

Our Ref:
Your Ref: JCLS/LM

Date 13 May 2019

Please ask for: Janelle Clark
Direct Dial: 01467 536421

Ms R Pirie



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**If you have difficulty reading this document please contact
Linda Milne on 01467 536421**

Dear Ms Pirie,

**Statutory Consultation with the Local Community under Part 8 of the
Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for Disposal of Common Good
Land – For lease at Banchory Skatepark, Bellfield Park, Banchory – Response to
Representations**

Thank you for your response to the Statutory Consultation for the Disposal of Common
Good Land – For lease at Banchory Skatepark, Bellfield Park, Banchory.

Please find detailed below a response to the specific issues and concerns that you
raised in your consultation response:

QUESTIONS/ISSUES/CONCERNS	COUNCIL'S RESPONSE
Due to size and specialist sporting nature of new skatepark, it would be more suited to the new Banchory Sports Centre in Hill of Banchory.	The provision of a skatepark at the Banchory Sports Village (BSV) site was not in the project scope approved by Aberdeenshire Council Recreation Service and Committee. There is no space left on the BSV site for such a facility.
Existing activities in the park (such as the Dog Show during Banchory Show) and annual Canine Carnival, will be negatively impacted by the skatepark. These would be affected as they depend on ease of access	Banchory Show is mainly held in King George V Park, with only certain events held in Bellfield Park eg. Dog Show and Highland Dancing. The skatepark will only cover an area of 0.15ha and no access paths will be obstructed. It is considered that sufficient space would remain in

and in relation to the Dog Show, proximity to main event. Finding an alternative location would be problematic.	Bellfield Park to allow these events to take place without being adversely affected.
Proposed size of skatepark would mean that there would be no green space available for enjoyment by general public, including those with restricted mobility, families and young people not interested in skateboarding.	The new skatepark is proposed to cover an area of 0.15ha. Bellfield Park covers an area of over 2 ha. Therefore sufficient open and green space will remain for the enjoyment of those not using the skatepark. The access paths from the car park into the Bellfield park will be unaffected by the skatepark and therefore access will be retained for those with limited mobility.
Skatepark negates historic status of the park.	Bellfield Park is already the location of a skatepark facility and therefore there will be no change to the historic status of the park.

All representations were considered at Marr Area Committee on 7 May 2019. The committee approved the responses to the representations and having had regard to these representations, reconfirmed its decision of 22 May 2018 to lease the site of the skatepark to Banchory Skatepark Group. The Head of Legal and Governance has been authorised to petition the Court, under 75(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 for authority to dispose of part of the Common Good Land at Bellfield Park for a lease to Banchory Skatepark Group for a Skatepark.

The Committee report, plus redacted copies of all representations and responses to these will be published on the Council website on the Common Good Property page: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/community-empowerment/common-good-properties/

Yours sincerely



Janelle Clark
AREA MANAGER (MARR)