

Report on	Lease and Licence of Lands situated at Glenone Wood, Portglenone from DAERA/Forest Service
Date of Meeting	3 rd October 2019
Reporting Officer	Claire McNally, Council Solicitor
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill, Head of Parks

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Members' approval to enter into the lease and licence with DAERA/Forest Service ("FS") in relation to lands situated at Glenone Wood, Portglenone ("the Lands").
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council and DAERA/FS aim to work together in relation to the provision of recreational facilities within forestry lands as a platform to create social recreational tourism and economic benefits for the Council area. To this extent, a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") between the parties was approved by Council on 30 th June 2016 in order to determine the scope, limits and practical workings of the collaborative partnership between the Council and DAERA/FS in this regard.
2.2	The Council has entered into 20 year Licenses which are site specific with DAERA/FS in order to manage the recreational use of a number of forests within the district. Some of the proposed projects and development opportunities within a number of the forests, have led to DAERA/FS requiring that the Council enter into Lease and Licence Agreements.
2.3	The proposed future development of the Lands at Glenone Wood include; the provision of new signage at Glenone Wood and Coarse Angling Facility; the creation of an excellent visitor welcome, information and directional way marking; the development of a multi-use trail suitable for walkers, family cyclists and users with limited mobility within the Lands. In relation to the latter, this would focus on upgrading the riverside path. Current developments to upgrade and increase the number of fishing stands at the Lands and a public path for walkers and cyclists, linking Glenone Wood to Bann Bridge along the river bank have already been initiated by the Council.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Approval in principle was obtained from Council in February 2019 to enter in to Lease and Licence Agreements with DAERA/FS in respect of the Lands, with an understanding that the agreements and rental amount would come back through this Committee.
3.2	A further report was taken to Council in June 2019 with the proposed terms and rental amount. However, it was resolved that the decision on the draft Lease and Licence Agreements would be deferred to allow Council and Forest Service to consider proposals for shooting rights in Glenone Forest.
3.3	The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation has liaised with Forestry Service and developed a proposal that will allow the shooting rights at Glenone Forest to be licensed by way of a market competition by the Forest Service. This proposal includes the Council upgrading the riverside path to allow access for users with disability and mobility difficulties. These upgrades are currently being developed and progressed as part of the Council's capital programme and have been incorporated into the Lease and Licence Agreements.
3.4	Amended draft Lease and Licence Agreements in respect of the Lands were received by Council from DAERA/FS. The main terms and conditions of these Agreement were outlined in the report taken to Policy & Resources Committee in June 2019 and remain the same. This includes the annual rental value of £500.
3.5	<p>There have been small amendments to the Lease and Licence maps, in summary as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lease map (Appendix A) The extent of permitted access route decreased within Glenone Wood as shown coloured brown on the amended Lease map. Licence maps (Appendix B) Map A – Extent of Trail (existing forest road) decreased within the licensed area on the amended Licence map; and Map B – Extent of permitted access route decreased within Glenone Wood as shown coloured brown on the amended Licence map.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: The Council will be responsible for costs to include: the annual rent; providing and maintaining land boundaries; insurance; and the inspection/examination of trees and subsequent costs of remedial works as required.</p>
	<p>Human: Officers' time in completing the Project and ongoing maintenance.</p>

	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members approve that:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Council enters in to the 20 year Lease Agreement with DAERA/FS in respect of Lands situated at Glenone Wood on the terms outlined, with an annual rent of £500; and ii. The Council enters into a Licence with DAERA/FS in respect of Lands situated at Glenone Wood on the terms outlined.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A – Amended Glenone Wood Lease Map; and Appendix B - Amended Glenone Wood Licence Maps – Map A and Map B.