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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13 January 2022</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Interim Director, Environment &amp; Regeneration</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ENV006/22/EM</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Eddie Montgomery</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712764</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Information Relating to Pontoons in Inverclyde</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to address the request by Councillor Brooks to provide a report and details in relation to the Pontoon at the East India Harbour, Greenock.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 This report advises the Committee in respect of the details requested on the East India Harbour Pontoon and its operation.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the report.

**Stuart Jamieson**  
**Interim Director,**  
**Environment & Regeneration**

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The October 2021 Environment & Regeneration Committee considered a report in relation to a request received from Councillor Brooks in the terms below:
- 4.2 This committee asks the Interim Service Director, Environment & Economic Recovery, to provide a report to the next meet of the Environment & Regeneration Committee detailing the;
- Capital expenditure costs of providing “Pontoons” at the East India Harbour, Greenock;
  - Any annual costs to maintain the pontoons in a safe and operational state;
  - The income, to March 2021, generated from the pontoons;
  - The management protocols/arrangements for service provided by the pontoons;
  - The insurance burden placed on the Council as a result of this service;
  - The occupancy of the facility since it was commissioned.

## **5.0 EAST INDIA HARBOUR PONTOON**

- 5.1 Works to relocate the Commonwealth Flotilla pontoon were completed in 2017 and it became operational that same year. The cost to the Council to assist with the relocation of the pontoon was £107,021. This was the subject of previous reports to the Environment & Regeneration Committee noted in the list of background papers at section 8.1.
- 5.2 A basic management agreement is in place for the pontoon addressing inspection, minor repairs, regular power washing etc. The monthly costs vary depending on the season and reflecting that the pontoon is closed during the winter months requiring a reduced provision. As a result of the Covid pandemic, the pontoon has remained closed since October 2019 with a reduced management agreement in place to meet basic Health and Safety standards. The average annual cost over the period 2017/18 to present is £6,050, however, the maximum annual cost in any full year of operation could be £10,500 (excluding day to day repairs). Repairs and one-off costs vary year to year subject to specific needs / vandal damage repairs etc..
- 5.3 The income to March 2021 is £1,045 (offset against management costs).
- 5.4 Mirren Marine have been managing the pontoon since it was established and were appointed following mini-competition (reported to the August 2017 E&R Committee – see background papers in 8.1 below). Officers from Property Services had intended to test the market in respect of any other interest in providing the service for the summer season of 2020 but this was put on hold due to the Covid situation. The pontoon remains closed (despite the boats berthed there) with the summer season due to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.
- 5.5 The Council requires to take out and maintain insurances in respect of the operation of the pontoon. The Marine Combined Policy covers any damage to the installation itself and public/product liability insurances. The annual premium is circa £2,240.
- 5.6 The facility was occupied as originally envisioned i.e. by small visiting boats until circa 2018/19. During the 2019 season a fishing vessel began to berth on a regular basis (without payment or intention to pay) causing damage to the pontoon from its operations. This situation has encouraged other boat owners from a neighbouring boat club to use the pontoon without payment. Following closure of the pontoon, a number of these boats had remained berthed full time with a proportion having only recently moved back to their original location in the harbour. Officers from Property Services are currently in dialogue with Legal Services on options to address these issues which continue to impact the ability to manage the facility.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Finance

#### Financial Implications:

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

### 6.2 Legal

None.

### 6.3 Human Resources

None.

### 6.4 Equalities

#### Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

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

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

NO

## 6.5 Repopulation

None.

## 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

## 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 East India and Victoria Harbours Development – Progress Report (Item No.11) / Environment & Regeneration Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014.

Commonwealth Flotilla (Item No.7) / Environment & Regeneration Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

Riverside Inverclyde Project Update (Item No.5) / Environment & Regeneration Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

Property Assets Management Report – Private (item No.17) / Environment & Regeneration Committee – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017.