

The Highland Council
Finance Housing & Resources Committee
22 January 2014

Agenda Item	18.i
Report No	FHR/ 16/14

Improved car parking at Foyers

**Joint Report by Director of Transport, Environmental and Community Services
and Corporate Manager**

Summary

This report invites Members to approve that £65,000 is taken from the Capital Discretionary Fund to develop improved car parking provision at Foyers.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Falls of Foyers is a significant attraction on the south side of Loch Ness making the village an important visitor destination.
- 1.2 Parking adjacent to the Falls is provided by a small roadside layby, which is insufficient to meet demand at peak times.
- 1.3 Land has become available close to the shop which is suitable for the construction of an off road car parking facility.

2. Consultation

- 2.1 Members in the Aird and Loch Ness Ward are supportive of the development and have committed funds from the Ward Discretionary Budget.
- 2.2 Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council are supportive of this proposal and have contributed their ideas to the design.
- 2.3 The owners of the land adjoining the site are supportive of this proposal and have agreed to allow the use of some of their own land to facilitate the construction.
- 2.4 The owner of the site has agreed to accept an offer of £55,000 from the Council for the land required for the development.

3. Construction

- 3.1 The proposed parking area provides for approximately 21 additional car parking spaces taking access from the B852 at the north end of the site with an exit from the south end of the site. The detailed design will be adapted for site conditions, and incorporate feedback from the community where possible. This one-way system and the associated visibility improvements, will allow safer traffic movements.

- 3.2 The outline proposal formalises bus/coach parking close to the Falls of Foyers and to the nearby Waterfall Café and Foyers Stores. Pedestrian access along the B852 and to the public toilets will also be improved.
- 3.3 The estimated cost (excluding land costs) for the construction of the car park and associated improvements is £65,000.

4. Implications

- 4.1 The cost of the land (£55,000) will be funded with £45,000 from the Chief Executive's Capital Budget (set aside for Loch Ness Destination Development) and £10,000 from the Aird & Loch Ness Ward Discretionary Budget.
- 4.2 Members are invited to approve that the construction costs (£65,000) are taken from the Capital discretionary Budget.
- 4.3 The car park will be maintained by the Council under the Council's Car Parks budget.
- 4.4 There are no other known Equalities; Climate Change; Carbon Clever; or Risk implications as a result of this development.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Members are invited to approve that £65,000 is taken from the Capital Discretionary Fund for the construction of improved car parking provision at Foyers.

Designation: Director Transport, Environmental and Community Services and
Corporate Manager

Date: 10 January 2014

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