

Report to:	Corporate Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	29 June 2005
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 - Marches and Parades
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1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Bring to the attention of members the proposed changes to the procedure relating to marches and parades

2 Recommendation(s)

2.1 The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Committee note the report.

3 Background

3.1 Members are aware that the Scottish Executive commissioned a Report by Sir John Orr to look at the position with regard to marches and parades and to make certain recommendations. The main recommendations are as follows:-

- 3.1.1 Organisers would require to give the local authority 28 days notice of any march or parade, as opposed to the present position which is 7 days notice, although there would be provisions for this notice period to be waived in certain circumstances.
- 3.1.2 All organisations would require to notify local authorities of their intention to march. At present exempted organisations do not require to do so. (Exempted organisations are those where the local authority has exempted the organisers from giving notice to the local authority of their intention to hold a procession). This would result in an increase in the number of notifications being received by local authorities.
- 3.1.3 Local authorities and police should set up a single gateway for the organisers.
- 3.1.4 A number of meetings will require to be set up to discuss the notifications and risk assessments will require to be carried out.
- 3.1.5 At the beginning of the year an annual digest of processions with organisations should be prepared. Information should be provided to local communities about forthcoming processions.
- 3.1.6 There should be an "opt-in" list prepared for organisations to receive information about processions.
- 3.1.7 Wider views of the community should be taken into account when reaching decisions.

- 3.1.8 Local authorities should be able to take into account a wider range of issues when reaching decisions on notifications and should have discretion to impose conditions proportionate to the notification and to address the issues upon which it based its decision
- 3.1.9 Organisers should not be required to pay a fee for a notification to organise a procession.
- 3.1.10 De-Briefing meetings should be held after processions with organisers, local authorities and police and other relevant groups.
- 3.1.11 Codes of Conduct should be developed for organisers and participants.
- 3.1.12 Local authorities, in certain circumstances, should require organisers to take out insurance
- 3.1.13 Local authorities should consider relevant police costs when reaching decisions about march notifications

3.2 As members will be aware, a number of these recommendations will require changes to legislation before they can be implemented. However, it is understood that the Scottish Executive is looking at ways of introducing the recommendations which do not require amending the legislation.

4 Employee Implications

4.1 When these proposals take effect, there will be an increase in the workload to comply with the legislation.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There will be no fee income in this area to compensate for that.

6 Other Implications

6.1 None

7 Consultation

7.1 Sir John Orr consulted with local authorities prior to his report being commissioned.

Alan Cuthbertson
Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

27 May 2005

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- Living in the Community

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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