

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

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

REPORT ON: Broughty Ferry Beach Management Plan

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 213-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of the setting up of a Beach Management Group for Broughty Ferry Beach and to seek approval to develop a Beach Management Plan.

2.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee remits the Director of Leisure and Arts to develop the Beach Management Plan, the contents of which to be reported back to this Committee at a later date.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any financial implications will be contained within the Leisure and Arts Department's Revenue Budget. However in respect of certain of the action elements of the Plan there may be future capital implications requiring appropriate provision to be included in the Financial Plan.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

The development of a Beach Management Plan will aim to ensure that resources are used efficiently and waste is minimised. It will also confirm that diversity of nature is valued and protected and that local and wider needs are met.

It will also ensure that 'opportunity for culture, leisure and recreation' are taken into account.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Every opportunity will be taken within the Beach Management Plan to make the beach area a more family friendly and barrier free resource combining beauty with utility.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Following representative and subsequent discussion with Broughty Ferry Community Council Beach Sub Group, it was agreed that an integrated approach to beach management and the eventual production of a Beach Management Plan would be a suitable mechanism to take the future of the beach forward.

In addition to an efficient and more effective approach in deploying resources for beach operations, an integrated approach would lead to more inclusive partnership with the community and other groups and will lead to a Beach Management Plan which maximises the potential of the beach for culture, leisure and recreational use while at the same time ensuring the integrity of the environment.

6.2 Beach Management Group

A Beach Management Group has therefore been set up and an initial meeting held to develop a Management Plan. The current core membership of the group includes Scottish

Natural Heritage, Clean Coast Scotland, Tay Estuary Forum, Broughty Ferry Community Council Beach Sub Group and Council Departments including Leisure and Arts, Corporate Planning, Neighbourhood Resources and Development and Environmental & Consumer Protection. This core group is not seen as inclusive and additional and/or ad hoc membership for specific subject areas is seen as the way forward.

The Beach Management Group is chaired by the Director of Leisure and Arts with the Department taking a lead role in taking the initiative forward.

The remit of the group is to develop an integrated Beach Management Plan which addresses a number of specific issues including:

- Coastal protection
- Beach and foreshore operation including beach cleaning, animal control zone on the beach and general beach management
- Wider ecological and environmental protection of beach habitat
- Potential of the beach for tourism and leisure and recreation in general
- Yellow and Blue Flag initiative
- Wider interpretation of the beach and foreshore

6.3 Definition of area of the Plan

The area designated as forming part of the 'Beach Management Plan' includes the zone from the eastern city boundary just west of the mouth of the Dighty to the Stannergate. It is proposed that this will involve other features such as Barnhill Rock Garden, Esplanade, Shiell Street, Castle Green and Broughty Castle, the pebble beach at Fisher Street to Douglas Terrace.

In addition in progressing the 'Beach Management Plan' consultation is planned with the community and other user groups with an association with the beach zone and its environment. Where possible active involvement with groups will be sought both in developing the Plan and direct action and initiatives on the beach.

6.4 Early Action Areas

From initial discussion with other members of the Beach Management Group the following early action has been agreed:

- In relation to the beach cleaning operation changes have been agreed to current practice which will reduce the amount of seaweed being removed from the beach. This will have environmental benefits as well as reducing the cleansing operation.
- In respect of the coastal erosion problem experienced at the beach the City Engineer has been remitted to bring forward a report which outlined the actions required and associated cost. In addition any sand and seaweed from the beach cleaning operation will be used and planted up to form and encourage dune regeneration.

6.5 Conclusion

The Committee are therefore asked to note the content of the report and remit to the Director of Leisure and Arts to develop and bring forward a Beach Management Plan for further consideration and in the meantime remit the Director to progress any practical early actions as agreed by the Beach Management Group.

7.0 **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services and Director of Corporate Planning, Director of Economic Development and Director of Planning and Transportation were all consulted on the contents of this report and are in agreement.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ARTS
24 FEBRUARY 2003**