

Public Document Pack



To: Councillor Blackman, Convener; and Councillors Allan, Boulton, Collie, Cormack, Cormie, Dean, Fletcher, Hunter, Leslie, MacGregor, Noble, John Stewart, Townson and Wisely.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 19 March, 2012

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Members of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in the Council Chamber on **TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2012 at 10.00 am.**

JANE G MACEACHRAN
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

B U S I N E S S

1 Request for Deputation

Members: Please note that a request for deputation has been received from UNITE the Union in relation to item 2 of this agenda (Licence Application Fees).

2 Licence Application Fees - CG/12/043 (Pages 3 - 14)

3 National Front Scotland Notification of Public Procession (Pages 15 - 42)

4 Aberdeen Trades Union Council Notification of Public Procession (Pages 43 - 66)

Website: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

If you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Rebecka Coull (rcoull@aberdeencity.gov.uk or tel 01224 522869).

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 62 OF THE CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 OF A PROPOSED PROCESSION IN PUBLIC

Note: In terms of Section 62(2) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the minimum notice that you are required to give of your intention to hold a public procession is 28 days. Organisers should always endeavour to give further notice where possible. If you cannot meet the minimum notice period, the Council may waive such requirement, but only in exceptional circumstances and following consultation with the Chief Constable.

You should read the attached Policy/Guidance note on Public Processions and fill in all sections of this form. You must also complete and return a risk assessment form.

Please complete and sign this form and take 2 copies. Thereafter -

- (1) Send the original to Licensing, Legal and Democratic Services, Aberdeen City Council, Town House, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1AQ.
- (2) Send a copy to Grampian Police at Events Planning Unit, Aberdeen Division, Queen Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1ZA
- (3) Keep a copy for yourself.

Please complete the following details:

Organiser: Name DAVE MACDONALD
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Post Code [REDACTED]
~~Tel No.~~ [REDACTED]
Mobile No. [REDACTED]
E-mail Address [REDACTED]

(Please provide these details as this will enable us to contact you as soon as possible)

Organisation NATIONAL FRONT SCOTLAND
Date and Time of Procession 6PM - 20th APRIL 2012
Reason for Procession ANTI-SNP PROCESSION

Proposed Route ADELPHI LANE - UNION STREET
- UNION TERRACE gardens.



(Please attached plan if available)

Estimated Number of (1) Participants 100 (2) Vehicles Zero

Arrangements for Controlling Procession FULLY TRAINED STEWARDS

WILL CONTROL MARCHERS AND KEEP THEM IN ROWS OF 4-5.

Number of Stewards 10-15 Number of Buses/Coaches Zero

Name of any Band(s) Participating N/A

Please list the processions in which you have acted as organiser over the last three years –

Date of Procession Organisation

~~_____~~
~~_____~~
~~_____~~

I, the organiser, have read the Council's Code of Conduct on Processions and agree to keep to its Standard Conditions.

Signature [REDACTED] Date 18/1/2012

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

Aberdeen City Council (the Data Controller) will process the information on this form for the purpose of placing any necessary conditions on the procession or preventing it, following due consultation. The information will be disclosed to Grampian Police and may also be circulated to Grampian Fire and Rescue Service and/or Enterprise Planning and Infrastructure, Aberdeen City Council for their statutory interest and to any other relevant body approved by the licensing authority. It may also be intimated to the H M Revenue & Customs. The information will also be held on a public register which will be available to members of the public on request.

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CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PROCESSION ORGANISERS

SECTION ONE

Your Name DAVE MACDONALD

Address [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Post Code [REDACTED]

Tel Number [REDACTED] Mobile Number [REDACTED]

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Date of Procession 20/4/2012 Time 6PM

Proposed Route ADELPHI LANE - UNION STREET

- UNION terrace gardens.

General Information for the organiser :

We are asking you to fill in this risk assessment form to help us to understand what dangers and risks might be associated with holding your event. This form will take you through the most common areas of risk which we and the Police might want to raise with you. We and the Police may carry out our own assessment of risk and may want to discuss our assessment with you before any meeting is held or at the first meeting itself.

When a risk assessment may not be needed :

We will tell you if you need to fill in this risk assessment form. You may not need to carry out a risk assessment, for example, if we consider your procession is routine or it has already been decided that the procession will carry little to no risk.

