

Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

2.00pm, Tuesday, 10 September 2019

Proposed Parades and Processions: School Strike for Climate

Item number

Report number

Executive/routine

Wards

City Centre (Ward 11)

Council Commitments

Executive Summary

The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of a parade planned to take place on 20 September 2019 for School Strike for Climate. The proposed route for this parade encompasses High Street and Princes Street.

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.

This parade was considered by the committee at its 19 August 2019 meeting. The Committee deferred making a decision pending further discussion between the organiser and officers regarding the route.

Proposed Parades and Processions: School Strike for Climate

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee makes an order under Section 63 (1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 requiring the procession to take an alternative route as outlined in paragraph 3.6 below due to the significant disruption that the organisers intended route would cause.

2. Background

- 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 After receiving a notification of intended procession, the local authority should ensure that it consults with the Chief Constable and then it may:
- Take no further action and the march would proceed as proposed;
 - make an order prohibiting the procession; or
 - make an order imposing conditions on the holding of the procession.
- 2.3 Article 11 of the European Convention of Human Rights – right to freedom of peaceful assembly. Any decision taken by the committee to restrict a parade by making an order must be proportionate having regard to Article 11. In deciding the type of order to be made, the Council is required by section 63(8) to have regard to the following:
- the likely effect of the holding of the procession in relation to –
 - public safety;
 - public order;
 - damage to property;
 - disruption of the life of the community;
 - the extent to which containment of the risks arising from the procession would place an excessive burden on the police;
 - where the person holding the procession has previously held one in the Council's area (or other persons taking part in it have previously been involved), whether there were any particular issues relating to that.
- 2.4 The Council is required to have regard to the terms of Scottish Government guidance on processions, regarding good practice, factors to take account of in conditioning or prohibiting a procession, etc (most recent version published December 2006).

- 2.5 The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of intent to hold a procession in the city for School Change for Climate (further details in Appendix 1). The route proposed by the organiser intends to use the High Street and Princes Street. The proposed route has caused concern with regard to the disruption which would be caused as a result of the closure of Princes Street.

3. Main report

- 3.1 A notification forms is attached as Appendix 1. The recommended conditions (Appendix 2) are, in most cases, sufficient to mitigate and manage any possible disruption to the community.
- 3.2 However, on this occasion, the proposed procession would require the closure of Princes St and two main north south arterial routes in the city centre. This will cause significant disruption to the city.
- 3.3 Representatives of the parade organisers will be invited to address the Committee regarding the proposed parade.
- 3.4 An impact assessment has now been completed in relation to the organisers' proposed use of Princes Street. The following concerns and risks are brought to the attention of committee members for consideration:
- 3.4.1 The Edinburgh Tram network will suffer significant disruption to its operation, as an entire network power shutdown from Shandwick Place will be required. This shutdown is required to ensure the safety of participants in the procession while on Princes Street. Whilst every attempt will be made to resume full Tram services as soon as possible after it is safe to restore power to Princes Street once the procession has cleared, it is anticipated that disruption to services will last for a minimum of four hours. There is also a financial cost to the Council which would arise as a result of any shutdown of the Tram network as set out in paragraph 5.1 below.
- 3.4.2 The North to South route (North Bridge) is particularly used by the blue light services and this could delay responses to emergency situations.
- 3.4.3 A number of bus services which travel directly or indirectly into the city centre will also suffer significant disruption. The proposed use of Princes Street will sever all main East to West and North to South arterial routes. Closure will have an impact on their ability to respond to emergency situations. This disruption will affect almost all of the bus services in the city, including disruption to services operated by Lothian Buses (approximately 60 services), East Coast (approximately five services), Lothian Country (approximately five services), First, Stagecoach, Citylink and Borders Buses. As a result, it is likely that any person attempting to travel into the city will experience significant disruption both during and for a lengthy period before and after the procession, as preparations are made for implementing and removal of the road closures as well as the subsequent dispersal of pedestrians and congested traffic. Whilst attempts will be made to facilitate alternative route arrangements for bus services, there are few suitable

locations within the city for buses to turn, and surrounding streets in the vicinity of the closures will be heavily congested with overflow and general traffic.

