

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 17 November 2003

REPORT ON: Broughty Ferry Yellow and Blue Flag Initiative

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 753-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To outline the progress made to enable the Council to achieve the Encams Resort Award Yellow Flag for the summer of 2004 and requirements to achieve the Blue Flag status at Broughty Ferry Beach in the future.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Leisure and Arts Department in consultation with other Council Departments

2.1 should continue to take measures to meet the Yellow Flag resort standard award.

2.2 subject to the award of a resort standard yellow flag award, continued achievement of guideline water quality and designation of the beach by the Scottish Executive, introduce measures to meet the requirements of the Blue Flag award.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with this report are as agreed in Agenda Item III of the Policy and Resources Committee of 9 September 2002.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The issues which are considered in the designation of a Yellow Flag and Blue Flag include water quality, safety, management, cleanliness and information provision.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Both the Yellow and the Blue Flag designations would indicate that Broughty Ferry Beach is safe and clean according to the stringent criteria of the designation.

5.2 All citizens, in particular the disabled now have access to a clean and safe beach. Broughty Ferry Beach is easily accessible to low income families in Dundee who may not be able to afford to travel in order to enjoy beach activity.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 Reference is made to the Agenda Item III of the Policy and Resources Committee of 9 September 2002. The following action proposed in that report have now been undertaken.

6.2 The introduction of Qualified Beach Life Guards during the bathing season (June to Mid September), along with the provision of additional life saving equipment.

6.3 The life guards are based in a purpose built life guard hut situated on the beach, this building also acts as a first aid room and lost children point. The life guards patrol a defined and

clearly marked swimming zone.

- 6.4 Access to the beach for the disabled has been provided from the main car park and a toilet for the disabled has been installed in the windmill toilet block which has been refurbished to Blue/Yellow Flag standard.
- 6.5 Information and directional signage has been erected as per the Yellow Flag criteria.
- 6.6 Following discussions with 'Keep Scotland Beautiful' and local community groups an agreed beach cleaning regime has been put in place ensuring the beach is kept in a clean condition, but reducing the need to remove excessive vegetative material. Any vegetative material removed is being recycled as part of the ongoing stabilisation of the sand dunes.
- 6.7 Results received this year from SEPA (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency). Indicates that the guideline water quality standards have been met.
- 6.8 Keep Scotland Beautiful (Encams) staff inspected the beach in August and a number of minor improvements relating to signage were suggested and have been put in place.
- 6.9 The Encams Seaside Award Resort Beach application form for Yellow and Blue Flag Status was submitted prior to the closing date of 3 November. If successful the award will be announced by Encams in February 2004, with the resort flag being flown during the season 2004.
- 6.10 Required actions by the Leisure and Arts Department to achieve Blue Flag status include the following:
1. continued achievement of Yellow Flag status
 2. provision for public information on the natural sensitive areas of Broughty Ferry beach
 3. demonstrate Environmental Initiatives and have a Land Use and Development Plan for the Coastal Zone (Local Community)
- 6.11 The award of a Blue Flag is subject to:
1. achieving designation of beach by the Scottish Executive under the EC Bathing Water Directive
 2. continued achievement of guideline water quality

7.0 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Article No III of the Policy and Resources. Committee of 9 September 2002. Article No X of the Leisure and Arts Services Committee of 16 December 2002. Article No III of the Leisure and Arts Services Committee of 17 March 2003.

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DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
29 OCTOBER 2003