

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL
The Manor House,
Old Town Street,
DAWLISH.

Tel: 01626 863388 Fax: 01626 888629
e.mail:TownClerk@Dawlish.gov.uk



PRESS RELEASE

TO:

FROM: TOWN CLERK

SUBJECT: LHC LIMITED, URBAN DESIGN CONSULTANTS, WIN PRESTIGIOUS CONTRACT TO CONDUCT REGENERATION STUDY IN DAWLISH

DATE: 9TH JANUARY 2009

PRESS RELEASE

STARTS>

LHC Limited, Urban Design Consultants, win prestigious contract to conduct regeneration study for Dawlish town centre and wider parish

LHC Limited, Urban Design, from Exeter was awarded the contract to conduct a regeneration study for Dawlish town centre and the wider parish by Members of the Dawlish Regeneration Project Management Team after interviews on Wednesday 25th March 2009.

Of the three companies interviewed by the Project Management Team, LHC Urban Design was the most competitive in cost and scored the highest number of points in the presentation and evaluation process.

Work will commence at the beginning of April 2009 and may take up to six months but it is thought that the project may be concluded earlier. The new work will complement work already undertaken by the Market and Coastal Towns Initiative and when regeneration projects are identified, funding streams will also be sought to enable projects to conclusion without undue delay.

The Dawlish Regeneration Project Management Team Chairman and Dawlish's Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Geoff Wills, said "I look forward to working with LHC; the whole team were unanimous in choosing this company. Having now also been fortunate in obtaining Seachange Monies for a feasibility study for an Arts Café to replace the existing bandstand, I now feel that the regeneration process is moving forward. I am conscious of the work Yellow Book has done and do not anticipate going over this ground again. We are now looking to build on their report with a

more in-depth study and an open mind on any new ideas that may come from this study. The study does differ from the scope given to Yellow Book as it will look at the outlying areas like Dawlish Warren, Cofton and Holcombe. Consideration will be given to how any changes will affect these areas and also how these areas affect the town itself. Most of the public consultation has been done and I believe we all agree the town is looking tired. There will be a draft of any ideas before finalizing plans where public comment will be welcome”.

The Chairman of Dawlish Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Mike Hockin, said “This is great news for Dawlish, LHC Ltd shows great professionalism and an understanding of all aspects of regeneration and we now look forward to their results”.

The Chairman of Dawlish Community Trust, Mr. Bob Vickery, said “It is good to see progress towards preparing priorities that answer the needs of the whole parish. The *yellow book* proposals for the town centre that were set down in a commission by Dawlish Community Trust need to be seen against the broader needs of Dawlish”.

Councillor Corney-Walker, Teignbridge Executive spokesperson for Economic Development said: “The award of this contract is an exciting step forward for the Dawlish Regeneration Project. Teignbridge has committed £200K over three years to help fund the overall project, and we are currently completing the first phase which the extension of Brunswick Place footpath and the creation of a new Market Place/Piazza on the lawn. This contract award also complements the recent news of a 26.5K funding boost for the Arts Café proposal also on the lawn area. We look forward to the start of the study and being a part of the ongoing programme, which looks set to ensure the town remains vibrant and popular for many years to come”.

Councillor Humphrey Temperley, Executive member for economic Regeneration and Spatial Planning, said “The County Council is committed to supporting regeneration schemes in the four coastal towns of Dawlish, Teignmouth, Exmouth and Seaton and we see this study as a key means of helping to identify the main priorities for consideration by all the relevant public agencies. Dawlish County Councillor John Clatworthy added: “I am delighted that there is recognition of the needs and potential of Dawlish to make a greater contribution to the Devon economy for which an integrated and comprehensive programme is essential to make the biggest possible impact”.

A Spokesperson from LHC Urban Design said “We are delighted to have the opportunity to work together with the steering group and wider groups to make a real difference to Dawlish and the wider parish”.

<ENDS

For further information please contact :

The Town Clerk Mr. John Winchester (01626 863388)

Councillor G Wills 01626 888074

Mr. R Vickery 01626 888378

Mr. M Hockin 01626 867752

Councillor Corney-Walker 01626 361101

Councillors Temperley & Clatworthy 02392 382000