- 3.4.4 The closure of Princes Street will also have a large impact on how people can travel to and from Waverley Station and would lead to subsequent disruption to rail services. The disruption is also likely to affect passengers travelling to and from Edinburgh Airport (as Skylink services and other methods of travel between the city's main travel hubs (Waverley Station and Edinburgh Airport)) would be affected. In addition to travellers, members of staff who work in these locations will also be impacted and this may result in collapse of services for several business operators. This will include bus and train staff who may not be able to access their normal work place, leading to a shortage of drivers with the impact that services will be disrupted. It is likely that this disruption will continue for several hours after the procession has ended.
- 3.4.5 The nature and significance of the disruption is predicted to extend not only beyond the reach of the city centre but the city's outer boundary
- 3.4.6 There is also a likelihood of an increase in private car use by those who will be unable to make use of the public transport network. This effect will be particularly felt by commuters, who are likely to use a car to travel to work in the morning in preparation for their normal bus journey home being disrupted. Many people will be unable to make travel connections or reach desired destinations. Furthermore, risks to those with mobility difficulties will see a significant increase as they will be particularly affected.
- 3.5 Officers have held an EPOG (Appendix 1(b)) to discuss the proposed route with the organiser. An alternative route was proposed to the organiser however they indicated an unwillingness to amend the route.
- 3.6 In view of the significant potential disruption which would result from the proposed route, it is recommended that an order should be made attaching standard conditions and requiring the march to proceed down the alternative route which would be: Meadows; Forrest Road; George IV Bridge; High Street; Canongate; Horse Wynd; and finishing at the Scottish Parliament.

4. Measures of success

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

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 The costs associated with managing the impact of the Tram disruption, including loss of revenue, is expected to be in the region of £15,000. Edinburgh Trams will seek to recover any incurred costs from City of Edinburgh Council in full, as the proposed closure of Princes Street and subsequent disruption to services exceeds the agreed closures currently provided for within the Operating Agreement. This is an unfunded budget pressure for the Council.
- 5.2 Additionally 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

- 6.1 Should the Committee decide to restrict or prohibit the 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

- 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. These must be balanced against the need ensure the protection of public order, safety and the potential disruption to the wider community. Any decision made must be discharged against the relevant statutory duties.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The hearing relates to a statutory function of the Council and the limited criteria under the Act for determining whether to exercise these powers is set out in paragraph 2.3 above.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Statutory consultation has taken place regarding the parades.

10. Background reading/external references

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

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Andrew Mitchell, Regulatory Services Manager

E-mail: andrew.mitchell@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131

11. Appendices

- 11.1 Appendix 1(a): Application form
- 11.2 Appendix 1(b): Notes from EPOG 29 August 2019
- 11.3 Appendix 1(c): Objection – Roads Services
- 11.4 Appendix 2: Standard Conditions

Appendix 1(a)

Notice of Proposal to Hold a Public Procession (or similar event, e.g. march, parade, race, sponsored walk, protest demonstration, etc)

Important notice – As the organiser of your event you should give us at least 28 days' notice of your intention to hold a procession or similar event. However, if you can give more notice than this, that would be preferable. If you cannot provide the notice needed, you should contact the person named at the end of this form to apply for an exemption. We can only make an exemption in exceptional circumstances.

You should fill in all sections of the form (continuing on a separate form if you need to) and:

- send it to the person named at the bottom of this form
- keep a copy for yourself
- we will make sure that we give a copy of your notification to the police
- we may ask you to fill in and return a risk-assessment form and we will let you know if this is necessary
- you may require a separate permission or a licence for your event and we will let you know if this is necessary
- you must bring your copy of this form, along with any risk-assessment form which we may ask you to fill in, to any meeting that we may hold to discuss your notification in more detail

Please provide the following details:

Title of event : School Strike For Climate

Date of event: 20th september

Your contact details

Name:Sandy Boyd

Address: 199 Newhaven Road Edinburgh

Postcode: EH6 4QD

Phone number: 07377 654 992

Email address: sandyboydsyys@gmail.com

W2/Misc/NPHPP/MS210507/CE

2

Chief Steward's contact details (if different to above)

Name:

Address:

..... **Postcode:**

Phone number:

Email address:

If there are to be bands, please give the name of each band and the names of each band member who will be taking responsibility for the bands. The named band members must be present on the day and must identify themselves to the police.

