

This note provides a brief response to issues raised during the public consultation period for the asset transfer request of Muirhead Activity Centre under Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Please note that Council officers will shortly be undertaking a detailed assessment of the application before preparing a report with a recommendation to the Leadership Panel for a decision in June.

The following Council-related issues were highlighted during the consultation period:

### **Current usage and sustainability**

The Council can confirm that Muirhead Activity Centre currently has the second highest footfall behind Dundonald Activity Centre, of the five centres operated by the Council. Please note that footfall does not mean number of individuals i.e. if there are twenty people using the After School Club for 5 days a week then the footfall figure counted for that week is 100 and not 20.

<b>Activity Centre</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>
Dundonald	69114	72288
<b>Muirhead</b>	<b>28801</b>	<b>31143</b>
Coylton	28373	29233
Whitletts	25840	24482
Mossblown	18127	20617

During 2016/17 the cost to the Council to run the Muirhead Activity Centre after all income generated and costs incurred resulted in a loss of £58,179.

During 2017/18 the cost to the Council to run the Muirhead Activity Centre after all income generated and costs incurred resulted in a loss £68,835. Over the past two years the Muirhead Activity centre has had a revenue loss of £127,014.

### **Displacement of current user groups**

The Council recognises that there are a range of user groups at Muirhead Activity Centre that participate in a variety of activities requiring different space and facilities and therefore are working with groups to identify potential suitable alternative venues, should the asset transfer request be approved.

The Council is aware of a level of uncertainty for local users of the Centre, at this time, and therefore want to ensure options have been explored with them. Possible alternative venues identified include the new state of the art sports facilities at Marr College, the Troon Youth Centre and Scout Hall, Dundonald Activity Centre and other Council venues. It should be noted that in many cases, if the Muirhead Activity Centre is approved for transfer to Dundonald Gymnastics Club, then it may still be a suitable venue for a number of these groups.

### **After School Club provision**

The Council will relocate the Council-run MAC after-school club provision to Struthers Primary, should the asset transfer request be approved.

This is in line with Council policy to use schools as community hubs. The proposed venue will be fit for the purpose of delivering after-school service provision and provides an improved environment for local children including access to outdoor education and play whilst being a familiar and safe location for many young local residents of Muirhead. The Councils quality improvement and early education services will progress engagement with the Care Inspectorate, should the asset transfer request be approved.