
To: **Joint Committee**

On: **14th December 2018**

Report by: Head of Planning & Housing, Renfrewshire Council

Heading: Community Engagement Opportunities

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 This report outlines opportunities to improve community engagement in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and how this can contribute to the review of the Park's governance and operations.

2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Joint Committee:

- (i) Agree that Council officers, explore opportunities to improve community engagement in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, and;
 - (ii) Agree that a report should be submitted to a future meeting of the Joint Committee outlining how this will be facilitated through a revised governance framework.

3. **Background**

- 3.1 The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 has provided communities with the ability to take a greater role in decisions about public services.
- 3.2 Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park benefits from a community of motivated stakeholders including users, adjacent communities and service delivery

partners. Forums exist which aim to translate this motivation into positive action, with the wider goal of delivering the Park's strategic objectives.

- 3.3 In this context it is considered that there is scope to integrate existing groups into a framework which accords with community engagement best practice. By working collaboratively, communities and other community planning partners can concentrate efforts to improve outcomes for people and places
- 3.4 The Park's existing governance framework includes limited provision for community participation. This and other aspects of the governance framework are under review and consequently there is an opportunity to review opportunities for community engagement with legislative requirements.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 Officers will consult with key stakeholders to identify opportunities for improving community involvement in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. This will be carried out as part of the review and revision of the Park's governance framework and options for improved community involvement will be considered against the respective needs for capacity building.
- 4.2 Following approval at the respective Council boards, a report will be presented to the Joint Committee in 2019 to outline any revisions to the Park's engagement forums.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The Park's existing community engagement mechanisms do not satisfy current legislative guidance and best practice. By identifying opportunities for improved community engagement the aspirations of stakeholders can be used this to improve the activity of the Park going forward.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – none
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Legal** – Legal guidance will be sought to provide guidance regarding the processes and implications associated with the Minute of Agreement and supporting documents.

4. **Property/Assets** – none.
5. **Information Technology** – none
6. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website
7. **Health & Safety** – n/a
8. **Procurement** – n/a
9. **Risk** – n/a
10. **Privacy Impact** – n/a
11. **COSLA Policy Position** – n/a

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