Purpose of filling in the risk assessment form :

A risk assessment of the procession will help to -

- Identify any dangers associated with holding it
- evaluate the level of any known risks
- decide who is at risk and in what way and how the risk to them could be reduced or removed
- decide, where other types of risk have been identified, whether it would be possible to introduce appropriate measures to allow the procession to go ahead

Who should be filling this form in :

It would be preferable if you were a suitably qualified person (e.g. someone who is trained in health and safety regulations). If that is not possible, someone else in the organisation with a good knowledge of the area where the march is to be held should fill it in. We will then check the form and compare it to the assessment of risk which we and the Police may be carrying out.

How to fill in the form :

You should work your way through the form section by section. If there are parts to sections which you cannot fill in, you should contact the person named at the end of the form. If your overall assessment shows that there is a high risk associated with holding the procession, you should get in touch as soon as possible to discuss if we can find solutions to reduce or remove the risk. Once we have considered the notification, the risk assessment and all other evidence, we may contact you to hold a meeting.

Who you should send the form to :

You should send your risk assessment form, with your notification form, to the person named at the end of this form at least 28 days before you plan to hold a procession. If you cannot send your risk assessment with the notification, you should do so as soon as possible thereafter.

Next steps :

We will assess the risks associated with holding your procession as early as we can. You should remember to keep a copy of this form for your records and bring it with you for any meeting which we may hold. This is because we and the Police may want to raise issues with you about how your assessment compares to our in case there are problems, we may need further meetings.

SECTION TWO

Main Risk Assessment

The table in this section sets out the main areas of the risk assessment. You should provide as many supporting comments as you can.

Question	You must provide supporting comments in the boxes below. (Attach other pages if required)
Is the date of your procession particularly significant to the organisation ?	No
Has your organisation marched along the same route before ?	No
Are there enough trained stewards to control the number of marchers expected ?	Yes
Have there been any difficulties or tensions in the recent past with holding this procession ?	No
Please assess the level of risk there may be to public safety. (Please also say whether the risk is low or high)	Low risk due to short journey we would be undertaking.
Please assess any risk to public order. (please also say whether the risk is low or high)	Low risk due to our organised stewarding plans to control the march and it's participants.
Please assess the risk of damage to property. (please also say whether the risk is low or high)	Low risk as we will only be marching on the main road and will not be near any buildings.

<p>Please assess the risk of disruption to local business, the community or shoppers and traffic from holding the procession. (Please also say whether the risk is low or high)</p>	<p>Low risk but as traffic lights will need to be halted for several minutes it may cause minor disruption to drivers. No businesses will be affected as parade is taking place at 6pm and most businesses will be closed.</p>
<p>Taking account of all the information in this table, what is your opinion of the overall risk of holding the procession? Is it low or high</p>	<p>Low risk due to the relatively small amount of participants. The parade will last no longer than the specified time. I plan on dispersing the marchers within 30 mins of the start of the parade.</p>

SECTION THREE

This section details other information which you should consider as part of a general assessment of the procession. You should assess the following :-

The main considerations	Supporting comments
<p>At the end of the march, what are your arrangements for getting marchers to go home?</p>	<p>We have organised a social event for the marchers. Some of them have indicated that they will go home straight after the march.</p>
<p>Are you organising any other social events at the end of the march? (please give details of what these are). And will you need a Police presence?</p>	<p>As above. No police presence will be required.</p>
<p>Is the proposed route shown on your notification as a route that your organisation commonly uses?</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Have you taken out insurance to help cover for any risks arising from the procession?</p>	<p>Insurance will be arranged after permission is given. (Police advice)</p>
<p>What is your assessment of the risks to marchers if the route passes through communities which may be against the march?</p>	<p>We are not marching through any community so therefore there is no risk to the marchers.</p>

Do you have enough security in place for any coaches and other vehicles ?	No coaches or vehicles will be involved with the parade.
Have you assessed what other priorities there may be in the area on the day of the march ?	The general public will be heading home at the time of the parade. There will also be people heading into the City Centres pubs + clubs at that time.
Have you considered the effect on the community as a whole if march went ahead ?	The members of the community will either support us or will be against us holding the parade. It won't affect them in the slightest.
Could you combine this procession with other similar events in the area ? If not, why not ?	Yes we are more than willing to combine our parade with any other event against the SNP.

