

**COWAL EUROPE / EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL.**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report gives Members updated information regarding the potential to hold the European People's Festival in Dunoon at a future date, most likely in 2015 or 2016.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the information provided in relation to ongoing consideration of the possibility of Dunoon hosting the European People's Festival in 2015 or 2016.

**3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1 Members will recall that reports have been submitted to previous business meetings regarding the possibility of Dunoon hosting the European People's Festival in a future year, most likely 2015 or 2016. In addition, a presentation by members of the Cowal Europe Committee was made to Members at which time there was unanimous enthusiasm and support for such a proposal.
- 3.2 Since that time the Cowal Europe Committee have further considered the possibility, and have recently confirmed that they still wish to actively consider hosting a future festival.
- 3.3 Given the likely dates for the proposed event, it is not possible for the Council at this time to make a financial commitment to a potential future festival, but the organising Committee have asked for clarification of the Council's position in regard to the potential use of Dunoon Grammar School as the principal venue should the festival be brought to Cowal. Clarification of this issue will enable them to decide whether or not to consider making a bid for a future event to be held in Cowal. The Director of Community Services has confirmed that, subject to detailed

discussion and health and safety arrangements being put in place, he would have no objection to such a use of the school being made.

- 3.4 On the basis of the Director of Community Services having detailed discussions with the organising Cowal Europe Committee, Members are asked to agree, at this time, the principle of Dunoon Grammar School being made available as the main venue for a future European People's Festival should the organising Committee be successful in bringing the event to Cowal in 2015 or 2016.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 Dunoon has successfully hosted the European People's Festival on two occasions previously, bringing significant economic benefit to the Cowal and wider Argyll and Bute area. The principal of making Dunoon Grammar School available as the main venue for a future festival should be considered in terms of potential positive economic impact if the festival goes ahead.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

Policy:	None
Financial:	Grant assistance to fund future Festivals will require to be sought.
Personnel:	None
Equal Opportunities:	None

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Date: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011