

Appendix 8 ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Case: 4381713 - Proposal - Business Name: Aberdeen City Council - BRN: 165321 - MLC: 001/0003
Submitted Date: 10/06/2011

Case Details

Case Number: 4381713
Case Title: Tullos Hill Community Woodland
RPAC Region: Grampian RPAC
Case Status: Proposal Submitted
Case Detail: Tullos Hill is former agricultural land, part of which was subsequently given over to landfill (Tullos Hill Landfill), and the eastern end of the Hill (known as Ness Farm) is a recently filled landfill site currently in the process of restoration. Tullos Hill is situated within, and provides a significant landscape backdrop to, a heavily industrialised area on the southern edge of Aberdeen City and is a strategically important area of land in terms of landscape, historical, biodiversity and heritage value.

The overall aim of this Proposal is to re-establish a community woodland on Tullos Hill, on part of which a previous WGS Scheme to establish woodland has largely failed, and in doing so to deliver a range of strategic and local environmental, community and economic benefits for Aberdeen City.

The aims of the Proposal are:

- (1) enhance the local landscape and backdrop to the southern edge of Aberdeen City;
- (2) help develop, conserve and enhance the connectivity of the network of woodland and open habitat in and around the City and particularly strengthen the visual and public access values of green corridors between St Fitticks' to the north and Kincorth Hill to the west;
- (3) help facilitate enhancement of the historical value of Tullos Hill through restoration, subsequent maintenance and interpretation of the various archaeological sites;
- (5) Manage and progressively regenerate the areas of over mature woodland along the northern boundaries of the site;
- (6) Improve public access and recreation facilities, and enhance the sense of place within Tullos Hill;
- (7) Foster strong community involvement in the restoration and management of the site.
- (8) Contribute to the reduction in the City's carbon emissions through the creation of new woodland and associated carbon capture.

Planting will comprise a mixture of Scots pine, juniper and native broadleaves, plus a proportion of edge woodland edge shrubs, all planted at an average stocking densities of no less than 2000 trees per ha, within a matrix of up to 25% designed open space that will include the areas of key archaeological interest and existing heathland vegetation. A variety of ground preparation techniques will be used to take account of the underlying landfill on parts of the site. The majority of existing invasive gorse cover will be removed prior to planting and controlled regrowth controlled. Deer numbers will be controlled as necessary under a Deer Management Plan to ensure that damage is kept to acceptable levels whereby overall woodland establishment is not compromised.

The design of the woodland and all subsequent forestry operations will be carried out in accordance with relevant forest industry guidelines (particular the Practice Guide for Identifying the Historic Environment in Scotland's Woodlands and Forests), the UK Forestry Standard and that will meet the requirements of the Woodland Carbon Code. Appropriate levels of deer management will be carried out in accordance with recommended best practice.

Case Officer:

Assessment:

Case Documents

The list of case documents is shown below.

Case Document Type	Date Received	Case Document
System Generated	16/06/2011	Record of Case Details on 16-Jun-2011
Map	10/06/2011	Tullos Hill Case No 4381713
SOI_MAP	06/10/2010	Case 4381713 - Planting Map - GRA - BRN 165321.jpg
SOI_MAP	06/10/2010	Case 4381713 - Outline Map - GRA - BRN 165321.jpg

Supporting Documentation

The list of supporting documents is shown below.



The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development
Europe investing in rural areas

Improved carbon sequestration - soils and woodlands

Group 1 - Scale of Contribution to Regional Priorities and National targets.

1.1 Quality. The proposal is part of a multiple Phase programme of new woodland expansion within Aberdeen City that will contribute to targets within the Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City Forest and Woodland Strategy, Grampian SFS Implementation Plan and national SFS woodland expansion targets. GRA21 Improved carbon sequestration is identified as of particular importance in the list of Regional Priorities for Grampian. The proposal will also contribute to the delivery of a number of other Regional Priorities (see 1.5 below). 1.2 Quantity The entire gross area (i.e. including designed open space) included within the proposal pertains to new woodland creation and will contribute to achieving the multiple outcomes and Regional Priorities identified. 1.3 Collaboration Whilst Aberdeen City Council is not collaborating with any other RDC applicants, the Council is nonetheless working closely with local communities and businesses, Aberdeen City Ranger Service and Aberdeen Greenspace in encouraging community involvement in the planting proposals.

