Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 20 June 2023

Land at Whitehills, Shawfair, Edinburgh – Proposed Disposal

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

Routine

1. Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that Finance and Resources Committee approves the disposal of 0.46 hectares (1.14 acres) of land at Whitehills, to Shawfair LLP, on the terms and conditions outlined in this report.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

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2. Executive Summary

2.1 Shawfair LLP has approached both the City of Edinburgh and Midlothian Councils with a request to acquire the tree belt and field area at Whitehills Farm. This report seeks approval to dispose of the land on the terms and conditions outlined in this report.

3. Background

- 3.1 When Shawfair LLP purchased the City of Edinburgh and Midlothian Council's joint landholdings at Shawfair a strip of land was retained to construct the access road into the Zero Waste site. The road was installed leaving an area to the west, shown on the attached plan, which extends to approximately 0.46 hectares (1.14 acres).
- 3.2 The intention was to transfer this residual land to Shawfair LLP when the road construction was completed.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The following terms have been provisionally agreed:
 - 4.1.1 Subjects: 1.46 hectares (1.14 acres) at Whitehills, Shawfair, Edinburgh;
 - 4.1.2 Purchaser: Shawfair LLP;
 - 4.1.3 Price: £5,700 (split in terms of ownership, 50% to Midlothian Council, 50% to the City of Edinburgh Council);
 - 4.1.4 Conditions of purchase: the land is to be used for agricultural use, landscaping, or green space and for no other purpose; and
 - 4.1.5 Costs: purchaser responsible for Council's reasonably incurred costs.
- 4.2 Shawfair LLP will maintain the tree belt and will erect and maintain a suitable boundary fence.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Following Committee approval, Legal Services will be instructed to progress with drafting the essential documentation for the proposed conditional disposal.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The Council will a receive a pro-rata division of the purchase price, £2,850, in financial year 2023/24.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Local Ward members have been made aware of the recommendations contained within this report.
- 7.2 Midlothian Council have been made aware of the recommendations contained within this report, and the sale of their interest can be completed under delegated authority.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Location plan.

