

Report on	Lease and Licence of Lands situated at Glenone Wood, Portglenone from DAERA/Forest Service
Date of Meeting	6 th June 2019
Reporting Officer	Claire McNally, Council Solicitor
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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 importance of the forests in providing doorstep opportunities for the local community and consequently the direct benefits that this brings in terms of improvements in health and well-being, social capital and protection of the resource cannot be underestimated. It is essential that moving forward local communities are 'bought in' to the future development of the forests in their area and many of these proposals have been captured through the community planning process and are referenced in the draft Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy.
2.4	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 looped 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 existing trail within the forest and along 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.
2.5	Approval in principle was obtained from Council in February 2019 for the establishment of 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.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Prior to any planned development proposed for the Lands, the Council will be required to enter into Lease and Licence Agreements with DAERA/FS for specific parcels of land that are subject of said opportunities.
3.2	The Lease is included at Appendix 1 and comprises of similar terms as other DAERA/FS leases of a similar nature, including the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term of 20 years; • Rental value of £500 per annum – confirmed by LPS to be in line with market rental value; • 5 yearly rent reviews linked to market rent (upwards only).
3.3	The Licence is included at Appendix 2.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	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.
	Human: Officers' time in completing the Project and ongoing maintenance.
	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	<p>That Members approve that:-</p> <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 enclosed, with the annual rental amount of £500 per annum; and ii. The Council enters into a Licence with DAERA/FS in respect of Lands situated at Glenone Wood on the terms enclosed.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	<p>Appendix 1 – Glenone Wood 20 year Lease and Lease Map</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Glenone Wood 20 year Licence and Licence Maps</p>