SECTION FOUR

Final assessment

If the local authority is holding a meeting, I would like to raise the following points about this risk assessment.

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Please provide any other supporting comments in the box below.



Our Ref: A28.3/04/12/8906	Your Ref: 9/50/22 - jwNOTIFICATIONLET
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Proposed Procession:	National Front Parade
Date:	1800 hours on Friday 20 April 2012
Police met with organiser:	Yes
Police objection to procession:	Yes
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There should be dedicated, appropriately qualified Stewards in attendance; 2. The organiser must fully brief Stewards as to their responsibilities; 3. The Stewards must wear yellow high-visibility jackets, at all times when escorting the procession; 4. If the parade is approved, the route should be as per the usual template, from St Nicholas Church, Union Street to the Castlegate; 5. The organiser must inform the local media of the timings of the procession and likelihood of there being disruption to traffic in the City Centre; 6. The organiser must inform the Hackney Licensing Department of the timings of the procession given the potential disruption to taxi ranks in the City Centre; 7. The organiser must inform local bus companies of the street closures and their duration, to enable alternative routes to be implemented; 8. The organiser must inform the Scottish Ambulance Service and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service about the times and movements of the procession; and 9. The organisers should have in place Public Liability Insurance should any legal action or otherwise be forthcoming following an incident during this event.
Policing to be provided:	Yes

Comments:

The National Front Scotland is recognised as a legitimate political party. The organiser has intimated that the Parade is in protest against the Scottish National Party and their governing of the country.

The organiser has submitted two applications in relation to this Parade. One is for a rally at Union Terrace Gardens between 1800 - 2000 hours. The second application is for a Parade from Adelphi Lane, Union Street to Union Terrace Gardens.

The organiser met with Grampian Police and advised initially that he intended to hold a meeting within Union Terrace Gardens, Aberdeen. He submitted forms to Aberdeen City Council for use of the park and also with regard to a parade there. He was advised that the parade form was incorrect and this was returned to him. He further contacted the Police and advised that as he had not received a reply regarding use of the park, he was now submitting a further parade application. He intimated to the Police that his primary intention was to hold the meeting within Union Terrace Gardens and the parade was the 'fall back' position.

It appears that he has not received a response to this request, which has led to the current parade application.

In respect to the application, as submitted it does not follow the existing template recommended by Grampian Police, the route starting at St Nicholas Church and proceeding eastwards to the Castlegate. A parade which follows this template can be facilitated by minimal numbers of Police Officers, causing minor disruption to the general public and normal Police business. The route of the parade requested in this application would require significant Police resources and might potentially adversely affect the day to day business. Of particular significance would be the road closures required at the junction of Union Street with Union Terrace/ Bridge Street which would have a negative impact on traffic management.

The route normally recommended by Grampian Police ensures the traffic management can be carried out wholly by means of Police personnel, without a requirement for signs and barriers.

The organiser has further intimated that the participants will gather at 1800 hours at the Adelphi, with the Parade commencing shortly thereafter, westwards along Union Street, turning right onto Union Terrace and terminating at Union Terrace Gardens, where the marchers will disperse onwards to a private function. As stated, this Procession does not follow the existing tried and tested route as in previous Parades and Grampian Police have significant concerns in respect of disruption to the public and the additional Police resources which will be required to facilitate this.

The organiser has advised on his application that he has not currently taken Public Liability Insurance, but will arrange for this if permission for the parade is granted. It is therefore important that a recommendation for Public Liability Insurance is included.

In his application, the organiser has stated that the date of the procession is not particularly significant to his organisation. It should be noted that 20 April is the date of Adolf Hitler's birthday.

The organiser advised the date had been chosen to coincide with the founding date of the Scottish National Party set up in 1934, and he further stated that any relation to Adolf Hitler's birthday was 'purely coincidental'.

Grampian Police are concerned that irrespective of the organisers claims, the date is not simply a coincidence and is in fact a significant rationale for the Parade, given that the National Front is recognised as a far right political party.

On previous occasions where National Front Parades and rallies have occurred, despite the significant planning and the apparent intentions of the organisers, the parades may potentially attract persons whose motives can tend towards public disorder.

It is also possible that such a parade could attract overt displays by far right sympathisers who could attend from outwith the region.

