

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: LAND REFORM (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003, AMENDMENT OF CORE PATHS PLAN, (CORE PATH 190 STRATHCLYDE BUSINESS PARK), UNDER SECTION 20(5)
From: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS		
Date: 31 JANUARY 2017	Ref: KF/VA/HA	

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request that Committee approves the amendment to North Lanarkshire Council's Core Paths Plan under s20(2) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

2. Background

2.1 The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 placed a duty on all Local Authorities to produce a Core Paths Plan.

2.2 North Lanarkshire Council's Core Paths Plan was compiled under s17 of the Act and was adopted by the Council at the Environmental Services Committee on 18 October 2011.

2.3 The North Lanarkshire Outdoor Access Forum was involved in the selection of core paths for the plan, in accordance with the Guidance for Local Authorities and National Park Authorities.

3. Main issues

3.1 HFD Property Group Limited, owners of Strathclyde Business Park have initiated this amendment of the core paths plan.

3.2 HFD has stated that it will commit to the cost of the diversion and improvements including creating the new link on the ground and signage to link the path with existing routes, which in turn would increase use of the core path network.

3.3 Some sections of core path 190 are well used, particularly through Viewpark Glen, however, the current surface of this particular section of the route is poor and signage is lacking, which limits the use of the route for sustainable travel journeys.

3.4 s20 Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 allows the Access Authority to amend the Core Paths Plan, where it is satisfied that it is expedient so to do having regard to:

- (a) the extent to which it appears to them that persons would, but for the amendment, be likely to exercise access rights using the core path; and
- (b) the effect which the amendment of the plan would have as respects land served by the core path.

3.5 Access Officers from the Greenspace Development team have carried out site visits and consulted with the North Lanarkshire Outdoor Access Forum (NLOAF) on this proposal. The NLOAF were in favour of the diversion in principle at their meeting of 27 October 2016.

- 3.6 There are no residents that will be directly affected by this proposal.
- 3.7 Fusion Assets own the adjacent land and HFD have consulted with them in relation to the proposed diversion. Further discussions will determine the exact line of the route.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 All costs associated with the diversion of the path (including the Public Notice) will be met by the initiating party (namely HFD Property Group Limited). This is estimated to be in the region of £5,000.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 That the committee approves the amendment of the North Lanarkshire Council Core Paths Plan under s20(2) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003
- 5.2 That the committee gives delegated authority for the Head of Environmental Assets to sign the required Notice under s20 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003



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Local Government Access to Information Act: For further information please contact Vicky Abernethy, Assistant Business Manager, Greenspace Development 01236 780636