

Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre - Sculpture

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members last considered the issue of the sculpture at the Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre at the Area Committee meeting held on 11 August 2015 when it was agreed that no action should be taken regarding its re-location as this would not be cost neutral.
- 1.2 This paper reminds Members of the options that were available for consideration at that time together with the implications that would arise from each if implemented.
- 1.3 **Recommendation**
It is recommended that the sculpture should be left in situ as its removal would not be cost neutral.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Members last considered the issue of the sculpture at the Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre at the Area Committee meeting held on 11 August 2015 when it was agreed that no action should be taken regarding its re-location as this would not be cost neutral.
- 2.2 This paper reminds Members of the options that were available for consideration at that time together with the implications that would arise from each if implemented.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the sculpture should be left in situ as its removal would not be cost neutral.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 **Background:** Members are reminded that the sculpture located at the Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre was presented by the Trustees of the Templeton Library to mark their overall financial contribution in support of the building project. It was designed by John McKenna, a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, and is intended to represent Lady Helen after whom Helensburgh is named, with the town's skyline along the bottom.
- 4.2 **Current position:** With the passage of time since its original placement, as designed, the sculpture has now merged into the background structure due to the weathering of the surrounding oak paneling.
- 4.3 **Options for the future:** When this issue was last considered by Members, the undernoted options for the future of the sculpture were available for evaluation:
- (a) Leave in situ
 - (b) Re-locate to the west elevation
 - (c) Re-locate to a freestanding support to the south of the building
 - (d) Re-locate to a freestanding location elsewhere

The option of re-location to elsewhere within the building was also considered at that time but is no longer feasible in view of the size and

weight of the structure.

4.4 Implications arising from the remaining options: The main implications arising from each of the remaining options are outlined within the following table:

Option	Implications
(a) Leave in situ	Other than the introduction of an explanation board at a cost of circa £1,000 this option would maintain the original design philosophy of the building and create no disruption to the use of the Civic Centre.
(b) Re-locate to the west elevation	This option would require the removal and protection of the sculpture until it is re-erected. The supporting structure would have to be removed and the oak cladding made good along the north elevation. Thereafter the cladding would have to be removed from the west elevation to permit the installation of a supporting steel framework. It is estimated that this would cost around £6,000.
(c) Re-location to a freestanding support to the south of the building	This option would require similar preliminary steps to those outlined in (b) above. Supporting steel framework would have to be constructed on a reinforced concrete base and this would be at an estimated cost of £7,000.
(d) Re-location to a freestanding location elsewhere	This option would require similar preliminary steps to those outlined in (b) above including the construction of the supporting framework and reinforced concrete base. The structure would also have to be transported to the alternative location at a total estimated cost of £9,000.

In view of the material changes that would arise in relation to options (b), (c) and (d), planning consent is also likely to be required. In addition, Members are asked to note that no budgetary provision has been made to enable their implementation so, if selected, the work would lead to a delay in other programmed expenditure.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report reminds Members of the options that were available for evaluation when Members last considered the issue of the sculpture at the Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre. It also highlights the main implications that would arise from their adoption.
- 5.2 As no budgetary provision has been made for the removal and relocation of the sculpture, it is recommended that it should remain in situ.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – Nil.
- 6.2 Financial – The financial implications outlined within the table at section 4.4 would arise in the event of the sculpture being relocated.
- 6.3 Legal – Nil.
- 6.4 HR – Staff working within the Civic Centre would face a degree of disruption if the sculpture is removed.
- 6.5 Equalities – Nil.
- 6.6 Risk – Although public concern was raised when the sculpture was originally erected, there have been no recent expressions of this. There is also the risk that a decision to remove the sculpture could lead similar criticism.
- 6.7 Customer Service – Customers making use of the Civic Centre would face a degree of disruption if the sculpture is removed.

Executive Director of Customer Services
Policy Lead – Councillor Walsh
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