

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	City Growth and Resources
DATE	11 May 2021
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Printfield 10 Project and Denis Law Statue Relocation
REPORT NUMBER	COM/21/104
CHIEF OFFICER	Richard Sweetnam
REPORT AUTHOR	Stephen O'Neill
TERMS OF REFERENCE	3.2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the City Growth and Resources Committee on the Printfield 10 Project; and to report on the feasibility of siting the bronze Denis Law statue in the proximity of Provost Skene's House.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the details of the Printfield 10 Project, and the original proposal which is attached for information;
- 2.2 Approves the preferred delivery method for the public art pieces of the Printfield 10 Project from the options contained within section 3.7 – 3.11 below; and
- 2.3 Approves the location and change of ownership of the bronze Denis Law statue from the options contained within section 3.15 and 3.16, and the associated costs detailed in section 4.

3. BACKGROUND

PRINTFIELD 10 PROJECT – PUBLIC ARTWORKS

- 3.1 On the 3 of March 2020, the Council resolved to welcome the Printfield Community Forum working in partnership with the Denis Law Legacy Trust to promote Denis Law's childhood roots in Printfield and instructed the Chief Officer – City Growth to discuss with the Denis Law Legacy Trust the proposed Printfield 10 Project to include public artwork and report back, if applicable to the City Growth and Resources Committee for its consideration.
- 3.2 The Denis Law Legacy Trust has developed the Printfield 10 Project with the aim of motivating, inspiring, and engaging the Printfield community, whilst also celebrating Denis Law and promoting the opening of the Hall of Heroes in Provost Skene's House.

- 3.3 The Printfield 10 Project proposal includes three public artworks. The first is a mural which depicts a timeline of Denis Law and his sporting achievements. The second represents Denis Law and his iconic goal celebration and the third depicts Denis Law in his Scotland kit. Full details of the Printfield 10 project proposal are included as appendix 1 to this report.

Land Ownership & Location Suitability

- 3.4 The proposal for Clifton Court features two murals, an image of Denis Law's iconic goal celebration on the North Façade and an image of him in his Scotland Strip on the South Façade. These are shown as Appendices 2 and 3 to this report. Clifton Court is Aberdeen City Council owned. Although the Corporate Landlord is supportive of the artworks proposed for Clifton Court, and informed by initial discussions with the Council's planning authority, detailed proposals would need to be submitted and approved before the artworks can be installed.
- 3.5 The mural proposed for Great Northern Road portrays a narrative that highlights aspects of Law's childhood and footballing career; culminating in an image of him receiving his FIFA Ballon d'Or; the highest individual honour that a football player can receive. The wall proposed is owned, and maintained, by St Joseph's Church and formal permission would be required from the Church for this work to be commissioned.
- 3.6 Consultation with relevant stakeholders has identified that the surfaces of both Clifton Court and St Joseph's Church wall are rough in texture. This may impact the viability of the proposal or reduce the quality of the work which can be produced. If the contracted artists/project manager advises that costly preparatory work is required to install on these locations, then that may restrict the project, and this may be a greater concern for the timeline piece on St Joseph's Church wall.

Options for the Public Artworks as part of the Printfield 10 Project

- 3.7 **Option 1:** Delivery of the three public artworks, at a cost of up to £105,000 and instruct the Chief Officer City Growth to report to Strategic Commissioning Committee in order to enter a competitive process to commission this project.
- 3.8 **Option 2:** Delivery of only the Clifton Court artworks, at a cost of up to £70,000 and instruct the Chief Officer City Growth to report to Strategic Commissioning Committee and enter a competitive process for awarding this commission.
- 3.9 **Option 3:** Delivery of one artwork only, at a cost of up to £35,000, and instruct the Chief Officer City Growth to work with the Denis Law Legacy Trust to determine the preferred piece and enter a competitive process for awarding this commission.
- 3.10 If the public artworks are supported, the contracted artist/ Project Manager will be required to engage with the Denis Law Legacy Trust to develop the project proposal and to ensure that its viability as there are aspects of the works which may be subject to copyright restrictions. They will also be required to work with

relevant Aberdeen City Council departments, including roads and planning, the local community, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that required permissions and approvals are granted for each of the works proposed.

- 3.11 **Option 4:** Do not proceed with the project.