1.4 Integration. The proposal is complementary to, and contributes to the delivery of, a number of Regional Priorities.

1.5 Multiple Outcomes The proposal will contribute to the delivery of the following other Regional Priorities:- GRA08, GRA14, GRA15 and GRA25.

1.6 Innovation. ACC will undertake a programme of community consultation events to encourage comments, feedback and involvement in the design and physical implementation of the planting proposals.

1.7 Contribution to national targets. The proposal will contribute to achieving local Conservancy and national targets for new woodland creation.

Group 2 - Value for Money

2.1 Additionality. As part of the woodland creation design proposals, the use of species given priority within the LBAP (notably wych elm), inclusion of Norway spruce (a non native species) and specific exclusion of beech (an otherwise important landscape species in and around Aberdeen) to enhance red squirrel habitat and help mitigate against the spread of grey squirrel, is additional to design proposals that would otherwise have delivered the key regional priority. The proposals will also deliver enhancement of a key area of historical heritage value through conservation of multiple sites of archaeological interest. Aberdeen City Council and its partner organisations - including Aberdeen Greenspace - will also ensure that the local city communities nearest to each of the proposed planting sites will be given opportunities to comment on the design and become involved in the physical implementation of the scheme proposals.

2.2 Added Value. The new woodland creation will complement and add value to the increased level of, and more proactive and holistic approach to, the management of Aberdeen City's woodlands already commenced and supported under WIAT I and WIAT II.

2.3 Long term benefit. The benefits of the new woodlands will be provided and sustained over the long term as the woodlands become established, improving the quality of life for the City's people and historic environment far beyond the Rural Development Contract period.

2.4 Assessment Criteria-Leverage.

Group 3 - Management of Risk

3.1 Meeting Demand. The new woodland creation proposals deliver species and structural diversity in line with Scottish Forestry Strategy priorities. The relevant regional and national forestry strategies clearly identify targets for woodland expansion to which the proposals will contribute to meeting. LBAP priority species or habitats exist in or near the new woodland areas and/or can be encouraged to be present by choice (including specific exclusion) of appropriate species and managing the new woodland habitat accordingly.

3.2 Minimising impacts. Local community consultations, including contact with all relevant Community Councils, holding of local drop-in events open to the public, letter drops in specific neighbourhoods directly adjoining proposed planting areas, placing of planting plans and proposals on the consultation area of Aberdeen City Council's website to provide transparent information regarding the planting proposals, have all been carried out.

3.3 Demonstrate feasibility. The Scheme proposals are set out within the framework of a phased work programme designed to allow the implementation of the scheme without the stated timescale. The planning, design and implementation of the Scheme proposals will be carried out under the overall direction and day to day control of a Chartered Forester. Appropriately qualified and experienced contractors will be engaged to implement the proposals on a site by site basis. All the woodland creation proposals have been consulted upon and within the relevant departments of Aberdeen City Council. Match funding and other resources (on which the full funding proposal is dependent) being sought.



Priority Title: Improved carbon sequestration - soils and woodlands
Package Title: Promoting carbon capture and storage
Option Title: Woodland creation - Native woodland planting
Option Justification:

Compulsory Information

Is at least 50% of the planting area within 1km of a community of at least 2000 people? : Yes
Do you wish to apply for additional funding for Community Woodland Contribution? :
Are you a farmer as defined in the SRDP guidance for Farmland Premium? : No
Are you a public body? : Yes
Do you wish to apply for the additional 10% intervention rate for woodland creation areas within the target areas identified by FCS in the Woodland creation option guidance? :

Details of Planting Model(s)

Area (ha): 40.1 Year of Claim: 2012

LPID	Area	Map Letter	Sitka Spruce Seed Orchard Material	Sitka Spruce 'family mixture' material	Is the land abandoned farmland ?	Has the land been in agricultural use for the last three years ?	Do you wish to include farmland premium ?	Non LF Arable & Improved	LFA DA & Improved	LFA SDA Arable & Improved	Unimproved
NJ/95794/03764	5.61	2a			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	4.68	2b			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	3.72	2c			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	5.42	2d			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	9.69	2e			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	3.02	2f			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	4.5	2g			Yes	No					
NJ/95794/03764	3.46	2h			Yes	No					

Details of Capital Items