Grampian Police are also concerned that unlike the majority of parades, this parade might attract persons who wish to register their protest against the participants or the parade taking place. As such, there is a genuine risk to public safety and potential damage to nearby property should the application for the parade be approved.

To mitigate against such disorder and to ensure public safety would take a significant amount of multi agency planning and would be resource intensive for Grampian Police as well as partner agencies.


The Risk Assessment submitted by the organiser indicates that they consider the parade to be Low Risk across a number of areas. Grampian Police are concerned that this is not in fact the case and indeed there is a significant risk to public safety given the emotive nature of the policies endorsed by the National Front. Media coverage indicates there is a significant public interest in the parade and there is the suggestion from a local trade union activist that should the parade be approved, a parallel anti-fascist event would be considered. Grampian Police have received several items of correspondence from members of the public raising objections to the parade taking place.

Irrespective of the above observations and concerns expressed by Grampian Police, if the application to parade is approved, it is requested that consideration is given to applying the existing template with the route being along Union Street, Aberdeen, from St Nicholas Church to the Castlegate.

Police contact:

Events Planning, Aberdeen Division, Tel 01224 306481

Signed:



Date: 2 March 2012

Keith Henderson, Chief Inspector, Aberdeen Division

From: Colin Thomson
To: Jacqui Wallace
Date: 05/03/2012 14:20
Subject: Re: National Front Scotland

Good afternoon Jacqui.

Apologies for the late response.

There is already a tried and tested route for short processions on Union Street. The route in question follows the north side of Union Street from St Nicholas churchyard to the Castlegate. This route would appear to have advantages over the route proposed by the NFS, insofar as it does not cross any footways and concludes at an area convenient and safe for dispersal.

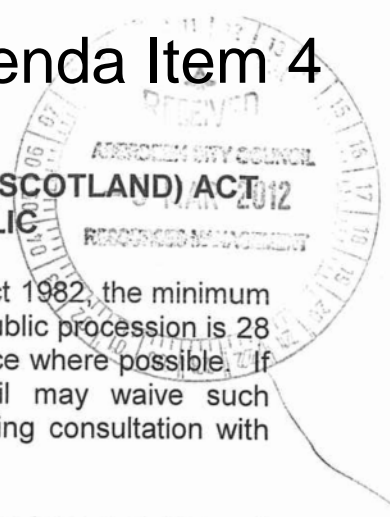
I would recommend that if this procession takes place then it should follow this established route rather than the one proposed.

Colin Thomson
Technical Officer
Roadworks Coordination
phone: (01224) 538045
mob: 07801078461
fax : (01224) 538087

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 62 OF THE CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 OF A PROPOSED PROCESSION IN PUBLIC



Note: In terms of Section 62(2) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the minimum notice that you are required to give of your intention to hold a public procession is 28 days. Organisers should always endeavour to give further notice where possible. If you cannot meet the minimum notice period, the Council may waive such requirement, but only in exceptional circumstances and following consultation with the Chief Constable.

You should read the attached Policy/Guidance note on Public Processions and fill in all sections of this form. You must also complete and return a risk assessment form.

Please complete and sign this form and take 2 copies. Thereafter -

- (1) Send the original to Licensing, Office of City Solicitor, Aberdeen City Council, Town House, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1AQ.
- (2) Send a copy to Grampian Police at Events Planning Unit, Aberdeen Division, Queen Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1ZA
- (3) Keep a copy for yourself.

Please complete the following details:

Organiser: Name MR. SUKTAN FERROZ
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Post Code [REDACTED]
Tel No. [REDACTED]
Mobile No. [REDACTED]
E-mail Address [REDACTED]

(Please provide these details as this will enable us to contact you as soon as possible)

Organisation ABERDEEN TRADES UNION COUNCIL
Date and Time of Procession 20TH APRIL 2012 AT 6PM-8PM
Reason for Procession CELEBRATING UNITY IN COMMUNITY
HOPE NOT HATE
[REDACTED]
Proposed Route 13 ADELPHI TO UNION TERRACE GARDENS

(Please attached plan if available)

13 ADELPHI - UNION TERRACE
GARDENS

Estimated Number of (1) Participants 200-500 (2) Vehicles NONE

Arrangements for Controlling Procession STEWARDS

Number of Stewards 20 Number of Buses/Coaches NONE

Name of any Band(s) Participating BUCHEN PIPE BANDS.

