

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Communities and Transformation
to Audit and Governance Panel
of 26 June 2024**

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 2023 to 31 March 2024.

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 During the previous reporting period of 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, the number of applications for discretion to let charges was twenty-seven. Twenty-two applications were approved and five were declined.

3.3 During the current reporting period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, the number of applications for discretion to let charges increased to thirty-three. Twenty-five applications were approved and eight were declined. 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 of income to the Council, however the income targets for the Ayr Town Hall and Troon Concert and Walker Halls were met during the reporting period 2023/24.

6.2 When considering discretion applications, a range of factors are taken into consideration such as existing staffing levels within the building and any additional costs the let would incur, to ensure that there would be no additional expenditure for the Council. For many of the applicants the full let fee would have been cost prohibitive, therefore the activity would not have taken place, and we would have lost any associated income, albeit at a reduced discretionary rate.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

8.2.1 There is a risk that rejecting the recommendations will mean that the Council misses the opportunity to scrutinise discretion applied to lets from external organisations.

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)*** - An SEA has not been carried out.

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 Priority 2 of the Council Plan: Live, Work, Learn (Outcome 2: Work and economy – Everyone benefits from a local economy that provides opportunities for people and helps our businesses flourish) and Priority 3 of the Council Plan: Civic and Community Pride (Outcome 1: Pride in South Ayrshire – Everyone (residents, visitors and tourists) can enjoy attractive destinations and people are proud to live in our towns and villages and celebrate our culture and heritage).

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, Culture and Rural Affairs, and Councillor Brian Connolly, Portfolio Holder for Sport and Leisure, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers **Report to Audit and Governance Panel of 28 June 2023 – [Corporate Lets](#)**

Person to Contact **Laura Kerr, Service Lead – Destination South Ayrshire
Carnegie Library, 12 Main Street, Ayr, KA8 8EB
Phone 01292 616421
E-mail laura.kerr4@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Date: 17 June 2024

Approved Discretion Applications

NAME OF ORGANISATION/GROUP	REASON FOR LET	VENUE REQUESTED	FREQUENCY OF LET	LEVEL OF DISCRETION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION	AMOUNT OF DISCRETION APPLIED
Ayr Community Gospel Choir	Choral Concert for Charity	Ayr Town Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Fundraising • Free entry 	£430.00
Ayr Community Gospel Choir	Choral Concert for Charity	Ayr Town Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Fundraising • Free entry 	£430.00
Ayrshire Area Support Team, North Ayrshire Council working in partnership with Children's Hearings Scotland and South and East Ayrshire Council.	South Ayrshire Children's Panel training evenings	Ayr Town Hall	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership meetings <p>(Move to community venue for future meetings)</p>	£120.00 per let
RNIB Scotland	Charity information sharing day	Ayr Town Hall	One off let/Annual let	£75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free event 	£75.00
Charity – OiR – Town Hall Talks – fortnightly, Ayr Town Hall	OiR Talks	Ayr Town Hall	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	50% off - £30 per let	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free event 	£30 per let
Ayr Concert Series	Ayr Concert Series of professional orchestral concerts.	Ayr Town Hall	4 lets	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free tickets for targeted local schools 	£246 per let

NAME OF ORGANISATION/GROUP	REASON FOR LET	VENUE REQUESTED	FREQUENCY OF LET	LEVEL OF DISCRETION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION	AMOUNT OF DISCRETION APPLIED
School Mock Court Case Project SCIO	Mock Court Trial for Junior Pupils	Ayr Town Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org Free entry Education for young people 	£36.00
Ayrshire Music Festival	To hold the Ayrshire Music Festival	Ayr Town Hall	5 Day Event	Anything above £4,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org Low entry free Education for young people 	£2,193.00
Ayr Development Trust	Trust Meeting	Ayr Town Hall	One off let	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org One off meeting <p>(Move to community venue for future meetings)</p>	£40.00
Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra	Rehearsal and Concert	Ayr Town Hall	One off	£303	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org Education for young people 	£303.00
Monkton Community Council	Cosy Places VASA	Carvick Webster Hall - Monkton	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	Did not specify amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org Free entry Targeted group 	£77 per let
Forehill After School Club Ltd	Children's holiday club (out of school care service)	Forehill Primary School	One off	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childcare provision in local community 	£60 per let –
NHS Ayrshire & Arran Orthoptic department	NHS Pre-school Orthoptic visual screening	Marr College	3 lets	Did not specify amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity / Not for Profit Org Free healthcare in the local community 	£159.50

