

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY FINANCE COMMITTEE

FOR DECISION

Title: CNPA CAPITAL FUNDING: KINDROCHIT CASTLE

**Prepared by: Sandra Middleton, Head of Rural Development
David Cameron, Director of Corporate Services**

Purpose of Paper

1. This paper informs Finance Committee of the latest position regarding the capital project to protect and enhance Kindrochit Castle.
2. The paper also asks Finance Committee to consider a potential increase in funding to the project, subject to availability of funding within the approved capital programme for the year.

Recommendations

3. The Committee is recommended to:
 - a) Note the update on the Kindrochit Castle project;
 - b) Agree to an increase in project funding of up to an additional £38k, subject to availability of capital finance within the existing programme and match funding from the project.

Kindrochit Castle Project Update

4. The expenditure proposal for the Kindrochit Castle project as it was originally developed with Aberdeenshire Council at attached at Annex I to this paper.
5. The project as conceived in the expenditure proposal was tendered by Aberdeenshire Council. Both quotes received for the works were for a significantly higher sum than the budget estimate, at over £190,000.
6. Furthermore, no funding has been forthcoming to date from Historic Scotland.
7. The project managers requested the Authority to continue with our funding of £60k to deliver a reduced £120k to undertake essential maintenance and prevent further degrading of the project. Approval to proceed with the funding at this level was sought urgently in order to allow the contract to be let and works undertaken over a relatively short window for such works during the summer months. Officers agreed this request, with the funding from the Authority still therefore matching the allocation established with the Scottish Government for the capital programme.

Kindrochit Castle Potential Future Works

8. Project managers have enquired whether the Authority would be able to finance a part of the shortfall against the full works tender price, in order to complete the full works originally envisaged. A total shortfall in the order of £75k to £80k exists.
9. A further funding contribution by the Authority to the project could be an opportunity to manage overall capital programme finances should there be any slippage or underspend in capital projects elsewhere in the programme. Additional project funding of around £38k from the Authority would provide 50% match funding to the remaining project elements.
10. **Members of the Finance Committee are asked to consider whether to approve in principle additional funding of up to £38k for this project, subject to availability of capital finance within the 2013/14 programme from slippage in other planned project expenditure. Such additional funding would be conditional on securing at least an equivalent match funding commitment from other partners involved in the project.**

David Cameron
18 September 2013

davidcameron@cairngorms.co.uk