Please list the processions in which you have acted as organiser over the last three years -

<u>Date of Procession</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
<u>MAY DAY CELEBRATION 2004 - 2011</u>	<u>ATUC</u>
<u>ST. ANDREW'S DAY 2004 - 2011</u>	<u>ATUC</u>
<u>PENSION DAY OF ACTION 30 NOVEMBER 2011</u>	

I, the organiser, have read the Council's Code of Conduct on Processions and agree to keep to its Standard Conditions.

Signature [REDACTED] Date 1/03/2012

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

Aberdeen City Council (the Data Controller) will process the information on this form for the purpose of placing any necessary conditions on the procession or preventing it, following due consultation. The information will be disclosed to Grampian Police and may also be circulated to Grampian Fire and Rescue Service and/or Strategic Leadership and Neighbourhood Services (Central Area), Aberdeen City Council for their statutory interest and to any other relevant body approved by the licensing authority. It may also be intimated to the H M Revenue & Customs. The information will also be held on a public register which will be available to members of the public on request.

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PROCESSION ORGANISERS

SECTION ONE

Your Name SULTAN FERROZ

Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tel No. [REDACTED]

Mobile No. [REDACTED]

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Date of Procession 20/04/12 Time 6PM-8PM

Proposed Route: 13 ADELPHI-UNION TERRACE
GARDENS
ABERDEEN

General Information for the organiser:

We are asking you to fill in this risk assessment form to help us to understand what dangers and risks might be associated with holding your event. This form will take you through the most common areas of risk which we and the Police might want to raise with you. We and the Police may carry out our own assessment of risk and may want to discuss our assessment with you before any meeting is held or at the first meeting itself.

When a risk assessment may not be needed:

We will tell you if you need to fill in this risk assessment form. You may not need to carry out a risk assessment, for example, if we consider your procession is routine or it has already been decided that the procession will carry little to no risk.

Purpose of filling in the risk assessment form:

A risk assessment of the procession will help to –

- Identify any dangers associated with holding it;
- evaluate the level of any known risks;
- decide who is at risk and in what way and how the risk to them could be reduced or removed; and
- decide, where other types of risk have been identified, whether it would be possible to introduce appropriate measures to allow the procession to go ahead.

Who should be filling this form in:

It would be preferable if you were a suitably qualified person (e.g. someone who is trained in health and safety regulations). If that is not possible, someone else in the organisation with a good knowledge of the area where the march is to be held should fill it in. We will then check the form and compare it to the assessment of risk which we and the Police may be carrying out.

How to fill in the form:

You should work your way through the form section by section. If there are parts to sections which you cannot fill in, you should contact the person named at the end of the form. If your overall assessment shows that there is a high risk associated with holding the procession, you should get in touch as soon as possible to discuss if we can find solutions to reduce or remove the risk. Once we have considered the notification, the risk assessment and all other evidence, we may contact you to hold a meeting.

Who you should send the form to:

You should send your risk assessment form, with your notification form, to the person named at the end of this form at least 28 days before you plan to hold a procession. If you cannot send your risk assessment with the notification, you should do so as soon as possible thereafter.

Next steps:

We will assess the risks associated with holding your procession as early as we can. You should remember to keep a copy of this form for your records and bring it with you for any meeting which we may hold. This is because we and the Police may want to raise issues with you about how your assessment compares to ours. In case there are problems, we may need further meetings.

SECTION TWO

Main risk assessment

The table in this section sets out the main areas of the risk assessment. You should provide as many supporting comments as you can.

Question	You must provide supporting comments in the boxes below. (Attach other pages if required).
Is the date of your procession particularly significant to the organisation?	YES
Has your organisation marched along the same route before?	NO YES
Are there enough trained stewards to control the number of marchers expected?	YES
Have there been any difficulties or tensions in the recent past with holding this procession?	NO
Please assess the level of risk there may be to public safety. (Please also say whether the risk is low, or high).	DON'T KNOW DUE TO THE NF MARCH & RALLY IS THE SAME APPLYING → DAY
Please assess any risk to public order: Please also say whether the risk is low, or high).	DON'T KNOW DUE TO THE NF MARCH & RALLY APPLYING THE SAME DATE
Please assess the risk of damage to property. (Please also say whether the risk is low, or high).	DON'T KNOW