DENIS LAW 'LEGEND' STATUE

- 3.12 On the 3 of March 2021, the Council agreed to approach the Denis Law Legacy Trust with a view to enabling the bronze Denis Law 'Legend' statue to be located close to Provost Skene's House; and instructed the Chief Executive to bring forward a report on the cost and feasibility of enabling the above to happen to the next meeting of the City Growth and Resources Committee.
- 3.13 The artist who created the bronze statue of Denis Law is Alan B Herriot, he is a figurative sculptor of international reputation and has worked for the National Trust for Scotland and Historic Scotland. He was also commissioned by Aberdeen City Council to create the statue of King Robert the Bruce sited outside Marischal College. The bronze statue of Denis Law is currently in storage in Aberdeen and was created for an outside location. There is another sculpture of Denis Law at the entrance to the Sports Village, it is made from a different material and is designed for indoor use. Both sculptures show Denis Law in the same stance with right arm raised.
- 3.14 Two locations are proposed following consultation with the Denis Law Legacy Trust, the sculptor, as well as Aberdeen City Council's Corporate Landlord and the Head of Collections, Archives, Gallery and Museums service. The locations identified are shown within Appendix 4.
- 3.15 Location 1, preferred by the artist and the Denis Law Legacy Trust, is proposed to be set back from Broad Street, adjacent to the Marischal Square Development, facing the Robert the Bruce Statue. The artist and trust prefer this site aesthetically, they have proposed a narrative around the two statues facing each other and sharing the same sculptor, materials and plinths. This location would require the existing installed sculpture shown sited near to the planter to be moved to a suitable location.
- 3.16 Location 2, suggested as an alternative, would be sited nearer to Provost Skene's House by a grassed area and public seating, which would encourage people to linger longer and strengthen links to Provost Skene's House.
- 3.17 Although the Corporate Landlord is supportive of the proposal, and although initial discussions have taken place with the planning authority, detailed proposals and an engineer's report would need to be submitted and approved before the statue can be installed. If the proposed installation of the statue is progressed the Denis Law Legacy Trust would be in agreement to hand the ownership of the statue over to Aberdeen City Council.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The estimated costs of siting the bronze Denis Law statue near Provost Skene's House are anticipated to be up to £25,000. These costs cover the transport, installation, a bronze plate for the statue and a plinth with an inscription.

4.2 The estimated costs of progressing the artworks as part of the Printfield 10 Project are:

Option 1: £105,000

Option 2: £70,000

Option 3: £35,000

Option 4: £0

4.3 As Aberdeen City Council would inherit the ownership of the Denis Law statue and retain responsibility for Clifton Court, ongoing maintenance costs would need to be provided by the Corporate Repair Maintenance budget. There may be a requirement for Aberdeen City Council to inherit maintenance responsibility for the artwork on St Joseph's Church wall, but this will be subject to discussion and agreement with the Church Council.

4.4 These projects would be funded from the Common Good Fund.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The service has liaised with the CPS Legal Team in regards to the recommendations and will seek any further input from CPS Legal Team as required following the Committee's decision.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
Strategic Risk		L	
Compliance	<p>The images proposed in the project proposal may be subject to copyright.</p> <p>The sites for the Denis law "Legend" Statue have weight/ load issues.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>L</p>	<p>Officers will confirm image rights with the Denis Law Legacy Trust whilst developing the tender specification.</p> <p>Officers will also obtain approval of detailed proposals for the sites prior to installation.</p>
Operational	<p>Any approved artwork on Council property, may impact the Corporate Landlord's</p>	L	<p>The Corporate Landlord will ensure that any contractors schedule to undertake work on Council buildings</p>

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
	routine maintenance programme, including Clifton court which is scheduled for routine structural repairs in 2025/6.		involved in the proposal buildings, or land, will be informed of the works.
Financial	<p>Aberdeen City Council may be liable for future costs associated with the project, and any claims which may arise as a result of it.</p> <p>Failure for local artist to produce work to the standard expected and required for a public piece. Costs may be incurred in scoping the project, only to find that the walls are not suitable for the works proposed.</p>	M	<p>The Head of Commercial and Procurement will ensure that any funding/service agreement covers Aberdeen City Council for liability relating to the installation of the statue project and any artwork. The Council will reserve the right to amend, remove or otherwise impact any of the works on their property or land.</p> <p>Aberdeen City Council will enter a procurement exercise to appoint a competent contractor to deliver these works.</p>
Reputational			

7. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	No Impact
Regional and City Strategies	The proposed Printfield Project links to the Aberdeen Events365 Strategy and Plan, a CCMP project which

	<p>aims to develop a new portfolio of events that can be attracted to the city.</p> <p>The Printfield Project and the Denis Law statue also aligns to the ambitions of Culture Aberdeen's Cultural Strategy 2018-28.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Releasing our creativity • Becoming Scotland's creative lab • Making all the city a stage • Connecting us to the world • Shaping our future
<p>UK and Scottish Legislative and Policy Programmes</p>	<p>Aberdeen's Safety Advisory Group ensures that events which take place in Aberdeen are safe and uphold the requirements of relevant legislation. Furthermore, any event / activation will be subject to, and dependant on, the public health position, guidance and legislation at the time and are, therefore, subject to change.</p>

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	not required

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council, Monday 2 March 2020, 10.1. – Joint Notice of Motion by Councillor Copland and Councillor Lesley Dunbar

Council, Wednesday 3 March 2021, 10.1 – Notice of Motion by Lord Provost Barney Crocket

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: [Printfield 10.pdf \(aberdeencity.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix 2: Clifton Court – North

Appendix 3: Clifton Court – South

Appendix 4: Denis Law Statue Locations

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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