Sale and use of fireworks in Scotland – Motion approved.

17 Councillor Molyneux, seconded by Bailie Carroll, moved that:-

*"*Council notes that fireworks are enjoyed by many but equally that they can cause fear and alarm for others, especially where they are misused by people either letting them off illegally in public spaces or by deliberately aiming them at people or property. Council notes that this places significant demand on the resources of the Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and other agencies. Council also notes 2019 research commissioned by the Scottish Government which reported that a majority (71%) of people would welcome an increase in control over the sale of fireworks in Scotland, and 58% would support banning the sale of fireworks to the public.

Council therefore welcomes recent legislation passed by the Scottish Parliament which will introduce tighter controls on the sale and use of fireworks in Scotland. However, Council understands that many of these new legal provisions, including new licensing powers, and the power for councils to designate certain areas as 'no fireworks zones', are yet to come into effect, awaiting further directions to be issued by Scottish Ministers.

Council believes that the full range of new powers should be available to it and other agencies as soon as possible, and before November 2023 at the very latest, in order to address ongoing concerns over fireworks misuse, and therefore resolves to write to Scottish Ministers urging them to make this a priority. Council also instructs the Chief Executive to liaise with partner agencies to begin to gather and analyse data which could inform the potential use of new legal powers, in particular identifying which areas of the city could be considered as priorities for designation as no fireworks zones.

Council further notes that dedicated youth and community work has formed an integral part of localised responses to fireworks misuse in Pollokshields and Govanhill in recent years, believes that this kind of activity has an important role in engaging people, especially young people, who may be drawn into misusing fireworks, and resolves that this work should continue and be built on by the Council family working in partnership with local third sector organisations in these and other local areas as needed."

The motion was unanimously approved.