

**Body:** Cabinet

**Date:** 28 May 2008

**Subject:** Kingsmere – Green Spaces Lottery Bid

**Report Of:** Director of Housing, Health & Community Services

**Ward(s)** All

**Purpose** To inform the Cabinet of the opportunity to develop key open spaces on the Kings mere Estate using Green Spaces for People lottery funding secured by Places for People Housing Association. To seek delegated authority for the Director of Housing, Health & Community Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to agree the final terms of the project on behalf of the Council.

**Decision Type:** Key Decision

**Recommendation** Cabinet is recommended to:

- (a) Note and endorse progress to date in relation to the opportunity to develop key open spaces on the Kingsmere Estate using Green Spaces for People Lottery funding secured by Places for People Housing Association.
- (b) Delegate authority to the Director of Housing, Health & Community Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to agree the final terms of the project on behalf of the Council.

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## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 In early 2007, the Council signed a Neighbourhood Agreement with the community and key partner agencies working on the Kingsmere Estate.
- 1.2 The aim of the neighbourhood agreement was to deliver first class services in conjunction with the community and to improve the overall quality of life for residents.
- 1.3 Key outcomes identified within the Neighbourhood Management Agreement were to deliver visible improvements to the area, to tackle crime & anti-social behaviour and to establish an enhanced sense of pride in the neighbourhood.

- 1.4 Places for People Housing Association have received confirmation that a bid made under the Green Spaces for People Lottery programme has been successful. This provides an excellent opportunity to make a significant visible improvement to two key open spaces on the Kingsmere Estate and to develop the final project in close conjunction with the community and other partner agencies.

## **2.0 Green Spaces Lottery funding**

- 2.1 In early 2007, Places for People (PFP) Housing Association submitted a bid to the National Lottery to improve key open spaces on estates. The bid identified a number of key areas across the country where open spaces improvement could be used to make a significant difference to communities. Locally, two estates within Eastbourne were included in the bid, namely, Kingsmere and Willingdon Trees.
- 2.2 The Kingsmere element of the bid focused on two main areas of open space within the estate – open space adjacent to Alfred Road and the main ball court located next to the Community Hall. Indicative proposals were also drawn up for Willingdon Trees and whilst it is useful to report that this element has also been successful in the bid, the details of this specific bid will be reported to Cabinet at a later date.
- 2.3 An initial sketch proposal was developed by Farrer Huxley Associates to provide an indicative view of potential improvements and is shown at appendix 1.
- 2.4 The sketch proposals as set out at appendix 1 were intended to be indicative only with the final scheme development being worked up with the community and other partners once the outcome of the bid was known.
- 2.5 PFP have now received confirmation that both the Eastbourne schemes have been approved, with the Kingsmere element being allocated a capital sum of £230,000.
- 2.6 The next steps in relation the project require the Council to consider working with PFP to develop the scheme. This will include extensive consultation with the residents and other partners to ensure the final development and design reflects community priorities.
- 2.7 In addition, as the land identified at paragraph 2.2 is owned by Eastbourne Borough Council, an `in principle` decision to proceed is needed from the Council, taking into account current use and any future liabilities arising from the redevelopment.
- 2.8 The existing use of these sites (grassed play area and ball court) will be a factor explored with the community during the consultation stage, as well as on going maintenance of the sites on the basis that they fall within the Council's responsibility. Initial enquiries regarding future financial implications regarding maintenance for the initial sketch proposals indicate that the costs would be similar to those currently met by the Council. Whilst it is not anticipated that the future financial costs would be in excess of those

currently met by the Council the final design of the scheme will clearly influence this. It is suggested, therefore, that a parameter for the design would be that future maintenance costs remain comparable to existing costs.

### **3.0 Consultation**

3.1 The Green Spaces for People Lottery bid will seek to build on existing resident involvement initiatives within the Kingsmere Estate and will be developed in conjunction with the Kingsmere Neighbourhood Management Forum and Kingsmere Community Association.

### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 The financial implications arising out of this report are as set out at paragraph 2.8. Any actions arising out of the scheme proposal would be subject to the identification of resources before agreement.

### **5.0 Other Implications - Environmental, Human Rights, Community Safety**

5.1 Development of this proposal is in line with the broad aims of the Council's vision and Housing & Community Strategies forming part of our approach to supporting neighbourhoods and tackling community safety issues.

### **6.0 Conclusion**

6.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Note and endorse progress to date in relation to the opportunity to develop key open spaces on the Kingsmere Estate using Green Spaces for People Lottery funding secured by Places for People Housing Association.
- b) Delegate authority to the Director of Housing, Health & Community Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to agree the final terms of the project on behalf of the Council.

Ian Fitzpatrick  
Assistant Director (Housing and Health)

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### **Background Papers:**

None.

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