

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	05 July 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Sale of UTG Gates to Birkhall Estate for Reuse
REPORT NUMBER	COM/23/191
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	David Dunne
REPORT AUTHOR	Ross Wilson
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1.17 & 2.2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks delegated authority to sell a set of cast iron gates (photos in Appendix 1) which were removed from Union Terrace Gardens as part of the refurbishment works to the Birkhall Estate for reuse in the estate gardens.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Committee:-

- 2.1 Delegate authority to Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to sell a set of cast iron gates from the dountaking from Union Terrace Gardens as part of the refurbishment works to the Birkhall Estate for reuse in the estate gardens; and
- 2.2 Delegate authority to Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to sell the gates for an appropriate price. This is currently thought to be £500 given the current condition of the gates.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The Council were approached by the Birkhall Estate asking if there were any surplus gates that could be purchased for reuse in the estate gardens.
- 3.2 The Council informed Birkhall estate that there is a set of cast iron gates that were removed from Union Terrace Gardens as part of the refurbishment works. The estate were interested in the set of gate.
- 3.3 Given the potential sensitivity of the sale of items from Union Terrace Gardens it was felt by senior officers that Councillors should decide whether the sale of the gates is acceptable.
- 3.4 Given the current condition of the gates (e.g. some broken balusters and corrosion) they will need to be repaired before reuse. As such the value of the

gates is considered to be £500. A review of architectural salvage and reclamation websites was carried out and similar gates in a similar condition were on sale at the time of the review for a similar price.

- 3.5 Birkhall Estate will arrange for the collection of the gates if the sale is approved by Councillors.
- 3.6 The gates were not reinstated to the gardens as the section of the gardens they were originally situated in has been relandscaped and the gates are no longer required but were retained for potential future reuse.
- 3.7 It is considered unlikely the Council will find a new use for the gates proposed for sale so their sale for reuse is the best course of action to see the gates be brought back into use.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 In line with Council financial regulations the sale of goods under the value of £10,000 is at the discretion of the appropriate Chief Officer (in this Case Chief Officer Strategic Place Planning) and Chief Officer Finance. Given the potentially sensitive nature of the sale of duntakings from the Union Terrace Gardens the sale of the gates is to be made by elected members.
- 4.2 The monies from the sale of the gates would be credited to the Lord Provost's Charitable Trust.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) is not required.
- 6.2 A Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) is not required.
- 6.3 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.
- 6.4 The minor indirect environmental impact would be that the existing gate would be reused so a new gate would not need to be manufactured and the resultant carbon emissions from producing a new gate would not be created.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	None identified	N/A	N/A	Yes/No
Compliance	Failure to comply with internal financial regulations.	Finance have been consulted regarding the procedure for the sale of the gates.	M	Yes
Operational	None identified	N/A	N/A	Yes/No
Financial	Failure to comply with internal financial regulations.	Finance have been consulted regarding the procedure for the sale of the gates.	M	Yes
Reputational	Making sure sale of the gates is transparent	Taking the sale of the gates to Committee for consideration ensures transparency.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	Failing to reuse the gates would be a waste of a historic asset.	Making a surplus historic asset available for reuse will result in the gate being reused so a new gate will not need to be manufactured.	L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2023</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement <u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan

Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The proposals in the report have no impact on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The proposals in the report have no impact on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The proposals in the report have no impact on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Regional and City Strategies	
	The proposals in this report have no impact on Regional and City Strategies

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	Not required

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 Picture of Union Terrace Garden Gate (Downtakings) for Birkhall Estate

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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