

ECYE30. CLD Community Halls Update on Transfers/Disposals

The Education, Children and Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which provided an update on the lease arrangements and progress regarding the transfer and disposal of community halls.

The Education, Children and Young People Executive had previously agreed that 15-year, full repairing and insurance leases could be issued to the Management Committees of 5 halls: Banknock; California; Limerigg; Tamfourhill, and Westfield. Work had been undertaken with the Management Committees, Community Ownership Scotland, and Falkirk CVS to ensure that the lease offered by Falkirk Council reflected the unique relationship between the Management Committees and the Council.

The Covid pandemic had had significant impacts on the work of the Community Hall Management Committees. Covid restrictions had meant that the halls had been closed for normal business for over a year. During the closure period Management Committees had had limited income streams which had in many ways impacted on their commitment to sign lease agreements. The Council remained committed to this and were proactively working with the Management Committees to support them to sign the long-term Lease for their Hall.

The Service had been liaising with a number of additional Community Hall Management Committees/Groups to support and progress Phase 2 of the workstream. At this time discussions were sufficiently advanced to include the following 7 Halls in the next phase: Avonbridge; Bainsford; Brightons; Broompark; Cowdenhill; Newlands, and Shieldhill. In the future other Halls may be added.

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-

- (1) noted the current position and progress made regarding the transfer and disposal of the community halls;**
- (2) agreed to amend the leases from a 15-year full repairing and insurance lease to 15-year schedule of condition and schedule of works lease for the reasons outlined in section 4.3 of the report, and**
- (3) agreed that the Director of Children's Services instruct the award of the new lease to hall management committees where agreement had been reached by both parties.**