

South Ayrshire Council

Report by Assistant Director – People to Audit and Governance Panel of 22 June 2022

Subject: Corporate Lets

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an annual update in relation to requests for discretion to be applied to let charges from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Panel reviews the information in this report.**

3. Background

- 3.1 At Council in December 2019, it was agreed that officers could apply discretion to let charges, and a register of all discretionary lets would be held and reported on annually.
- 3.2 2021-2022 continued to be a difficult and challenging period for lessees in terms of the implications of the COVID19 pandemic. Due to COVID19 restrictions, indoor lets for external organisations did not fully re-open until September 2021.
- 3.3 Twelve applications to apply discretion to let charges were received during the reporting period. Ten applications were approved and two were rejected. The register of discretionary applications is set out in [Appendix 1](#).

4. Proposals

- 4.1 It is proposed to continue to review requests for discretion on an annual basis.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Applying the discretion has resulted in a net reduction in income to the Council. However, there was no cost to the Council. The discretionary amount took into account any staffing or other costs that would be incurred.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

8.2.1 There are no risks associated with the rejection of the recommendations.

9. Equalities

9.1 This report provides an update on progress of a Panel report which was assessed for potential equality impacts, and the relevant documentation is attached within the report to South Ayrshire Council of 18 December 2019 – [Corporate Lets](#) .

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Commitments 4 and 6 of the Council Plan: South Ayrshire Works/ Make the most of the local economy; and A Better Place to Live/ Enhanced environment through social, cultural and economic activities.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Alec Clark, Portfolio Holder for Tourism and Rural Affairs, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers **Report to Audit and Governance Panel of 2 June 2021 – [Corporate Lets](#)**

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Date: 8 June 2022

Appendix 1

Application Date	Group/ Organisation	Reason for Let	Date of Let	Frequency Of Let	Let Charge	Amount of Discretion Requested	Amount of Discretion Applied	Rationale	Outcome	Decision Maker	Review
6/11/2021	Dundonald Parish Church	Foodbank	Various from Jun 2021	Weekly	£54 per let	100%	£54 per let	Working with Thriving Communities	Approved	Jamie Tait	
6/26/2021	Ayr Utd (1st Team)	Football Training	Various - June/July 2021	Various	£55 per hour	Not specified	£0.00	Professional Team	Rejected	Jane Bradley	NA
7/16/2021	Carrick Rugby Club	Rugby Matches - on new 3G pitch	Various	Various	£55 per hour	Grass pitch rates	see comment	Supporting the transition to the new 3G pitch	Approved	Jane Bradley	
8/17/2021	Ballroom Dancing Troon	Ballroom Dancing	Ongoing	Weekly	£122.50 per let	Not specified	4 weeks no charge then 3 weeks @ 50%	COVID Recovery/Program me transfer from SAC	Approved	Jane Bradley	Review after 3 months - details of numbers attending required
9/29/2021	Beautiful Inside & Out	Charity Fundraiser to enable them to provide free Counselling sessions	11/20/2021	One Off	£180.00	Not specified	£60.00	Charity	Approved	Jane Bradley	NA
9/30/2021	Carrick Walking Football	Walking Football	Sept-June	Weekly	£35 per let	Not specified	£0.00	Transfer from Ayr Utd	Rejected	Jane Bradley	NA
10/25/2021	Kincaidston PS	Community Disco	10/30/2021	One Off	£57.00	100%	£57.00	Community event following Kincaidston explosion	Approved	Jane Bradley	NA
11/1/2021	Ballroom Dancing Troon	Ballroom Dancing	Ongoing	Weekly	£122.50 per let	50% reduction	£61.25 per let	COVID Recovery/Program me transfer from SAC	Approved	Jane Bradley	Review again in 3 months
10/21/2021	Ayr Film Society	Film Screenings	Ongoing	Weekly	£105.00	£14.70 reduction	£14.70 per week	COVID Recovery	Approved	Jane Bradley	Review March 2022
10/21/2021	Ayr Film Society	Charity Film Screening - Whiteley's (Council charity)	11/28/2021	One Off	£105.00	100%	£105.00	Council Charity	Approved	Jane Bradley	NA
11/30/2021	Ayrshire Community Gospel Choir	Christmas Concert - Ayrshire Cancer Support	12/4/2021	One Off	£717.00	Not specified	£150.00	Charity Event	Approved	Jane Bradley	

Application Date	Group/ Organisation	Reason for Let	Date of Let	Frequency Of Let	Let Charge	Amount of Discretion Requested	Amount of Discretion Applied	Rationale	Outcome	Decision Maker	Review
2/25/2022	Ayr Station Hotel Community Action Group	Meeting	3/21/2022	One Off	£40.00	100%	£40.00	Previous request of Cllr McGinley	Approved	Jane Bradley	Only where the building is already open for other let