Question	You must provide supporting comments in the boxes below. (Attach other pages if required).
Please assess the risk of disruption to local business, the community or shoppers and traffic from holding the procession. Please also say whether the risk is low, or high).	UNITY IN COMMUNITY AND HOPE NOT HATE MOST OF THE SHOPS WILL BE CLOSED AT 6PM AND TRAFFIC IS VERY LOW SO THE RISK IS VERY LOW
Taking account of all the information in this table, what is your opinion of the overall risk of holding the procession? Is it low, or high?	LOW

SECTION THREE

This section details other information which you should consider as part of a general assessment of the procession. You should assess the following –

The main considerations	Supporting comments
At the end of the march, what are your arrangements for getting marchers to go home?	BY BUS
Are you organising any other social events at the end of the march? (Please give details of what these are). And will you need a Police presence?	SMALL SOCIAL GATHERING AT THE TUC-SOCIAL CLUB NO POLICE NEEDED.
Is the proposed route shown on your notification as a route that your organisation commonly uses?	NO =

The main considerations	Supporting comments
Have you taken out insurance to help cover for any risks arising from the procession?	NO NEED
What is your assessment of the risks to marchers if the route passes through communities which may be against the march?	HOPE NOT HATE IS A PEACEFULL CELEBRATION EVERYBODY WILL BE HAPPY
Do you have enough security in place for any coaches and other vehicles?	NO VEHICLES NEEDED
Have you assessed what other priorities there may be in the area on the day of the march?	DON'T KNOW
Have you considered the effect on the community as a whole if the march went ahead?	UNITY IN COMMUNITY HOPE NOT HATE BRING PEACE AND JOY IN THE CITY
Could you combine this procession with other similar events in the area? If not, why not?	ONLY SOS, AAA, HOPE NOT HATE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ATUC.

SECTION FOUR

Final assessment

If the local authority is holding a meeting, I would like to raise the following points about this risk assessment.

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- >
- >
- >
- >

Please provide any other supporting comments in the box below.

UNITY IN COMMUNITY HOPE NOT HATE
PEACEFULL CELEBRATION

SECTION FIVE

Declaration

I have assessed the risks associated with holding the above procession.
I will come to any meeting which may be needed.

Signature of the person carrying out the risk assessment 

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS SULTAN FERROZ

Relevant qualifications of the person carrying out the risk assessment:

FULLY EXPERIENCED OF VARIETY OF EVENTS OVER 10 YEARS

Signature of Organiser: 

(You only need to fill in this part of the form if you are not the person who carried out the risk assessment).

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS _____

Date: _____

SECTION SIX

Please return the filled-in risk assessment form with the notification form to the following person:

Licensing
Office of City Solicitor
Resources Management
Aberdeen City Council
Town House
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AQ

We will ensure that a copy of your risk assessment is sent to the Police.

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Our Ref: A28.3/04/12/8906	Your Ref: 9/50/22 - jwNOTIFICATIONLET
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Proposed Procession:	Aberdeen TUC Parade
Date:	1800 hours on Friday 20 April 2012
Police met with organiser:	No
Police objection to procession:	Yes
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There should be dedicated, appropriately qualified Stewards in attendance; 2. The organiser must fully brief Stewards as to their responsibilities; 3. The Stewards must wear yellow high-visibility jackets, at all times when escorting the procession; 4. If the parade is approved, the route should be as per the usual template, from St Nicholas Church, Union Street to the Castlegate; 5. The organiser must inform the local media of the timings of the procession and likelihood of there being disruption to traffic in the City Centre; 6. The organiser must inform the Hackney Licensing Department of the timings of the procession given the potential disruption to taxi ranks in the City Centre; 7. The organiser must inform local bus companies of the street closures and their duration, to enable alternative routes to be implemented; 8. The organiser must inform the Scottish Ambulance Service and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service about the times and movements of the procession; and 9. The organisers should have in place Public Liability Insurance should any legal action or otherwise be forthcoming following an incident during this event.
Policing to be provided:	Yes

Comments:

The TUC have regularly held two marches in Aberdeen in May and November each year. This parade application is in addition to those.

