wide
<b>Background Papers</b>	Papers held on file at Culture and Leisure Department, 23-25 Waterloo Place