

To: Finance & Resources Policy Board

On: 15 March, 2017

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: Inspection of Salmon Fishings – River Clyde

1. Summary

- a. This report seeks authority for the Provost and other representatives of the Council to take action designed to maintain the Council's Salmon Fishing Rights on the River Clyde.
 - b. This is a process which the Council seeks to undertake every 3 years. It is proposed that the inspection trip be undertaken prior to the 31 August 2017.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Finance & Resources Policy Board agree the actions outlined in this paper in relation to the confirmation of fishing rights on the River Clyde..
 - 2.2 That the costs involved in the Salmon Fishings, estimated at £6,500 be met from the Renfrew Common Good Fund.
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3. **Background**

- a. 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 and Councillors being seen to take hold of the nets.
- b. As the last inspection took place in August 2014, the Council, to safeguard its rights and to continue with this tradition, should arrange to inspect the fishings before 31st August, 2017.
- c. A vessel will depart from the pontoon at Braehead Pier and proceed to the mouth of the River Leven, the location where over the years the nets have been cast. The vessel will then proceed back to Braehead where the Council party and various guests including Councillors, MP's, MSP's Provosts and Chief Executives of neighbouring Councils, business representatives and the local Renfrew community, have been invited to attend a buffet lunch in Renfrew Town Hall.
- d. Historically the costs involved in the Salmon Fishings have been met from the Renfrew Common Good Fund.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – as outlined in paragraph 2.2.
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.
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List of Background Papers

- (a) Background Paper 1 – None
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