Grampian Police are aware that a similar parade application has been submitted by the National Front to take place on the same date and time and covering the same route.

As submitted, this application does not follow the existing template recommended by Grampian Police, which is a route starting at St Nicholas Church and proceeding eastwards to the Castlegate, Aberdeen. A parade which follows this template can be facilitated by minimal numbers of Police Officers, causing minor disruption to the general public and normal Police business. The route of the parade requested in this application would require significant Police resources and might potentially adversely affect day to day business within the city centre. Of particular significance would be the road closures required at the junction of Union Street with Union Terrace/ Bridge Street which would have a negative impact on traffic management.

The route normally recommended by Grampian Police ensures the traffic management can be carried out wholly by means of Police personnel, without a requirement for signs and barriers.

The organiser has further intimated that the participants will gather at 1800 hours at the Adelphi, with the Parade commencing shortly thereafter, westwards along Union Street, turning right onto Union Terrace and terminating at Union Terrace Gardens, where the marchers will disperse. As stated, this Procession does not follow the existing tried and tested route as in previous Parades and Grampian Police have significant concerns in respect of disruption to the public and the additional Police resources which will be required to facilitate this.

Grampian Police are aware that the organiser of this parade has appeared in local media objecting to the National Front parade and has stated a desire to hold an 'Anti-Fascist' march at the same time. It appears that he has applied for this application as he is aware that the National Front have applied to march on the same parade route on the same date.

In this application, the organiser states that he does not know the level of risk with regard to public safety, public order or damage to property. This is of significant concern to Grampian Police as the general principle in respect of parade organisers is that they carry out a risk assessment for their parade, are fully conversant with any potential risks and take all necessary mitigating steps to ensure sufficient control measures are in place. Grampian Police have concerns that this parade, when taken in conjunction with the parade application for the National Front, poses a heightened risk to public safety, public order or damage to property.

Grampian Police are satisfied that the organiser has specifically chosen a time, date and route that is in direct conflict with the National Front parade, and although required to do so, has carried out no formal risk assessment.

As stated by Grampian Police on the response to the application for the National Front Parade, "*where National Front Parades and rallies have occurred, despite the significant planning and the apparent intentions of the organisers, the parades may potentially attract persons whose motives can tend towards public disorder. Grampian Police are also concerned that unlike the majority of parades, this parade might attract persons who wish to register their protest against the participants or the parade taking place. As such, there is a genuine risk to public safety and potential damage to nearby property should the application for the parade be approved.*"

This application by the organiser appears to be a deliberate attempt to disrupt the original parade application by the National Front.

Grampian Police would not be in a position to facilitate two marches at the same time on the same route, where there is a very high risk of public disorder without utilising significant Police resources and the resources of partner agencies.

On his application, the organiser states that he has previous experience with regard to the 'Pension day of action' on 30 November 2011. Whilst this is correct, Grampian Police understands that the event held at the Castlegate, Aberdeen, was carried out without the express authority or usual permission from Aberdeen City Council. This resulted in the involvement of Grampian Police to oversee the event and ensure public safety. It is further understood that the organiser did not engage with any partner agency prior to the event.


The organiser has stated that he considers the overall risk of holding the procession to be low. He does not appear to have given any proper regard to the circumstances in reaching this conclusion. It is the observation of Grampian Police that this assessment is not sufficient to properly establish the risks associated in applying to march given the additional parade application by the National Front.

Irrespective of the above observations and concerns expressed by Grampian Police, if the application to parade is approved, it is requested that consideration is given to applying the existing template with the route being along Union Street, Aberdeen, from St Nicholas Church to the Castlegate.

Police contact:

Events Planning, Aberdeen Division, Tel 01224 306481

Signed:



Date: 13 March 2012

Keith Henderson, Chief Inspector, Aberdeen Division

From: Colin Thomson
To: Jacqui Wallace
Date: 07/03/2012 10:05
Subject: Re: Notice of a Public

Good morning Jacqui.

There is already a tried and tested route for short processions on Union Street. The route in question follows the north side of Union Street from St Nicholas churchyard to the Castlegate. This route would appear to have advantages over the route proposed here, insofar as it does not cross any footways and concludes at an area convenient and safe for dispersal.

I would recommend that if this procession takes place then it should follow this established route rather than the one proposed.

Yours,

Colin Thomson
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