

Agenda Item	4
Report No	TC/06/20

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Tourism

Date: 3 December 2020

Report Title: Tourism Committee Terms of Reference

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Members a draft terms of reference for the Tourism Committee. The Committee is invited to discuss and approve the Terms of Reference for the Committee and to recommend to Council that these be included within the Scheme of Delegation.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to agree the draft Terms of Reference for the Tourism Committee and recommend to Council that these be included within the Scheme of Delegation.

3. Implications

3.1 Resources

There are no direct resource implications from this report. However, decisions taken on infrastructure or other services arising from discussion at the Committee will require to be informed by the wider Council financial position as reported to the relevant strategic and area committees, and to Council.

3.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

3.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)

There are no community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) implications arising directly from this report. However, further consultation on the actions arising from the work of the Committee will involve communities and will require to be impact assessed as work is progressed.

3.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever

There are no Climate Change / Carbon Clever implications arising directly from this report, but a number of the infrastructure projects proposed through the work of the Committee, should they be undertaken, will have to be designed in such a way as to help reduce climate change impacts.

3.5 Risk

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

3.6 Gaelic

There are no Gaelic implications arising directly from this report. However, in keeping with agreed Council policy there would be a Gaelic element to projects subsequently undertaken as a result of being taken forward by the Committee.

4. Draft Terms of Reference

4.1 The work of the Tourism Committee is central to support the tourism sector in Highland. Whilst the delivery of direct services related to infrastructure, waste and amenities will be overseen by the relevant Service Committees, the Tourism Committee has a direct role in influencing, shaping and scrutinising the delivery of a wide range of specific actions as set out in paragraph 4.2 below. Members are asked to consider the draft terms of reference, to make any necessary changes and to agree to recommend to Council that these are included within the Scheme of Delegation recommended to Council for approval.

4.2 The remit of the Tourism Committee is to:

- develop and review a Highland Tourism Strategy;
- provide input to and co-ordinate the Council response to local strategies / Destination Plans prepared by other bodies;
- oversee the delivery of Council actions from tourism strategies as they relate to the Highland area;
- recommend the introduction of new policies or changes to existing visitor management policies to manage tourism pressures through the preparation of the Visitor Management Plan;
- recommend investment priorities in new facilities for visitors;
- recommend the investment in maintenance of existing facilities where appropriate;
- oversee Council and other Highland partner body applications for external funding;
- prepare and recommend the adoption of the Council's Tourism Infrastructure Plan;
- prepare responses to national consultations and initiatives as they relate to tourism;
- scrutinise performance relating to tourism related service delivery and implementation of strategy, policy and service plans as they relate to tourism issues;
- consider wider socio-economic reports on the impact and value of the tourism sector to the Highland economy;
- consider the impact of decisions on communities, specifically taking into consideration the issues of equality, poverty and rurality; and
- ensure that all decisions take into account the Resource, Legal, Climate Change/Carbon Clever, Risk and Gaelic implications that need to be considered

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment

Date: 20 November 2020

Author: Malcolm Macleod, Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment