
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	31 October 2019
Report By:	Head of Environmental and Public Protection	Report No:	ENV046/19/KL
Contact Officer:	Kenny Lang	Contact No:	01475 715906
Subject:	Craigmuschat Quarry Recycling Centre		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on developments with regard to Kirn Drive and Craigmuschat Quarry.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 As part of the depot rationalisation programme, it is planned to demolish the buildings at Kirn Drive depot and to remove the fuel tank located within Kirn Drive.
- 2.2 To facilitate this it was necessary to close Kirn Drive Civic Amenity Site and relocate the recycling element to Craigmuschat Quarry on a temporary basis.
- 2.3 Delays in decommissioning and removing the fuel tank have delayed demolition with the result that the temporary nature of the recycling site needed to be extended beyond what would be deemed reasonable from a planning position. It has therefore been necessary to relocate to Kirn Drive for the time being.
- 2.4 Local Members were briefed on the requirements to close the Craigmuschat Quarry site and this was communicated to householders through the press, social media, the Council's website and by leaflet at the site itself. Craigmuschat Quarry closed on 6 October and Kirn Drive reopened on 7 October.
- 2.5 This report seeks approvals to submit a planning application to revert recycling to Craigmuschat Quarry and to progress options to consider the site for a longer term permanent facility.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee agrees that officers submit a planning application to continue to use Craigmuschat Quarry as a recycling centre.
- 3.2 That the Committee agrees that officers provide a costed project plan to retain Craigmuschat Quarry as a Civic Amenity Site on a permanent basis.
- 3.3 That it be remitted to officers to bring back a report to this Committee on the proposal at 3.2.

Martin McNab
Head of Environmental and Commercial Services

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As part of the depot rationalisation programme, staff from various depots throughout Inverclyde have been relocated to Pottery Street. The proposals required that the buildings at Kirn Drive depot be demolished and the fuel tank within Kirn Drive be removed. Staff from Kirn Drive have now been relocated to Pottery Street.
- 4.2 To facilitate the closure a number of options were considered, however, due to access and the layout of the site it has been necessary to close Kirn Drive Civic Amenity Site to enable the demolition works to progress.
- 4.3 To ensure that local residents could still have access to a site, it was agreed to relocate the recycling element of the Civic Amenity site to Craigmuschat Quarry on a temporary basis. This site also replaced the recycling point at the entrance to the Quarry on Broomberry Drive. The site is not able to accept any residual waste due to SEPA requirements.
- 4.4 A delay to demolition arose in respect of the fuel tank. This must be removed to allow full access to the site. Decommissioning of this tank was frustrated through the need to continue a small supply of petrol to grass cutters and other equipment whilst an alternative procurement process was put in place. This issue has now been resolved.
- 4.5 In view of the potential extension of the temporary closure of the Kirn Drive site, the situation regarding planning was reviewed and independent advice sought. It is clear from this advice that, to continue the operation at Craigmuschat Quarry, a planning application needs to be made. We have therefore taken the decision to suspend the operation at Craigmuschat Quarry and resume recycling at Kirn Drive until this is done.
- 4.6 Prior to closing the site at Craigmuschat Quarry, briefings were issued to local Members advising them of the requirement to relocate to Kirn Drive and a press release was issued along with information on social media, the Council's website and through leafletting residents in the days prior to closure.
- 4.7 Staff ensured that the transition was as seamless as possible with Craigmuschat Quarry closing on Sunday 6 October and Kirn Drive reopening the day after. Costs for the move have been contained within the existing budget.
- 4.8 The Policy & Resources Committee in August 2019 agreed to defer capital investment at Kirn Drive pending a decision on the 2020/23 budget other than the demolition of the Depot. The remaining budget for Kirn Drive is £275k of which £50k is committed to the demolition costs with the remaining £225k deferred.

5.0 CRAIGMUSCHAT PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that subject to Committee approval a planning application be submitted to continue to use Craigmuschat Quarry as a recycling centre.
- 5.2 Officers will also commence work to consider the long term option to permanently relocate to Craigmuschat Quarry as a Civic Amenity site, this site would then be able to accept residual waste and be subject to the normal SEPA site licensing conditions. A fully costed development brief will be prepared and reported to this committee.
- 5.3 The Craigmuschat Civic Amenity site option has many positives and has been very well received by members of the public, moreover:
 - The site is large and easily manoeuvred, minimising traffic conflict.

- Better site access avoids congestion and issues common at Kirn Drive.
- More containers can be accommodated reducing the skip movements.
- Due to more containers the risk of closure due to full skips is reduced.
- The site is well screened from residential properties.
- Eliminates the misused Neighbourhood Recycling Point at Broomberry Drive.
- Potentially opens up Kirn Drive to development.

6.0 FINANCIAL

6.1 One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Depot AMP	Kirn Drive Depot Demolition	2019/20	£50		
	Kirn Drive CA Site	2020/21	£225		Spend deferred by P&R Committee, August 2019, pending 2020/23 Budget Decision

7.0 LEGAL

7.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

8.1 There are no human resources issues arising from this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES

9.1 There are no equality issues arising from this report.

10.0 REPOPULATION

10.1 There are no repopulation issues arising from this report.

11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None