

To: Infrastructure Land & Environment Policy Board

On: 23 January 2019

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: Community Asset Transfer Request (1) – Land within Fountain Gardens, Paisley

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 Provide an update on the request for a long-term lease from The Star Project, for a piece of land within Fountain Gardens, Paisley for a Community Labyrinth, via a Community Asset Transfer Request in accordance with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
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2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board: -
- 2.2. Approve the Community Asset Transfer Request received on 28th September 2018.
- 2.3 Authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to conclude a long-term lease of 30 years on the terms detailed within this report,
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3. **Background**

- 3.1 The land shown on the attached plan E2742B indicates the area of land with which The Star Project seek to occupy within Fountain Gardens, Paisley. The subjects extend to approximately 20m x 20m.
- 3.2 The Star Project are proposing creating a community Labyrinth as part of their 'Finding Yourself' project. Aspects of the project will be in partnership with RAMH and Create Paisley and supported by Engage Renfrewshire. The process will be community led but will be facilitated by a fully qualified and experienced land/labyrinth artist.
- 3.3 The Star Project have more than eighteen years' experience engaging with the local community and are skilled in facilitating community led activities. The Star Project, have a proven track record of such projects and indeed a track record of working with Renfrewshire Council and other community partners to deliver such projects.
- 3.4 The organisation aims to deliver weekly therapeutic & creative workshop sessions to a minimum of 50 individuals (150 collectively with partners) that will allow for self-expression, facilitate the processing of difficulties / healing, increase awareness of safe experiences, energising and improving self-worth
- 3.5 The sessions will be supported through 1:1 supports and their Drop-In services which offers a wraparound of support services that ensure barriers to engagement are removed / reduced. Half of the weekly sessions will be facilitated by an artist in residence utilising a variety of Labyrinth options for personal, group and community use.
- 3.6 The project will include the launch of the 'Find Yourself' Labyrinth at the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival in May 2019.
- 3.7 Evidence research indicates that walking in a Labyrinth is an emotional and physiologically engaging practice for those participating. Studies indicate that engaging with a Labyrinth could offer wider benefits for those undergoing mental and physical duress. Those who have used Labyrinths report experiencing positive benefits including feelings of calmness, mental focus and reduced anxiety, agitation and stress (Peel 2004).
- 3.8 RAMH will be delivering holistic mental health employability which will complement and enhance the wider partnership ideals and objectives. This will include access to specialist support including mindfulness and holistic therapies.

Their intervention will focus on enhancing young people's own self-maintenance skills and improving their motivation and functioning.

- 3.9 Collectively the groups aim to work together to increase young people's and adult resilience, improve mental health and well-being, change misconceptions, improve employability and reduce stigma. Each of the organisations will use their specialist skills and networks to run activities with the overall aim of positively impacting the mental health and well-being of the community. The groups will work with the following: -
- Star Project – young children, pre-school age and adult family members;
 - Create Paisley – 12 – 18-year olds;
 - RAMH – 16 – 29-year olds;
- 3.10 The Council's officer Asset Transfer Panel was convened on the 1 November 2018 and considered the application from the Star Project and determined that it would be a positive addition to the park.
- 3.11 The group have secured sufficient funding from the Robertson Trust, and Scottish Children's Lottery to develop and maintain the Labyrinth and are seeking a 30 year lease of the land within Fountain Gardens at a rental of £1 per annum (if asked).

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – not applicable
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – Not applicable
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - *Our Renfrewshire* is well – The Labyrinth will be created as part of the 'Finding Yourself' project
 - *Our Renfrewshire* is safe – the Labyrinth will be low level and accessible to all along with a clear view into and out of the facility.
 - Working together to improve outcomes -Multi agencies will be working together to create the community labyrinth
4. **Legal** – Legal Services have been consulted in terms of the title for the Gardens but a lease offers no concerns in this regard.

