WELLBEING, EQUALITIES, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT CITY POLICY COMMITTEE.

Hybrid meeting, 25th May 2023.

Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee.

Present: Laura Doherty (Chair), Blair Anderson (substitute for Holly Bruce), Anthony Carroll, Annette Christie, Audrey Dempsey, Stephen Dornan, Fiona Higgins, Anne McTaggart (substitute for Roza Salih), Angus Millar, Robert Mooney (substitute for John Carson), Margaret Morgan, Cecilia O'Lone and Thomas Rannachan (substitute for Kevin Lalley) and Ms Irene Loudon.

Apologies: Holly Bruce, John Carson, Kevin Lalley and Roza Salih and Ms Martina Johnston-Gray.

Attending: L Sclater (Clerk); C Edgar, Head of Communication and Strategic Partnerships; M Millar, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; S Anderson, T Hughes, A Taylor and C Quinn (for the Chief Executive); M Carrigan (for the Executive Director of Finance); and J Kerr (for the Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership).

Public Processions Annual Report 2022/23 noted.

1 With reference to the minutes of the Wellbeing, Empowerment, Community Citizen Engagement and General Purposes City Policy Committee of 11th August 2022 (Print 2, page 289) noting the findings from the Council's consultation on parades and processions, together with the report and presentation by Ipsos MORI, there was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration regarding the Public Processions Annual Report 2022/23, advising

(1) of the number of procession notifications submitted to the Council in the last 4 years in respect of processions that had taken place in the city between 1st April and 31st March each year;

(2) that in the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 there had been a total of 233 public processions held in Glasgow, compared to a total of 152 in the period from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 which represented a 53% increase, however in comparing the figures, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic must be taken into account as the restrictions the Scottish Government had placed on the holding of public processions had not been fully lifted until August 2021;

(3) of the Council wards with the highest number of processions passing through them in the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 and that while the vast majority of processions passed without difficulty and in compliance with

the requirements of the Public Processions Code of Conduct, it had been acknowledged that in a small number of cases there had been complaints and concerns regarding the conduct of participants or followers;

(4) that in relation to procession notifications received from the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, it had not been necessary to call a meeting of the Public Processions Committee as any concerns regarding routes, timing or other issues had successfully been resolved through negotiation and agreement;

(5) of the review of the Policy and Code of Conduct on Public Processions and the re-establishment of the Council's cross-party working group on Public Processions; and

(6) that this Council was a member of the Scottish Government Action Group on Processions, as detailed in the report and the action group was reviewing the recommendations from a Scottish Government independent working group's report in order to take forward the review of this Council's Policy and Code of Conduct on Processions.

After consideration, the committee noted

(a) the annual report 2022/23 on public procession notifications; and

(b) the update on the review of the Council's Policy and Code of Conduct on Public Processions.