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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

**Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve  
Committee**

**DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC  
GROWTH**

**19<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

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## **Duchess Wood WIAT Application Update**

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### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on the status of two funding applications made to Scottish Forestry: the Woodlands In and Around Town – Woodland Improvement Grant and Woodlands In and Around Town – Sustainable Management of Forests

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that members:
- a) agree to the withdrawal of the Woodlands In and Around Town – Sustainable Management of Forests application; and
  - b) note the award of £11,100 of Woodland Improvement Grant funding and the content of this report.

### **3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1 Two funding applications have been submitted to Scottish Forestry: the Woodlands In and Around Town – Woodland Improvement Grant and Woodlands In and Around Town – Sustainable Management of Forests.
- 3.2 An application was considered by Scottish Forestry under the Woodlands In and Around Town – Woodland Improvement Grant stream on 25-Sept-2019 in request for funding to assist with remedial tree works.
- 3.3 A notice of success was received on 8-Oct-2019 offering £11,100 of funding support towards remedial tree works. Appendix 1 illustrates the breakdown of this funding. Subsequently, a contract has been received which is currently under review by Legal Services. Works cannot start until the contract is signed and returned and Scottish Forestry advise that work can commence.

3.4 A further application under the Woodlands In and Around Town – Sustainable Management of Forests funding stream was submitted in May 2019. This application is for annual funding for routine maintenance works. Due to the legal complexities arising from the forthcoming expiry of the Management Agreement, it is recommended this application is now withdrawn. If the landowner wishes to access this funding at a later date, a new application can be submitted.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

4.1 Two funding applications have been submitted to Scottish Forestry. The Woodlands In and Around Town – Woodland Improvement Grant has been successful with a contribution secured to assist with remedial trees works. The Woodlands In and Around Town – Sustainable Management of Forests provides an annual payment towards routine maintenance works. It is recommended this application is withdrawn.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Policy Duchess Wood is designated as a Local Nature Reserve in the Local Development Plan.

5.2 Financial £11,100 has been awarded by Scottish Forestry for remedial tree works, however this is unlikely to cover the full cost of required works.

5.3 Legal Note the award of the Woodland Improvement Grant is subject to agreement by Luss Estates

5.4 HR None

5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: None

5.5.1 Equalities (protected characteristics)

5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty

5.5.3 Islands

5.6 Risk Note the award of the Woodland Improvement Grant is subject to agreement by Luss Estates.

5.7 Customer Service Working with local people.

**Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth  
– Pippa Milne**

**Policy Lead - Councillor Alastair Redman**

**15<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**For further information contact:**

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