

Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

10.00am, Friday, 4 March 2016

Proposed Parades and Processions:

- NUS Scotland – ‘Fairer support for Scotland’s students’
- Yes 2 Scotland ‘Scottish March for a New Referendum’
- Pedal on Parliament
- Edinburgh & Lothians May Day Parade and Rally
- James Connolly Commemoration
- Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, District No 5 (2 x marches)
- Battle of the Somme Commemoration

Item number

Report number

Executive/routine

Wards

City Centre (Ward 11)

Executive summary

The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of various parades and processions which are proposed to take place between March and May 2016.

The Council has limited powers in respect of marches. It can take no action and the marches would proceed as the organisers intend. Alternatively it has the power to attach conditions or, under limited circumstances, to ban the marches.

The Committee needs to decide whether to exercise any of these options. The marches are planned to use the High Street. At its meeting of 17 November 2014, the Regulatory Committee decided that marches involving the High Street must be submitted for Committee approval.

Links

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Coalition pledges | N/A |
| Council outcomes | N/A |
| Single Outcome Agreement` | N/A |

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Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1.1 Makes orders in respect of each of the proposed marches, imposing conditions attached at Appendix 2.

Background

- 2.1 Under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, anyone organising a 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 The City of Edinburgh Council has been notified of intent to hold the following events in the city (further details in Appendices 1 - 2):

| Event name | Event date |
|---|------------------------------|
| NUS Scotland – ‘Fairer support for Scotland’s students’ | 23 March 2016 |
| Yes 2 Scotland ‘Scottish March for a New Referendum’ | 27 March 2016 |
| Pedal on Parliament | 23 April 2016 |
| Edinburgh & Lothians May Day Parade and Rally | 7 May 2016 |
| James Connolly Commemoration | 4 June 2016 |
| Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland, District No 5 (2 x marches) | 25 June 2016 (a.m. and p.m.) |
| Battle of the Somme Commemoration | 1 July 2016 |

- 2.3 The Council has limited powers available regarding the control of such events. These powers should only normally be exercised to prevent public disorder, risk to public safety, damage to property or excessive disruption to the life of the

community. [Download the Scottish Government Guidance to local authorities on marches and parades.](#)

Main report

- 3.1 Notification forms relevant to each proposed march are attached as Appendices 1a-1h.
- 3.2 The routes proposed include use of the High Street. For further details please see Appendices 1a-1h).
- 3.3 The recommended conditions (Appendix 2) are sufficient to mitigate any disruption to the community. Where an EPOG has taken place this is noted in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Representatives of each organisation will be invited to address the Committee regarding the proposed processions.

Measures of success

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

Financial impact

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.
- 5.2 Council resources may need to be deployed on the day, in particular with respect to any road closures.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 Should the Committee decide to restrict or prohibit the processions, the persons proposing to hold the processions may appeal against that decision to the Sheriff Court within 14 days of written reasons being received by them.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 In coming to a decision, the Committee will have to consider the rights of the procession organisers to stage their processions, and the Council's duty to foster good relations and ensure the protection of public order and safety. These must be discharged against the relevant statutory duties.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There may be some short term environmental impact arising from any agreed procession:
 - The proposed routes cross public roads, though arrangements will be made to mitigate any disruption caused.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Statutory consultation has taken place regarding each event.

Background reading / external references

[Report to Regulatory Committee 24 July 2013](#)

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

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Links

Coalition pledges N/A

Council outcomes N/A

Single Outcome Agreement N/A

Appendices

Appendix 1a: NUS Scotland - Fairer support for Scotland's students demonstration notification

Appendix 1b: Yes 2 Scotland notification; Police Scotland comment (email dated 28 Jan 2016); Summary notes re: EPOG 19 Feb 2016

Appendix 1c: Pedal on Parliament notification

Appendix 1d: Edinburgh & Lothians May Day Parade and Rally notification; Roads comment (email dated 3 Feb 2016); Police comment (email dated 14 Jan 2016); Notes from EPOG meeting 1 February 2016

Appendix 1e: James Connolly Commemoration notification; Police Scotland comment (email dated 8 Jan 2016)

Appendix 1f: Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland (2 x marches) notifications; Police Scotland comment (letter dated 4 Nov 2015);); Notes from EPOG meeting 3 Nov 2015

Appendix 1g: Battle of the Somme Commemoration notification; Police Scotland comment (letter dated 30 Nov 2015); Notes from EPOG meeting 20 January 2016

Appendix 2: Recommended conditions