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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education and Communities Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 May 2018</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Environmental &amp; Public Protection</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUCOM/59/18/MM</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Martin McNab</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>4246</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Community Facilities in Ward 7</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to undertake a detailed assessment of community provision within the Ward 7 area and report back after the summer recess.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The closure of a number of Community Facilities was considered as part of the Council's 2018-19 budget process. Details of the facilities affected were contained in a report to the January 2018 Education & Communities Committee. The savings proposals were based upon a review of community facility provision carried out by Max Associates in 2015/16, which recognised that the community facilities in the Ward 7 were significantly underused.
- 2.2 Amongst other closures the review and subsequent report recommended the closure of Paton Street Community Hub, Fancy Farm Tenants Hall and Grieve Road Community Centre. The Community Facilities saving proposal was included in the public budget consultation with only 39% of respondents in favour of the savings. Members should also be aware that a petition was received on 3 April 2018 asking for Paton Street Community Facility to be reopened following a fire in 2016 which resulted in the facility being closed.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee requests officers to bring forward a detailed assessment of community provision within the Ward 7 area and report back after the summer recess.

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Facilities Review recommended the closure of Paton Street Community Hub together with a number of other community facilities including Grieve Road Community Centre and Fancy Farm Tenants Hall. The recommendations of the review were based upon a number of criteria including footfall and usage, the proximity of alternative facilities for lets, in this case the school estate and more specifically Notre Dame High School and Clydeview Academy and a brief assessment of the projected longer term capital costs in connection with building maintenance and elemental lifecycle replacement of the centres based on property condition surveys.
- 4.2 Members will further be aware that Paton Street Community Hub was closed following a fire in December 2016. As the Community Facilities Review was well underway at that point the decision was taken not to carry out the reinstatement work required pending a decision on the long term future of the facility. In the interim period a number of displaced lets have been accommodated at Grieve Road Community Centre which has been staffed accordingly. This has been relatively successful albeit Grieve Road does not offer the drop in facilities previously delivered at Grieve Road.

## 5.0 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The decision was taken in the March 2018 budget not to progress with the proposal to close community facilities at that time. However, in light of the expected reduction in revenue budgets, it remains likely that further savings will be required from the overall community estate in 2019-20. This report focuses solely on the three centres mentioned in 4.1 above.
- 5.2 Notwithstanding Members consideration of the recently submitted petition to retain the Paton Street Community Centre, the CMT has given consideration as to the need to assess overall provision in the Ward 7 area strategically rather than considering the future retention of individual community facilities in isolation. In this regard, Members are asked to request officers to bring forward a detailed assessment of community provision within the Ward 7 area and report back after the summer recess.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

#### 6.1 Financial Implications:

##### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

##### Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

### Legal

- 6.2 None

### Human Resources

6.3 None

**Equalities**

6.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

X
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YES (an equality impact assessment was carried out as part of the Community Facilities Savings Proposal)

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NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

**Repopulation**

6.5 None.

**7.0 CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 The Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Legal & Property Services have been consulted on this report.

**8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 Community Facilities Service Review Education & Communities Committee 23 Jan 2018  
EDUCOM13/18/MM