



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Adjourned Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	Duncrue Industrial Estate: In-Ground Gas Extraction System
Date:	26 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Improvement
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Relevant Background Information

The Council's Capital Programme has yet to be endorsed politically and will have a major impact on the City Investment Strategy.

It is therefore proposed to ask the party groups to consider a draft Capital Programme during March, along with reports on the City Investment Fund and Asset Management.

However, there are a number of urgent projects which should be advanced now for valid reasons.

The Council is required, under legislation, to take steps to mitigate any risks arising from methane which might emanate from the ground at Duncrue Industrial Estate. The existing in-ground gas collection system at Duncrue Industrial Estate is nearing the end of its effective operational life and the Capital Programme includes a proposal for its replacement.

Key Issues

Due to health and safety considerations the works should be executed as a matter of urgency.

Applications for inclusion on a Select List of potential contractors have been invited by public advertisement and tender documentation is currently being prepared.

Tenders will be evaluated on the basis of quality and cost in order to ascertain that which offers the most economically advantageous bid for the works.

Resource Implications

An amount of £230,000 is included in the capital programme for this proposal.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee approves:

1. the invitation of tenders;and
2. application being made to the appropriate Government Department for sanction to raise a loan for the cost of the project.

