

TRADITIONAL BONFIRES	5th Sept 2017
TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	
FOR INFORMATION	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Improved Bonfire Safety
Lead Officer	Head of Health and Built Environment
Cost: (If applicable)	N/A

Across Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council there are 29 sites on which traditional 11th July bonfires are built of which 12 are on a Council-owned/controlled property. The remaining 17 are either on publicly owned land, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (10), Transport NI (2), Rivers Agency (1) or private ground (4) as detailed in list below.

During the period 8th March 2017 to present a total of 42 complaints were recorded by the Directorate covering 13 individual sites. During the bonfire building season officers from both Health and Built Environment Section together with Good Relations, colleagues from Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service engaged with local communities and bonfire builders in an attempt to ensure that they remain as safe as possible, cause minimum damage to the environment by reducing the use of unsuitable materials and minimizing fly tipping. A number of measures were deployed including the use of temporary site fencing, skips and signage together with local negotiations with respect to the removal of tyres and other unsuitable items. During 2017 Council and DAERA work collaboratively to remove and dispose of upwards of 2000 tyres from numerous bonfire locations throughout the borough with the consent of local communities. Council would wish to thank our colleagues and DAERA for their cooperation and support of this important initiative.

In Ballymoney an OCN Accredited Public Event Management training course was delivered over 6 sessions with input from various statutory agencies to encourage event safety around the 11th celebrations in addition to environmental awareness.

Council hosted a number of community engagement events in the spring of 2017 to discuss bonfires and a bonfire safety leaflet was subsequently produced to encourage engagement with bonfire builders, local communities encouraging safer bonfire management in order to support positive promotion of cultural celebration. Going forward every opportunity will be explored and taken to engage with communities to promote this important message. Throughout the bonfire building season and following the 11th July events, Council officers responded to complaints as received and on each occasion attempted to resolve through negotiation with limited success.

All sites under Council control have since been cleared of debris and where possible scrap metal salvaged. The cost of clearance and repairs including labour and disposal charges is £30,643.00.

Bonfire Site Locations 2017

Ballysally Main Site Jefferson	NIHE
Children's bonfire at Ballygallin Park, Coleraine	NIHE
Harpurs Hill, Coleraine	(CCGBC)
Windy Hall, Coleraine	(Private land)
Articlave	(NIHE)
Millburn, Coleraine	(NIHE)
Garvagh	(Private land)
Portrush Dhu Varren	(NIHE)
Harbour Hill, Portstewart	(CCGBC)
The Warren, Portstewart	(CCGBC)
Macosquin	(NIHE)
Aghadowey	(NIHE)
Glens, Limavady	(NIHE)
Edenmore Road, Limavady	(NIHE)
Alexander Road, Limavady	(CCGBC)
Greystone, Limavady	(CCGBC)
Burnfoot	(PRIVATE LAND)
Dervock	(CCGBC)
Ballybogey	(CCGBC)
Finvoy	(Transport NI)
Lislagan	(Transport NI)
Glebeside	(NIHE)
Carnany	(CCGBC)
Stranocum	(Rivers Agency)
Cloughmills	(Private lands)
Mosside	(CCGBC)
Liscolman	(CCGBC)
Clontyfinnan	(CCGBC)
Bushmills	(CCGBC)