

BODY:	CABINET
DATE:	17 July 2003
SUBJECT:	HERITAGE ECONOMIC REGENERATION SCHEME : SAVOY COURT HOTEL, 11-15 CAVENDISH PLACE
REPORT OF:	Director of Planning, Regeneration and Amenities
Ward(s):	Devonshire
Purpose:	To seek authorisation to offer these three properties a Heritage Economic Regeneration Grant.
Contact:	Jefferson Collard, Development Planning Manager - telephone 01323 415252 or internally on extension 5252.
Recommendation:	Offer Savoy Court, 11-15 Cavendish Place a Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme Grant of up to £49,644.18 of which 50% will be a contribution from English Heritage.

1.0	<u>Introduction</u>
1.1	The Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (HERS) began in July 2001 and runs until March 2004. It has a total budget of £370,000 (including staffing and administration costs). Grants are offered to the area around Seaside Road and are aimed primarily at property with a commercial element.
1.2	Officers have authority to offer grants up to a maximum level of £25,000 to a property in any one financial year. Offers beyond this level need Member approval.

2.0	<u>The Property</u>
2.1	The Savoy Court Hotel occupies three interconnecting and adjacent five-storey (including basements) houses. The houses, which are stucco-rendered with semi-circular bays, form part of the Earl of Burlington's original development of his Eastbourne estate of circa 1850, and have been listed Grade II.
2.2	The three properties are situated in a prominent street in the Town Centre and Seafront Conservation Area terminating in the seafront and will form the centrepiece of other neighbouring properties which have previously been upgraded, some with previous grant assistance schemes. The Savoy Court Hotel occupies the central section of the eastern side of Cavendish Place, the centre house of which is pedimented, forming a symmetrical architectural composition within the street façade as a whole. The properties have been identified in the HERS implementation programme as Priority 1 for action.
2.3	The properties are in a reasonable condition generally but the first floor balconies have decayed and require reconstruction. The original decorative canopies over the first floor balconies are no longer in situ and require reinstatement. The railings to the first floor balconies (and also at street level) are in need of refurbishment and replacing where missing.
2.4	Additional items requiring attention are the windows which are in need of repair generally and the inappropriate replacement windows to the first and second floors of no. 15 require the installation of matching original sash windows.
2.5	Some reinstatement works are required to rendered cornices, string courses and quoins, and on completion of the refurbishment works the front façade will require redecoration.
3.0	<u>Consultations</u>
3.1	The works require planning permission and listed building consent and these approvals have been given.

3.2	The proposal also requires sanction from English Heritage. This is anticipated in time for the meeting when a verbal update will be given.
4.0	<u>Financial Implications</u>
4.1	The total cost of the works to the three properties amounts to £88,487.05. The calculation of eligible items amounts to a grant of £49,644.18. This is the first grant of this year and there is sufficient funding within this year's allocation of £130,000.
4.2	Although a grant of almost £50,000 sounds a significant sum, the grant per property is only £16,548.06, which is relatively small compared to the £25,000 ceiling per property delegated to officers.
5.0	<u>Other Implications</u>
5.1	Environmental: the repair and re-use of properties is a sustainable approach to managing the urban environment. These properties are all listed Grade II and make an important contribution to the townscape of Eastbourne.
5.2	Human Resources: the work of managing the grant can be undertaken within existing staff resources.
5.3	There are no implications for Human Rights, Youth or Anti Poverty matters.

6.0	<u>Conclusion</u>
6.1	The Savoy Court in Cavendish Place is undertaking repairs that are eligible for a HERS grant. The total cost of the works amounts to almost £89,000.00 and they are eligible for a grant of £49,644.18.
Jefferson Collard Development Planning Manager	

<p>Background Papers:</p> <p>The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· HERS application dated 8 January 2003. <p>To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.</p>	
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