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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Resources Executive Sub-Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>7 April 2020</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration &amp; Resources</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LP/046/20</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Scott Allan</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712762</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Inchgreen Dry Dock</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This report updates the Sub-Committee on the response received from the Scottish Government relative to the Council's resolution from its meeting on 20 February 2020.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Council unanimously agreed the motion as referred to in Appendix 1 (letter to Scottish Government).
- 2.2 The Scottish Government's response of 27 March 2020 is Appendix 2.
- 2.3 This report updates Members on the current position and confirms that interim discussions will be held with the Head of Clyde Mission and that a meeting involving representatives of the Council's Elected Members will be sought as soon as current circumstances permit.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Executive Sub-Committee notes the response to the Council's resolution and remits it to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to report back on discussions and arrangements for the proposed meeting with Elected representatives of the Council in due course.

**Scott Allan**  
**Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council at its meeting on 20 February 2020 unanimously supported the motion to return Inchgreen Dry Dock to a fully operational facility. The Council called on the Scottish Government to engage with the Dock owners to facilitate the positive proposals outlined in the motion to support marine engineering industries.
- 4.2 The Scottish Government's response has been received from the Head of Clyde Mission which has been engaged in the objective to drive inclusive economic growth for the region through the place-based mission to use the Clyde for marine industries and regeneration. Council officers are familiar with the brief for Clyde Mission having been involved in its inception in partnership with officers in West Dunbartonshire. Officers have also subsequently maintained contact with the Head of Clyde Mission to share commercial business intelligence. The letter confirms there has been engagement between the Clyde Mission and Peel Ports. Given the current public health emergency, it has been suggested that Officers continue the dialogue and there will be a future meeting involving Elected Member representatives at the soonest opportunity that circumstances may permit.
- 4.3 The Executive Sub-Committee is requested to note the response meantime. The Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources will report back on any updates received from Officers meantime and will make arrangements for a meeting involving Elected Member representatives at the earliest opportunity.

## 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 5.1 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					

### 5.2 Legal

There are no legal issues arising from this report.

### 5.3 Human Resources

There are no Human Resources issues arising from this report.

### 5.4 Equalities

#### Equalities

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

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YES (see attached appendix)

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
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(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?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

## 5.5 Repopulation

Clyde Mission's objective to drive inclusive economic growth is of assistance to the Council's repopulation initiatives.

## 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Corporate Management Team has been consulted on the actions detailed in the appendix.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

Enquiries to: Gerard Malone  
Telephone: 01475 712710  
E-mail: gerard.malone@inverclyde.gov.uk  
Our Ref: GM/AI  
Your Ref:  
Date: 10 March 2020

**Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E.**  
**Corporate Director**  
**Environment, Regeneration & Resources**

Municipal Buildings  
Clyde Square  
Greenock  
PA15 1LY

Ms Fiona Hyslop MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work  
and Culture  
The Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 3DG

Dear Cabinet Secretary

**Inverclyde Council**  
**Campaign to Save Inchgreen Dry Dock, Greenock**

I write to advise you that Inverclyde Council at its meeting on 20 February 2020 unanimously agreed the following motion:

“Inverclyde Council supports the need to return Inchgreen dry dock to a fully operational facility providing work and skilled jobs and thereby contribute towards the regeneration of our marine engineering industries providing improved prospects for our community.

We believe an opportunity exists for Ferguson Marine to use Inchgreen dry dock and enter the market to maintain and service the Scottish ferry fleet, build and assemble larger ships, enhance the workforce skills and create additional commercial opportunities for the long-term success of the shipyard and its workforce.

Inverclyde Council recognises that Inchgreen dry dock is in private ownership and under-utilised and calls on the Scottish Government to engage with the dock owners to facilitate the above positive proposals.”

The purpose of my letter is to advise you of the terms of the unanimous motion and also to request a meeting with you at which the Council would be represented by a number of cross-party Elected Members to discuss the use of the dry dock and how this can be developed.

I should be most grateful if you would confirm that you are available to meet with the Council's Elected Member representatives, in which case I will contact your office with a view to making the necessary arrangements for a mutually agreed date.

Yours sincerely

Gerard Malone  
Head of Legal & Property Services

## **APPENDIX 2**

**DIRECTORATE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
DED : Mission Clyde



**Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

Gerard Malone  
gerard.malone@inverclyde.gov.uk

Our Reference: 202000021413  
Your Reference: GM/AI

27 March 2020

Dear Gerard,

Thank you for your letter of 10 March regarding Inchgreen Dry Dock. As Head of the Clyde Mission, I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Fair Work and Culture.

Many in Inverclyde Council will be aware of the Clyde Mission, having been engaged in the initial scoping work and discussions. This is a place based mission to use the Clyde and its environs to drive inclusive economic growth for the region and the country. As Head of the Mission, I am of course interested in the development of existing assets on and around the Clyde, including Inchgreen Dry Dock.

Our team recently visited the site to meet with Peel Ports, hearing about their current business model and seeing some of the activity at the site, which involves a high degree of skilled labour - though not in traditional shipbuilding for which the site has been known. We remain in contact with Peel Ports and we will continue to work with them around their ambitions for Inchgreen and their wider asset base around the Clyde.

We recognise the potential that Inchgreen could offer to a range of industries, including shipbuilding, and we also understand that Ferguson Marine is considering its future facilities requirements and that Inchgreen Dry Dock will be part of those considerations. As you will be aware, Ferguson Marine was taken into public ownership at the end of 2019. However, the company continues to run as an independent entity and you will appreciate that it would not be proper for Ministers or Officials to seek to influence commercial decisions made by Fergusons.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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Given the current public health situation and its impacts on the economy, I'm sure you will understand that the Cabinet Secretary would not be available for discussions at this time. However, I would be happy to meet with Council officials and/ or elected members to provide details of the work around the Clyde Mission and to discuss the future of the dry dock. In the current setting that would need to be a virtual or online meeting, though when the health advice changes I would of course be happy to meet in person. Please contact [robyn.mckay@gov.scot](mailto:robyn.mckay@gov.scot) who can make arrangements.

Yours sincerely



Richard Rollison  
**DED : Mission Clyde**

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