

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Environment, Planning and Infrastructure

DATE 27/10/09

DIRECTOR Gordon McIntosh

TITLE OF REPORT Private Roads and Footways Grant - Colsea Terrace

REPORT NUMBER:EPI/09/073

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Councilors of the background to the request for funding towards the upgrading of the private road and footway at Colsea Terrace, Cove Bay and to decide if there is an obligation to continue with the award of the grant to upgrade the carriageway and footway to an adoptable standard.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee agree that as there is no longer a Private Roads and Footways budget available to award a grant and as the timescales between the original award of the grant in August 2007 and the request to see if the grant was still available in February 2009 has been excessive, the grant application should be rejected.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The level of grant requested is £10408.34 and there is no identified budget provision for this expenditure. Should the grant be awarded the monies would have to be found from within this years non-housing revenue budget. Were the city to experience winter conditions similar to last year there would be a need to identify every potential source of funding to support the treatment of carriageways and footways to ensure they were passable. The service has already had to seek alternative funding for a saving that could not be made this year due to the legislation not being in place and there will continue to be unforeseen burdens on the Council that could arise due to inclement weather e.g. heavy rain etc.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

Aberdeen City Council's ability to continue to invest in proper maintenance of roads, pavements and street lights would be compromised by awarding the grant for upgrading the private road and footway at Colsea Terrace.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Nil

6. REPORT

In early March 2007 the Road Services, Neighbourhood Services South, received a detailed submission requesting grant assistance to upgrade the footway and carriageway to adoptable standards in Colsea Terrace, Cove Bay. The existing footways and carriageway are privately maintained. The request indicated that they had a bill of quantities from a contractor and they wished the works to start as soon as possible as they were working on an adjacent site.

The budgets for 2007/2008 were approved by Committee on 22 March 2007 and including £20,000 for private road adoptions.

The applicant was advised on 31 August 2007 (Appendix 1) that the grant monies were available and that prior to any works commencing on site the applicant should contact Road Services advising of the start date for the works so that arrangements can be made for the works in progress to be inspected.

There was no further communication from the applicant until February 2009 when he telephoned to ask if the grant was still available. With no budget allocation for this type of work and the significant delay involved the applicant was advised that with there being no budget available we could no longer support the application for the grant. Over a period of months there continued to be exchanges of correspondence. The applicant stated that the original award letter did not stipulate any restriction or time limitation of the original award. Our legal team advise that as the applicant had not commenced work during 2007/2008 financial year that the grant monies were no longer available.

The applicant is dissatisfied with the response he has had on the matter and has asked for the matter to be referred to the appropriate committee in order that a final decision should be sought on the award of the grant.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Sharon Toseland

Technical Officer

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Bill of Quantities
2. E-mail and letter from the applicant requesting grant assistance
3. Letter to Councillor Dean
4. E-mail advising the applicant that there is no grant available
5. E-mail from the applicant
6. Memo from Resources Management
7. Chief Executive letter to the applicant

Appendix 1

Our Ref. JS/DR/1/25
Your Ref.
Contact
Email
Direct Dial 01224 241
Direct Fax 01224 896536

31 August 2007

Shelter & Environment
**Neighbourhood Services
(South Area)**
Aberdeen City Council
West Tullos Roads Depot
Craigshaw Drive
West Tullos Industrial Estate
Aberdeen AB12 3AL

Tel 01224 241500
Minicom 01224 522381
DX 529451, Aberdeen 9
www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Adoption of Colsea Terrace, Cove Bay

I refer to your previous correspondence, estimate and plan and apologise for the delay in responding to you.

With regard to the estimate I would like to clarify that the wearing course for the carriageway should be Hot Rolled Asphalt and that the wearing course for the footway should be 6mm Dense Surface Course.

Under the current policy the maximum grant assistance for carriageway resurfacing is 50% and footway resurfacing 75% of the total costs.

I have attached a breakdown for the grant assistance available for the adoption of Colsea Terrace based on the estimate supplied by you. The grant totals £11,072.70 minus the authorities fee for inspection of the works amounting to £664.36 this figure is the maximum grant available from the council for the works, any unforeseen works or increase in costs will have to be borne by the residents.

Prior to works commencing on site you should contact myself advising of the start date for the works so I can arrange for the works in progress to be inspected.

Upon completion of the works I would require to see a copy of the invoice from ACG Contracts Ltd before releasing the grant monies to you.

Upon completion of a one-year maintenance period the authority will include this section of Colsea Terrace onto the list of adopted roads provided any latent defects within the works have been rectified.

I trust this is satisfactory, however, should you have any further queries then please don't hesitate to contact me at the above number.

Yours sincerely