

# Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

**2.30pm, Monday, 19 August 2019**

## **Proposed Parades and Processions: September / October 2019**

Report number

Executive/routine

Wards

City Centre (Ward 11)

Council Commitments

### **Executive Summary**

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The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of several parades which are proposed to take place in September and October 2019.

The Council has limited powers in respect of parades. It can take no action and the parades would proceed as the organisers intend. Alternatively, it has the power to attach conditions or, under limited circumstances, to ban the parades. The Committee needs to decide whether to exercise any of these options.

In January 2018 the Regulatory Committee decided to continue the practice that all parades involving the High Street must be submitted for Committee consideration.

## Proposed Parades and Processions: September/October 2019

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee makes an order in respect of the proposed parades, imposing conditions attached at Appendix 2.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 Under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, anyone organising a parade or procession in Scotland must notify the appropriate local authority and the police at least 28 days prior to the date of the event.
- 2.2 The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of intent to hold the following events in the city (further details in Appendix 1). It is proposed that three of the parades (1(a), 1(c), 1(d)) will use the High Street.

|      | <b>Event name</b>  | <b>Event date</b> |
|------|--|-------------------|
| 1(a) | Edinburgh Riding of the Marches<br><i>Proposed route includes use of High Street</i> | 15 Sept 2019      |
| 1(b) | Schools Strike for Climate   | 20 Sept 2019      |
| 1(c) | Schools Strike for Climate<br><i>Proposed route includes use of High Street</i>      | 27 Sept 2019      |
| 1(d) | March for Independence<br><i>Proposed route includes use of High Street</i>          | 5 Oct 2019        |

- 2.3 The committee will note that at the time of preparing the report the Council had been notified of two parades under the title 'Schools Strike for Climate'. These are scheduled one week apart and follow different routes. Council Officers are engaging with the organiser to clarify whether it is intended that both parades take place and their proposed routes.
- 2.4 In respect of the 'Schools Strike for Climate' parade 1(b) above on 20 Sept 2019, members are asked to note that the proposed route includes Princes St between the junctions of the Mound and North Bridge. A parade on that route is likely to cause significant disruption to traffic and public transport in the city centre area, including two arterial routes linking the north and south of the city. It is therefore recommended that the committee considers whether it should exercise its powers to prevent such disruption.

- 2.5 The Council has limited powers available regarding the control of such parades. These powers should only normally be exercised to prevent public disorder, risk to public safety, damage to property or excessive disruption to the life of the community.

### **3. Main report**

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- 3.1 Notification forms and other documents relevant to each proposed parade are attached as Appendices 1a-1d.
- 3.2 The recommended conditions (Appendix 2) are sufficient to mitigate and manage any possible disruption to the community. Where an EPOG has taken place this is noted at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Representatives of each organisation will be invited to address the Committee regarding the proposed parades.

### **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 That the Council discharges its statutory duties in respect of these notifications.
- 4.2 That any parade is facilitated wherever possible and is managed in a way that minimises potential disruption to the life of the community.

### **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.
- 5.2 Council resources may need to be deployed on the day, in particular with respect to any road closures.

### **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 Should the Committee decide to restrict or prohibit any procession, the persons proposing to hold the procession may appeal against that decision to the Sheriff Court within 14 days of written reasons being received by them.

### **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 In coming to a decision, the Committee will have to consider the rights of the procession organisers to stage their procession, and the Council's duty to foster good relations and ensure the protection of public order and safety. These must be discharged against the relevant statutory duties.

## 8. Sustainability impact

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8.1 None

## 9. Consultation and engagement

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9.1 Statutory consultation has taken place regarding the parades.

## 10. Background reading/external references

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10.1 Scottish Government guidance - [Review of parades and marches in Scotland \(2006\)](#)

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## 11. Appendices

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11.1 Appendix 1- Application Forms:

- a. Edinburgh Riding of the Marches
- b. Schools Strike for Climate (20 Sept)
- c. Schools Strike for Climate (27 Sept)
- d. March for Independence

11.2 Appendix 2: Proposed conditions