

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	20 August 2014
DIRECTOR	Ewan Sutherland (Acting Director)
TITLE OF REPORT	Update - Camping in Designated Places
REPORT NUMBER:	CG/14/099
CHECKLIST RECEIVED:	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is update members on progress on the byelaw on camping in designated places.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is recommended to note the report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional implications arising from this report beyond those set out in the report to the Council's meeting on 14 May 2014

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Council, at its meeting on 14 May 2014, approved the wording of the proposed byelaw; approved the designated areas; and instructed officers to take all necessary steps to complete the statutory process to seek confirmation of the byelaw from the Scottish Government. Statutory procedures have been followed to advertise notice of intention to apply for confirmation. The period for representation has expired and the application for confirmation has been made to the

Scottish Government. The Equality and Human Rights Commission amongst others has lodged representations to the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government is collating representations lodged and will in due course copy to the Council for comment. Thereafter the Scottish Government will consider the position and reach a decision.

The Council at its meeting on 14 May 2014 instructed the Chief Executive to write to the Lord Advocate to request a review of the guidelines issued to Procurators Fiscal in relation to unauthorised encampment by Gypsy/Travellers and the presumption against prosecution. A response dated 25 July 2014 (Appendix 1) has now been received from the Crown Office declining to do so.

A further update regarding the byelaw will be provided to the next Council meeting.

6. IMPACT

Public – The report is likely to generate public interest as the issue of a byelaw has attracted widespread public interest.

Equalities – The issues identified in the report to Council on 14 May 2014 continue to exist.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The issues identified in the report to Council on 14 May 2014 continue to exist.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council report and minute of meeting 14 May 2014.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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