



<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Request from Portrush Sea Cadets to prioritise use of Council Harbour &amp; Marina facilities</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Environmental Services Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Decision</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Improvement and Innovation
Outcome	A Sustainable, Accessible Environment
Lead Officer	Head of Capital Works, Energy & Infrastructure

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	£0
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>N/A</b>
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

To allow members to consider a request which been received from Portrush Sea Cadets to prioritise a mooring ahead of other customer mooring requests for a support vessel to deliver support to 3-4 no cadet sailing dinghies. Note: onshore storage for 3-4 sailing dinghies at Portrush Harbour is also required (which can be accommodated within current capacity). The request is attached (appendix 1)

## **2.0 Background**

The excerpt from appendix 1 notes that Portrush Sea Cadets opened in 1942 and have provided services and experiences to the youth sector within the local community. Following challenges in recent years, the Portrush Sea Cadets successfully reopened in July 2021 and have secured a number of new junior and senior cadet members. The Cadets have requested a mooring and storage of their assets at Councils harbours to deliver

A waiting list exists for moorings at Portrush Harbour. Vacant moorings are allocated in chronological order and are offered those who applied first, in date order. Based on this process, Council may not be able to allocate a mooring to the Portrush Sea Cadets. To guarantee a mooring for next season, Council will have to support the Portrush Sea Cadets request and advance their position to top of the list.

## **3.0 Options**

Option 1: Members support the request by advancing the waiting list position of Portrush Sea Cadets and allocate the next suitable mooring to them.

Option 2: Members decline the request to support the Portrush Sea Cadets and they remain on the waiting list until a suitable mooring is allocated within current procedures.

## **4.0 Recommendation**

It is recommended Members consider both options and decide if they wish to grant a preferential mooring to Portrush Sea Cadets ahead of its existing position within current queuing process (option1) or decline the request (option2).

26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council  
Cloonavin  
66 Portstewart Road  
Coleraine  
BT52 1EY

For the attention of the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee

Dear Sirs,

Re: Portrush Sea Cadets

As discussed at our meeting with Mr David Jackson, Chief Executive on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 our immediate challenge is mooring and storage for our boats.

Mr Jackson has since advised that a mooring at Portrush Harbour has come available and we are hopeful that the Environmental Services Committee would see sufficient merit in our Charity that could warrant prioritising Portrush Sea Cadets for the mooring and onshore storage for 3 or 4 dinghies.

Portrush Sea Cadets opened in 1942 have a long history of providing essential services to the local community. As an independent charity the only grant we receive from Marine Society & Sea Cadets is £100 per year towards our telephone/broadband. We rely heavily on grants, fundraising and the support of the local community to operate. All our volunteers are extremely dedicated to providing the best experience for the Cadets and working in partnership with the local community.

We are a registered group with the Education Authority and we are a disciplined uniform organisation that follows the ethos and traditions of the Royal Navy. It is essential that we give young people something positive to do in their spare time and in every lesson that we deliver whether it is on the water or in the classroom, we instil our values of honesty & integrity, respect, loyalty, self-discipline, commitment and courage.

We have been granted 3 x RS Quest sailing dinghies from Marine Society & Sea Cadets and the loan of an Avon Searider rib (for sea use) from Northern Ireland Sea Cadets.

In the last few years our Charity has struggled following the sudden passing of the Commanding Officer and then with the COVID restrictions. A new but experienced team have now come onboard – both on the uniform side and the Committee having taken over on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Since reopening the unit on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 we have established a new Junior Section and enrolled 11 Junior Cadets. We are the first unit in Northern Ireland to offer places for children from 9 years old - usually the starting age would be 10 in Sea Cadets and then they move to the Senior Section at 12 years old. We have also enrolled 11 Senior Cadets. Therefore, we have 22 young people between the age of 9 years old and 18 years old who we are supporting and we receive more enquiries to join on a weekly basis, we currently have 3 more about to join. It is clear to us that our group is needed and our services are essential to the local community.



Our group offers activities that steer young people away from anti-social behaviour and equips them with life skills and qualifications that help them grasp better futures.

According to the Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded by the PSNI report, incidents of reported ASB in the Causeway Coast & Glens Council area increased by 45.3% between the reporting period of 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and this figure is only the reported incidents there are many more that go unreported.

We have the qualified instructors to deliver the training as well as all the safe-guarding policies and insurance required, and we have been given the amazing gesture from Northern Ireland Sea Cadets of the loan of the rib and the allocation from Marine Society & Sea Cadets of the 3 x RS Quest sailing dinghies.

The essential remaining requirement is for us to secure the mooring and designated storage required for our boats which I really am hopeful that the Council will be able to assist with.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration.

Warm Regards

Terry McComb  
Officer-in-Charge  
Portrush Sea Cadets

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