Name of bands:

Band A: (TBC) Samba band

Band B: TBC (pipe band)

Band C: TBC (other)

Name of responsible band members for:

Band A: TBC

Band B: TBC

Band C: TBC

(Please fill in on a separate sheet, if necessary.)

Name of organisation: Scottish Youth Climate Strikes (SYCS)

Reason for event: To protest the inaction of governments on the climate crisis.

Start time: 11:00 Am

Finish time: 3:00 Pm

Assembly area and time (for moving or static events): Middle meadow walk 11:00 AM

The proposed route (for moving events): Up Middle meadow, Along Forrest Road, up George IV bridge, Down the Mound, Right along princess street, up north bridge, left down the royal mile, down to parliament, end at parliament.

W2/Misc/NPHPP/MS31 May 2007/CE

The return route (if this applies):

.....

.....

.....

Estimated number of people (or vehicles, horses, etc) expected to take part: 3,000 - 6,000 people (hard to tell early on)

.....

Please provide details of arrangements for controlling the event:

Stewards, Megaphones, PA, Radios for Stewards,

.....

.....

Number of stewards attending: 30 - 60

Number of buses or coaches: 0

Please provide any extra information about the event which you think may be relevant.

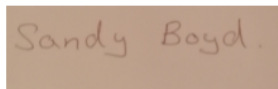
Mainly young people involved in event.

Event organised by under eighteen year olds.

Some details still to be figured out as very early on in our planning process would appreciate some guidance on crowd management and safety.

Please take a few minutes to complete the checklist on the next page. This will allow us to quickly identify if we/you are required to take any further procedural action.

Your



signature: Date: 13/ 7 /19

You may be contacted again to arrange a meeting to discuss your notification in more detail.

If you would like further information or advice, please contact the Licensing Team on 0131 529 4208 or by e-mail at marchesandparades@edinburgh.gov.uk

Please return form to: Licensing Team, City of Edinburgh Council, 249 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ.

W2/Misc/NPHPP/MS31 May 2007/C

4

Please consider the following checklist and identify any aspect that may apply to your event. This will help us identify and assess the needs of your event and allow us to consider what support mechanisms and resources may be required. This will also help us to determine quickly whether or not any separate specific permission or licence may be required, and if there are any other procedures you should follow. (If you are in any doubt, please do not hesitate to contact us for advice, using the telephone number given at the end of the notification form. Our officers have an extensive knowledge, understanding and experience of dealing with events and will be happy to offer you their advice. Likewise, if we are unclear about the information you have given, you may be contacted for clarification.) **Please tick all that apply:**

(Of checklist these seemed like the aspects that apply to our event)

George IV Bridge

Holyrood Park (otherwise known as Arthur's Seat/Queen's Park)

Money collection

Mound/Mound Precinct

Music/Personal address system/Other noise

Parks/public garden

Princes Street

Road closure

Street furniture (e.g. market stall, gazebo, trailer, etc)

EVENTS PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP [EPOG]

Event Name: Schools Strike for Climate Change

(Event date: Friday 20th & 27th September 2019)

The meeting took place on: Thu 29th Aug 2019, 10:00 hrs,
Room 2.21, City Chambers

Present:

City of Edinburgh Council (CEC):	Scott Russell (SR) Public Safety (Chair) Julie-Ann Neill (JAN) Public Safety (Minutes) Susanne Anderson (SA) Parks Derek Shade (DS) Roads Andrea Cornet (AC) Roads
Police Scotland:	Stuart Mitchell (SM)
Historic Environment Scotland:	James Hamilton
Event Organisers:	Sandy Boyd (SB1) Alex Burrow (AB) Kate Whitaker (KW)

A copy of the minutes has been sent to:

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

Scottish Ambulance Service

Transport Providers (Trams, Lothian Buses, Network Rail)

ITEM	PROCEEDING	ACTION
1	<p>Introduction and Apologies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JMN opened the meeting and introductions were made. 2. Housekeeping points were covered. 3. Apologies were accepted from persons noted above. 4. There are 2 parade notification applications: <p>Friday 20th September (Leave at 11:30) Estimated 5,000 to 10,000 participants. Route not granted by committee.</p> <p>Route:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadows • Forrest Road • George IV Bridge • Mound • Princes Street • North Bridge • High Street • Canongate • Horse Wynd • Scottish Parliament <p>Friday 27th September (Leave at 11:30) Estimated 1,000 – 5,000 participants. Route granted by committee.</p> <p>Route:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadows • Forrest Road • George IV Bridge • High Street • Canongate • Horse Wynd • Scottish Parliament 	