NAME OF ORGANISATION/GROUP	REASON FOR LET	VENUE REQUESTED	FREQUENCY OF LET	LEVEL OF DISCRETION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION	AMOUNT OF DISCRETION APPLIED
Royal British Legion Maybole Branch	Remembrance Sunday	Maybole Town Hall	One off let	Did not specify amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free entry 	£100.00
Maybole Indoor Carpet Bowling Group	Carpet Bowling	Maybole Town Hall	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	£12/hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Low cost entry • Targeted group • Venue specific 	£26 per let
Maybole Community Council	Celebrating the refurbishment of the Town Hall.	Maybole Town Hall	One off	Did not specify amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Fundraising 	£162.50
Dundonald Toddlers	Baby and toddler group	Montgomerie Hall, Dundonald	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	Anything above £12 p/h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Low entry fee • Targeted group • Rural area 	£10 per let
Ayrshire Federation of the Scottish Women's Institute	To hold a Federation Inter Institute quiz	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Low entry fee • Targeted group 	£70.00
West of Scotland Brass Band Association (SBBA)	Brass Band Entertainment Festival/Contest	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free for children to attend 	£660.75
Glasgow Taxi Outing Fund	Glasgow Taxi Outing Fund trip to Troon	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free entry • Targeted Group 	£775.00
Police Service of Scotland	Police Control Room for Police led Annual Operation	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Partnership initiative 	£400.00

NAME OF ORGANISATION/GROUP	REASON FOR LET	VENUE REQUESTED	FREQUENCY OF LET	LEVEL OF DISCRETION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION	AMOUNT OF DISCRETION APPLIED
Hart of the Community	Sale of second hand goods	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	Did not specify amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free entry • Fundraising 	£150.00
Ballroom Dancing @ Troon	Ongoing ballroom dancing	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	Regular let (Weekly/monthly)	Previous discretion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Low entry fee • Targeted group • Venue specific 	£61.25 per let
RNLI Fundraising Branch Troon	RNLI Christmas Fayre	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Free entry • Fundraising 	£367.50
Ayrshire Federation Scottish Women's Institute	To hold a Federation Inter Institute quiz	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity / Not for Profit Org • Low cost entry • Fundraising • Targeted Group 	£70.00

Declined Discretion Applications

NAME OF ORGANISATION/GROUP	REASON FOR LET	VENUE REQUESTED	FREQUENCY OF LET	LEVEL OF DISCRETION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION
Ayr Development Trust	Trust Monthly Meeting	Ayr Town Hall	Regular let	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a Town Hall event - signposted to community venues.
Epilepsy Scotland	Epilepsy Get Together	Ayr Town Hall	Regular let	£288	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a Town Hall event - signposted to community venues.
Bruce 750/NCCBC	Burns Supper	Maybole Town Hall	One off	£500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charging high entry fee Not fundraising
North Carrick Community Benefit Company/Bruce 750	Quiz Night	Maybole Town Hall	One off	£100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The kitchen and hall charges have been combined which reduces the hire fee for all lessees moving forward.
AILN	Sharing awareness to community support and self employment opportunities	Maybole Town Hall	Regular let	Anything above £10 p/h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a Town Hall event - signposted to community venues.
Maybole Regeneration Project -SAC	Public consultation	Maybole Town Hall	One off	Not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a Town Hall event - signposted to community venues.
Pro2 Wrestling	Entertainment Show	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	£200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For profit company with large income from event.
The Dance Depot	Dance Showcase	Troon Concert & Walker Hall	One off	Not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For profit company with large income from event.