

<b>Report on</b>	Mid Ulster Bonfire Working Group - Update.
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark Kelso
<b>Contact Officer</b>	

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>		
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide update from the Bonfire Working Group following on from Special Meeting of Environment Committee held on Thursday 17 August 2017 .
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Following Council determination, the Environment Committee was tasked to establish a Task and Finish - Bonfire Working Group to review and prepare Guidelines to assist local organisers of celebratory bonfires held on Council property.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>The Bonfire Working Group was established as a Task and Finish Work Group at a meeting of the Environment Committee held on ..... .</p> <p>The following Key Objectives were identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current position regarding bonfires set up on Council property.</li> <li>• Explore the options for reducing negative environmental impacts around bonfires in conjunction with other statutory bodies.</li> <li>• Propose mechanisms for promotion of Bonfire Safety and sustainable bonfires/celebration events going forward.</li> </ul>
3.2	Following proactive engagement with representatives of the relevant statutory agencies safety guidance was produced to promote safety at bonfires . The Working Group also took the opportunity to clarify the agencies respective roles and responsibilities . A final version of the Position Paper is attached at Appendix 1.
3.3	<p><b>Key Actions determined at the Special Meeting held on 17 August were :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bonfire Working Group continues with its work and delays inviting other agencies ie. PSNI, Fire Service and NIEA to becoming involved until the findings of the Flags and Emblems Committee have been made known.</li> <li>2. Develop criteria for the management of bonfires on Council property .</li> </ol>

	<p>3. Engage with local communities in the development of an Options Paper for the introduction of an application and licencing process, which should meet specific criteria for building bonfires on Council property .</p> <p>4. Assess the issue of illegal bonfires on council property in accordance with the Corporate Risk Register .</p> <p>Following the Special Committee meeting on Thursday 17 August the Working Group reconvened on Wednesday 13 September to review and finalise the Framework Document and scope the key actions to be addressed arising from the Committee's recommendations .</p> <p>A further update will be brought to Committee when these actions have been progressed.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Financial: N/A</p> <p>Human: N/A</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	That Members note the content of this report .
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 – Bonfire Working Group - Position Paper and appendices