2	<p>Event Organiser Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congregate on the meadows for both events from 11:00. 2. SB to contact The Scottish Parliament to let them know that the rally at the end of the parade will be on the grassed area outside the Scottish Parliament. 3. The end of both rally's to be 3 hours max. 4. SB to risk assess who he will be sending to facilitate the North/South crossings. 5. SB advised that the parade on 20th September will be on Princes Street for Maximum exposure. 6. AB advised that the 20th is a strike day/night so a lot of services will be off. 7. AB to add Trams to Risk assessment. 	<p>SB</p> <p>AB</p>
3	<p>Police Scotland</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SB to advise ASAP if TTRO for 27th will be in place and paid for. If not, Police will have to facilitate or will it be a static event? 2. SB to advise Plan B for 20th, if the Princes Street route is not agreed. 3. The MACC will be at Bilston. 4. DS advised that CEC Roads will not be available to attend the MACC for either event. 5. SM to speak to Silver Commander. 	<p>SB</p> <p>SB</p> <p>SM</p>
4	<p>Scottish Fire & Rescue Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JAN to send a copy of the Minutes. 	<p>JAN</p>
5	<p>Scottish Ambulance Service</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JAN to send a copy of the Minutes. 	<p>JAN</p>
6	<p>Historic Environment Scotland</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SB to ensure that people on the parade are aware that the radical road is closed for safety reasons. 2. HES happy to host the rally at the end of the parade on 20th in Holyrood Park. 3. JH and AB to discuss the parade on 20th to finalise details. Need to know, timings, road closures, location and details of the content of the speakers. 	<p>SB</p> <p>JH/AB</p>

	<p>Stewarding and Security</p> <p>1. SB to provide Stewarding Plan for both events.</p>	SB
	<p>Medical</p> <p>1. SB to provide Medical Plans.</p>	SB
	<p>Public Transport</p> <p>Lothian Buses</p> <p>1. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p> <p>Trams</p> <p>2. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes. 3. If the route was to go ahead along Princes Street on 20th September, a Trams Authority to Work (ATW) will have to be applied for by SB and the tram lines would have to be de-energised.</p> <p>Network Rail</p> <p>4. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p>	<p>JAN</p> <p>JAN</p> <p>SB</p> <p>JAN</p>
9	<p>City of Edinburgh Council</p> <p><u>Registrars</u></p> <p>1. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p> <p><u>Facilities Management</u></p> <p>2. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p> <p><u>Comms</u></p> <p>3. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p> <p><u>Roads Event Team</u></p> <p>4. DS explained the issues around the parade going along Princes Street:</p>	<p>JAN</p> <p>JAN</p> <p>JAN</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With 2 of the major North / South routes closed, this makes it very difficult for blue light emergency services. • Severe traffic disruption around the city. • Bus diversions • Trams would have to be stopped at Shandwick Place. • An ATW would have to be applied for to de-energise the tram lines. (There is a Cost involved). • Only 3 historic events have permission to use Princes Street - Hogmanay, Festival Fireworks and the Carnival Cavalcade. • There is no formal process to apply to use Princes Street for an event. Perhaps Full Council could agree? • Loss of revenue for transport and businesses. Loss of revenue to Trams alone would be approximately £15,000. CEC would have to meet these costs if the event organiser can't pay for this. <p>5. DS advised that although the route for the 20th had not been agreed, a broad TTRO has been done for both events. Traffic Management not yet in place.</p> <p>6. DS advised that there will be an issue with CEC resources on both Fridays.</p> <p>7. DS suggested that the same route is used for the 20th as is suggested for the 27th. SB to consider and get back with a decision ASAP.</p> <p>8. SB to provide a plan to stop the parade at the North / South Crossings. DS to arrange a meeting.</p> <p>9. DS advised that the TTRO costs for the parade on 27th has to be charged to the event organiser. Approximately £20,000 for CEC Traffic Management etc. SB to get quotes from Traffic Management Companies.</p> <p>10. DS to share Trams Video with SB and AB.</p> <p><u>Parks</u></p> <p>11. Congregation at the Meadows to be at the top left on 20th September.</p> <p><u>Licensing</u></p> <p>12. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p> <p><u>Locality</u></p> <p>13. Not in attendance JAN to send a copy of the Minutes.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>SB/DS</p> <p>SB</p> <p>DS</p> <p>JAN</p> <p>JAN</p>
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	<p><u>Public Safety</u></p> <p>14. SB to provide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare facilities • Event Management Plan • Stewarding Plan • First Aid and Medical Plan • Control Room requirements • Radio communications 	SB
10	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <p>1. Nothing further to add.</p>	
11	<p>Date(s) of Next Meeting(s)</p> <p>1. TBC</p>	