5. **Property/Assets** – A small area (20m x 20m) will be used within Fountain Gardens, Paisley as a Community Labyrinth.
 6. **Information Technology** – not applicable
 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** – As the Labyrinth will be low level and be in open view there is limited Health & Safety implications.
 9. **Procurement** – Not applicable
 10. **Risk** – Not applicable
 11. **Privacy Impact** – not applicable
 12. **Cosla Policy Position** – not applicable.
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Renfrewshire
Council

Fountain Gardens, Paisley

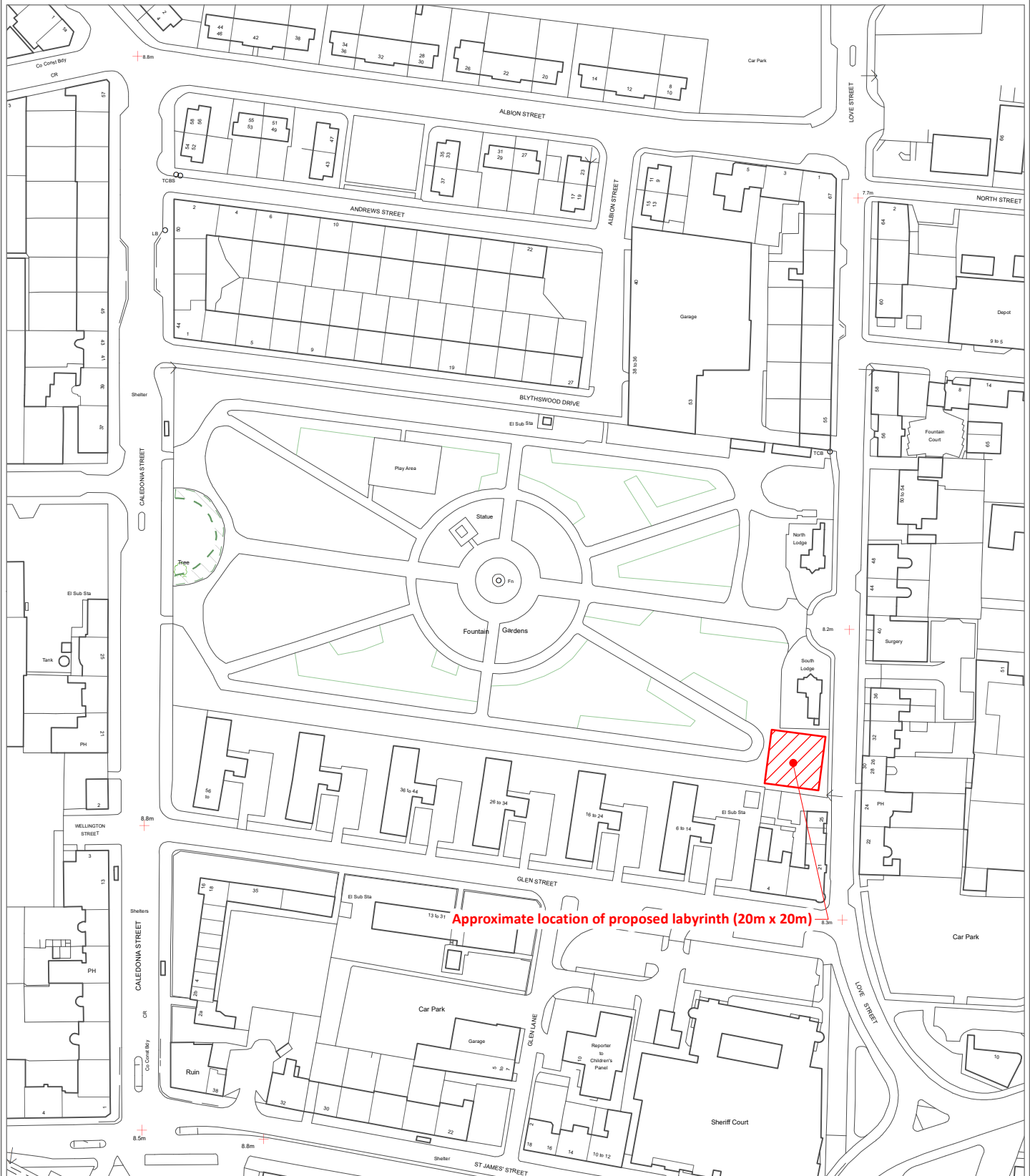
Report Plan Ref. E2742B



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User: howardhaughj2

Date: 12/12/2018



Approximate location of proposed labyrinth (20m x 20m)

Notes:

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