
To: Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board

On: 2 September 2020

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: Inspection of Salmon Fishings – River Clyde

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report advises of the action taken by the Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Provost, in relation to arrangements made for the maintenance of the Council's Salmon Fishing Rights on the River Clyde, and documentation of this for sharing through Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire Leisure media streams.
- 1.2 This is a process which the Council seeks to undertake every three years prior to the end of August and is funded from the Renfrew Common Good. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the usual celebration with invited guests and the provision of civic hospitality was not been possible. As an alternative to celebrate this tradition and for posterity purposes a vessel departed from the Renfrew ferry pontoon and proceeded into the River Clyde where the nets were cast by the Provost. The vessel then proceeded back to the Renfrew ferry Pontoon. A short film was created to encapsulate the unique history of this tradition and its importance for the town and people of Renfrew.
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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the actions taken by the Director of Finance & Resources in consultation with the Provost in relation to the maintenance of the Salmon Fishing Rights,

including the creation of a short film, be homologated and that the costs involved, of up to £1000, be met from the Renfrew Common Good Fund.

3. Background

- 3.1 The right of salmon fishing in the River Clyde was conferred on Renfrew Town Council, and its successor authorities, by Queen Ann by Royal Charter dated 20th October, 1703. Since 1781, a practice has been established of fishing the river every three years in order to maintain the right which might otherwise be lost by prescription. The right is maintained by nets being put out and hauled in, with the Provost being seen to take hold of the nets.
 - 3.2 As the last inspection took place in August 2017, the Council, to safeguard its rights and to continue with this tradition, required to arrange to inspect the fishings prior to 31 August 2020.
 - 3.3 Historically the costs involved in the Salmon Fishings have been met from the Renfrew Common Good Fund.
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Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** – as outlined in paragraph 2.1.
 - 2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
 - 3. **Community Planning** – none
 - 4. **Legal** – as described in the report – the Council is required to undertake this action in order to maintain its rights under a Royal Charter of 1703.
 - 5. **Property/Assets** - none.
 - 6. **Information Technology** – none
 - 7. **Equality & Human Rights**
 - (a) 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.
 - 8. **Health & Safety** - none
 - 9. **Procurement** - none
 - 10. **Risk** – none
 - 11. **Privacy Impact** – none
 - 12. **Climate Risk** - none.
 - 13. **Cosla Policy Position** – not applicable
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List of Background Papers

(a) Background Paper - None

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