

**REPORT TO: ARTS & HERITAGE COMMITTEE - 18 SEPTEMBER 2000**

**REPORT ON: BROUGHTY CASTLE - OPENING HOURS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ARTS AND HERITAGE**

**REPORT NO: 565-2000**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To gain Committee approval for changes to the opening hours at Broughty Castle on a trial basis commencing 9 October 2000 when the facility starts its winter opening hours.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree the proposed changes.

**3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The revised hours will have no implications for Arts and Heritage Departments revenue budget.

**4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The proposals in this report will contribute to the key objective, 'Opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all.'

**5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The contents of this report are consistent with the Council's Equal Opportunities policy and will support and encourage visits to the facility particularly for young people.

**6.0 MAIN TEXT**

6.1 The hours at Broughty Castle were revised in October 1998 to change lunchtime and Friday closure and introduce year round Sunday opening.

6.2 The current opening times are as follows:

(April - September)

Monday - Saturday

11.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday

12.30pm - 4.00 pm

(October - March)

Tuesday - Saturday

11.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday

12.30pm - 4.00pm

Closed Monday

6.3 The late opening at Broughty Castle has had a detrimental effect on visits by both nursery and primary school classes.

6.4 Best Value survey work has indicated visitor dissatisfaction with the late morning opening with a third of those surveyed rating the hours as poor or unsatisfactory.

6.5 It is proposed to trial new opening hours for the Winter Season (Oct-March) and evaluate the effect in Spring 2001.

6.6 It should be noted that due to lack of light from October through to March most visitors have left Broughty Castle by 4 pm.

6.7 It is proposed to trial the following hours to enable and encourage visits by nursery and primary schools:

(April - September)

Monday - Saturday

10.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday

12.30pm - 4.00pm

(October - March)

Tuesday - Saturday

10.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday

12.30pm - 4.00pm

Closed Monday

6.8 These proposed changes will not affect the hours or working conditions of the Arts and Heritage Assistants at Broughty Castle.

## 7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance and Director of Personnel and Management Services have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.2 Historic Scotland who own Broughty Castle have been consulted on these changes.

## 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Report No 775/1998.

Director of Arts and Heritage \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_