Appendix 1 (c) – Road Services Objection

From: Andrea Cornet <Andrea.Cornet@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 September 2019 12:01

To: Hugo Macrae <Hugo.Macrae@edinburgh.gov.uk>; Ewan Cooper <Ewan.Cooper@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Cc: Scott Russell <Scott.Russell@edinburgh.gov.uk>; Julie-Ann Neill <Julie-Ann.Neill@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: Marches and Parades Notification - Schools Strike for Climate - 416121

Good morning,

An EPOG for this event took place on Thursday 29th August. Following this meeting the Roads Network Events Team are objecting to this event taking place as the route that is being applied for presents an unacceptable amount of disruption to the roads network for the following reasons:

1. The route requires the closure of 3 out of 4 north/ south routes through the city.
2. The route would be closing one of the main north/south routes used by blue light services (North Bridge).
3. The route would require the Tram service to be terminated at Shandwick Place.
4. The route would require bus services to put in significant diversions/ terminations impacting their ability to provide any services through the City Centre.
5. The route would cause major disruption to traffic trying to access Waverley Station.

An alternative route was presented to the organiser by the Roads Network Events Team at the EPOG which was the Meadows, Middle Meadow Walk, Teviot Place, Bristo Place, George IV Bridge, Lawnmarket, High Street, Canongate and Horse Wynd to Holyrood Park, however, the organiser did not wish to accept this alternative.

Any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Andrea Cornet | Technician | Roads Network | Planning and Transport | Place

The City of Edinburgh Council, Waverley Court, Level G.4, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG

Tel: 0131 529 3433 | Mobile: 07768 556 256 |

Appendix 2

1. The event begins at the times specified above.
2. The procession adheres to the stated routes.
3. The procession will at all times continue moving and no part will stop except for emergency purpose, on the direction of or with the agreement of the police/council officer.
4. After the procession concludes participants disperse at the specified times above.
5. Official(s) are appointed to liaise with the police/council officer and shall identify themselves to the Police Officer/Council Officer in Charge at the assembly point before the commencement of the parade/procession.
6. Sufficient stewards and marshals shall be provided by the organiser of the parade/procession. Stewards and marshals will be readily identifiable and shall be present throughout to supervise the parade/procession and to ensure that all participants comply with directions.
7. A sufficient number of suitably trained medical personnel should be in attendance. The level of attendance is to be agreed with the Council.
8. Unless prior agreement, all persons participating in the parade/procession shall not walk more than six and not less than four abreast.
9. The terms of the Public Order Act 1936 in relation to the prohibition of the wearing of uniforms signifying any association with any banned organisation etc shall be observed.
10. Unless by prior agreement, the use of any staves, wooden poles or any other item shall not be used to display or carry banners, placards, flags or posters.
11. Banners, placards, flags and posters bearing inflammatory images or words will not be displayed.
12. The conditions of Section 62 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 in relation to the use of loudspeakers shall be observed.
13. The conditions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 shall be observed insofar as making noise during the parade/procession is concerned.

14. The organiser will assist the police/council officers in ensuring that regular and appropriate passage across the parade/procession is allowed for traffic and pedestrians.
15. Any band or bands taking part in a parade/procession shall cease playing when approaching and passing any place of worship, or any other location where a recognised religious, cultural, or legal ceremony is taking place.
16. No vehicles or animals should be part of the procession unless by approval of Police Scotland and City of Edinburgh Council prior to the day of the event.
17. Any instruction given by the police or council officers are immediately complied with.