Dalry Community Council

Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

Project Opportunity:

Feasibility Study into a Glenkens Land Use Forum

Thanks to funding from SOSE, Dalry Community Council and GCAT are seeking applicants to **carry out a fixed-term lump-sum project to carry out a Feasibility Study into the creation of a Land Use Forum in the Glenkens.**

It is important to note that due to the timescales involved, this work is to consider the feasibility of such a Forum, not to implement it. The outputs of this work will be used to seek funding for the implementation phase in 2024.

Project Specification

This work will draw on:

- The Glenkens Land Use Vision Glenkens Hub - Land Use in the Glenkens
- The draft South of Scotland Regional Land Use Framework 11780 - South of Scotland Regional Land Use Partnership Pilot (arcgis.com)
- The report produced by Forest Policy Group for SOSE and Scottish Forestry on Community Wealth building opportunities. Study identifies opportunities to increase community benefits from woodland creation in the South of Scotland (southofscotlandenterprise.com)
- The NatureScot and Historic Environment Scotland Landscape Position Statement and Action Plan: "People, Place, and Landscape". People, Place and Landscape | Historic Environment Scotland | HES

It must align with:

- The Local Place Planning process Local Place Plans - Dumfries and Galloway Council (dumgal.gov.uk)
- The NatureScot "Community Engagement in Landscape Change" project Managing landscape change | NatureScot
- SOSE's ambitions around Community Wealth building, accelerating Net Zero and nature-positive solutions and activating & empowering enterprising communities. South of Scotland Enterprise

The outcome will be that:

- **The Glenkens communities and relevant stakeholders are clear about the next steps required to create an effective Land Use Forum in the Glenkens.**

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The required activities for this project are to:

- Engage with stakeholders through interviews and a workshop in order to explore the full potential of the Land Use Vision, particularly the 'local and regional' recommendations.
- Undertake a feasibility study to develop an action plan to establishing a Land Use Forum for the Glenkens.
- Specifically:
    - Evaluate what the community is currently able to do in this regard, what they can't do, and what the barriers are.
    - Create a job description for a Glenkens Land Use Facilitator who would:
        - Coordinate a Land Use Forum.
        - Carry out advocacy work to input into national policy.
        - Support regional agencies in developing sub-catchment land use plans.
    - Create a costed plan for the establishment of a Glenkens Land Use Forum over the next 5 years.

It is a lump sum contract, which will be let by Dalry Community Council. **£4,600 has been allocated to this project, based on work over December – March 2024.**

Important note – this is a maximum gross award. If the applicant is VAT-registered, then the project will need to be invoiced at £3,833 + VAT, as Dalry Community Council cannot reclaim the VAT and only has £4,600 available for the total project cost. Note as well that additional travel or other expenses are NOT available for this project.

Person Specification

This project would best suit someone who is or has:

- Local to the Glenkens or has a good knowledge of the area, its communities and its landscapes.
- A working knowledge of the issues around land use in the Glenkens and the work done on this topic in recent years.
- An overview of the relevant policy frameworks as well as the resources referenced above.
- An effective way of working that will engage a variety of stakeholders.
- Experience of report writing and feasibility studies.

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Process

Applications for this project will be sought until 5pm on Sunday 3rd December.

Applications should detail:

- The relevant experience of the person who will be delivering the project.
- The time they intend to allocate to each of the above activities.
- A timescale for completion of the project such that a draft report is submitted to the Steering Group by the 15th March 2024 and the final signed-off report submitted to GCAT by the 31st March 2024.

Applications should be made to helen@catstrand.com and will be reviewed by the Steering Group in the week of the 5th December.

The successful applicant will be notified of the decision by the 11th December and should look to start work as soon as possible thereafter.

Wider context

This project is part of a wider Land Use / Local Place Planning Process happening across the Glenkens at the same time. 2 other projects will be happening at the same time, funded by NatureScot and SOSE.

The successful applicant will be expected to liaise closely with the other project deliverers in order to ensure that the three output reports form a coherent response to the land use issues facing the Glenkens.

Time should be allowed in your application for monthly meetings with your fellow deliverers and with the Steering Group.

The other two projects are:

1. Place Planning and Land Use in the Glenkens
    - Gap analysis of the existing Glenkens Community Action Plan, the Glenkens Land Use Vision and Local Place Planning requirements.
    - Creation of a template Local Place Plan for all Glenkens Community Councils (or others) to complete that amplifies the CAP and the LUV while allowing individual parish concerns to be highlighted.
    - Creation of a final LPP for Dalry CC and at least one other, based on this template.
    - A summary report into next steps required to create a full suite of LPPs across the Glenkens by end 2024.

2. A Participatory Monitoring scheme for Land Use in the Glenkens.
    - Engage with Glenkens communities in a creative manner to understand the values they associate with landscape and how they can be monitored, including the creation of a more appealing version of the Glenkens Land Use Vision.
    - Design a participatory monitoring framework to document landscape change over time.
    - Assess the resources (voluntary and paid) that would be required to complete this.
    - Write a final report summarising the community engagement process and outputs, detailing the proposed participatory monitoring framework and setting out clear and costed next steps to create the framework.

The Steering Group

To ensure coordination across the process and the final Reports and to ensure that the process remains embedded in community need, a short-term Steering Group will be established which will manage the work of all deliverers.

The Steering Group will comprise:

- Representative/s of Dalry Community Council
- The GCAT Executive Manager
- Key stakeholders representing the community interests of the Glenkens

The Steering Group will:

- Manage the recruitment process.
- Hold kick-off meetings with all appointments, separately and together.
- Meet monthly to progress and coordinate the project.
- Assist with final collation of the Reports to ensure quality and coordination.

Next steps

- More information about this project can be sought from sjtdalrycc@gmail.com in the first instance.
- Applications to be submitted by 5p, Sunday 3rd December to helen@catstrand.com