

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Strategic Lead – Citizen, Culture, & Facilities

Cultural Committee: 27 January 2021

Subject: The West Dunbartonshire Council Pro-Am Golf Tournament

1. Purpose

- 1.1.** The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the 2021 West Dunbartonshire Council Pro-am Golf Tournament.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1** It is recommended that the Committee approves the cancellation of the 2021 West Dunbartonshire Council Pro-am Golf Tournament due to be held in May 2021 given the ongoing uncertainties relating to Covid 19.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Council hosts an annual Pro-am Golf Tournament at Dalmuir Municipal Golf Course in May each year.
- 3.2** The event is currently managed by West Dunbartonshire Leisure Trust on behalf of the Council. It is delivered in partnership with the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) in Scotland and features on their schedule of 'County' events. The event format involves entries from teams of 3 players who are each allocated a tee-off time with a golf professional from a Scottish Golf Club.
- 3.3** The event consists of a reception for entrants held in the café at Dalmuir Golf Club on the preceding evening, the Golf competition on the Saturday and then a prize giving which is held once all players have completed their round with prizes being presented by the Provost.
- 3.4** There are normally around 35 teams participating on the day - each comprising of a Scottish PGA Golf professional and 3 paying players.
- 3.5** The 2020 West Dunbartonshire Council Pro-Am golf event was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** A degree of advance planning and marketing is required to host the Pro-Am event, as well as identification of a suitable date in May each year with the PGA which fits with their annual tour schedule.

- 4.2** Competitive golf is currently suspended in Scotland given the ongoing Covid-19 situation, and there is great uncertainty surrounding events in general. The information available at present suggests it is unlikely that the Pro-Am will be able to proceed. Officers within Facilities Management and the Leisure Trust have other competing priorities at this time such as the delivery of enhanced school cleaning, minimising costs from the Covid-19 leisure disruptions, and accommodating the planned local Covid-19 vaccination programme. Investing time and energy into organising an event that is likely to be cancelled would not be a good use of resources.
- 4.3** Given the above, and the fact that no date has yet been agreed with the PGA, it is considered appropriate to take an early decision to cancel the 2021 event. This would result in early communication to PGA Scotland, and prevent further work by officers from West Dunbartonshire Council and from West Dunbartonshire Leisure Trust.
- 4.4** There is a cost to the Council to host the event in terms of fees paid to the PGA, food and drink costs, purchase of prizes, maintenance of the course and Greenspace employee costs on the event day. An early decision would mean that the event costs could be identified as a saving within the 2021/22 Revenue Budget.

5. People Implications

- 5.1** This event is organised and staged by an Officer from WDLT in conjunction with Officers from the Council's FM & Greenspace teams.
- 5.2** Cancelling the 2021 event would free up officer time to focus on other priorities at this time.

6. Financial & Procurement Implications

- 6.1** The net cost of hosting the Pro-Am golf event is approximately £15,400 annually (see table below).

Event Costs & Income	Value	Further information
CCF Costs	£5,500	Prize Fund, Hospitality, First Aid, etc
Fee Paid to SGU	£9,500	
Greenspace Costs	£2,500	Staffing/Course Maintenance
WDLT Costs	£400	Staffing
Income	-£2,500	Competitor Fees
Total cost:	£15,400	

6.2 If a decision was taken to cancel the event in 2021 this would result in a Revenue saving of approx. £15,000 in the Council's 2021/22 budget (FM & Greenspace), and a saving of £400 for WDLT.

6.3 There are no procurement implications from this report.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 There are no risks associated with cancelling the event in 2021.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 An Equality Impact Screening did not indicate any further action required in relation to any recommendations.

9. Consultation

9.1 This report has been consulted on with Finance, Legal and Procurement.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 The proposals within this report support the following strategic priorities:

- Efficient and effective frontline services that improve the everyday lives of residents.

Malcolm Bennie, Chief Officer - Citizen, Culture and Facilities

Date: 11, January 2021

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Appendix: None

Background Papers: Equalities Impact Screening Report (Ref 305)

Wards Affected: All Wards