

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

APPLICATION FOR LEASE EXTENSION OF COMMON GOOD LAND

PURPOSE OF

1. The purpose of this consultation is to ascertain public views on the proposal submitted by East Ayrshire Carers Centre for a 25 year lease renewal through Community Asset Transfer for the site of the Carers Cottage within Howard Park Drive, Kilmarnock.

BACKGROUND

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

2. East Ayrshire Council on 28 June 2012 approved a Transformation Strategy which had community power as a key driver. This strategy included establishing Community Asset Transfer (CAT) as an opportunity for community organisations to take lease/ownership of council held buildings or land.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT PART 8

The application for disposal of this property has to meet criteria set out in Part 8 of the Community Empowerment Act as the Howard Park falls onto the Common Good register. Common Good is a type of property that local authorities may have, which has been passed down by former burgh councils. It often has strong historical and emotional value to local communities, as well as its practical use and financial value. The Act places a statutory duty on local authorities to publish their proposals and consult community bodies before disposing of or changing the use of common good assets.

CARERS COTTAGE, HOWARD PARK DRIVE, KILMARNOCK

3. East Ayrshire Carers Centre are the current occupier for the premise and are seeking to progress with lease renewal. The organisation are also seeking to extend the cottage premise building to accommodate wider service provision. This lease renewal will allow this project to progress. See attached map for site reference.

EAST AYRSHIRE CARERS CENTRE.

4. A charity registered in Scotland, East Ayrshire Carers Centre provide information, advice and support to unpaid carers of all ages in East Ayrshire. They complete Adult Carers Support Plans, Young Carers Statements, help carers understand their rights under The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, provide income maximisation support, help with form completion for benefits, housing, travel cards, Blue Badges etc. Give opportunities and funding for carers to get a break from their caring role, facilitate peer support, run support groups and coffee mornings and support good mental health and wellbeing

PROJECT

5. Young Carers aged from 5 to 16 and young adult carers aged from 17 to 25 and who are from Kilmarnock and the Irvine Valley areas of East Ayrshire attend weekly group support activities lead from the Carers Cottage. Young carers take part in fun activities in order to reduce their isolation, give them a break from their caring role, seek support from our Young Carers team, develop peer support networks and friendships alongside other young carers and support their mental health and wellbeing. The activities include play, targeted support regarding issues relating to being a young carer, 1:1 sessions to support mental health and wellbeing for young carers and reducing isolation. During school holiday times we offer fuller days of activities to support young carers during the holidays.
Each child/young person gets a two-course meal, prepared at the Cottage, as part of their group – this helps alleviate the worry of having to cook for others and helps them relax and socialise more.
Young Carers staff are based at the Carers Cottage and from here they can register new young carers, liaise with education, social work, and health professionals etc. to highlight hidden young carers.
The demand for the service has been unprecedented since the pandemic and numbers of young carers needing support has grown so much that the current size of the building makes it difficult and cramped to accommodate all who need support. We are seeking an extended lease term of 25 years as well as expanding our premise building to allow more space for increased service provision.

We also support events in the Howard Park, such as the weekly Dementia Walking group, annual Stigma Roadshow and annual Colour Run to use the facilities in the Carers Cottage. In addition, we facilitate groups for adult carers in the school summer holidays and hold carers week events and activities for them, which all required additional resources and premise to ensure high quality and accessible services are available to all.

SUMMARY

6. East Ayrshire Carers Centre have formerly requested the extension of lease and site provision to meet the needs of the service. Approx. 200+ young carers aged from 5 to 25 are supported each week from the building during 5 age appropriate young carers groups. The extension of lease term and building facilities allows the organisation to meet demand and widen service provision. This will ensure that our services continue for all existing young carers and future ones to be supported in the best possible way going forward.

REPRESENTATION

7. You can make representation on this proposal by emailing CAT@east-ayrshire.gov.uk or by writing to:

Community Asset Transfer
Vibrant Communities
175-177 Western Road
Kilmarnock
KA3 1LL

The consultation will last a period of 8 weeks from 24th June 2024 to 19th August 2024 after which East Ayrshire Carers Centre will respond to any consultation received.

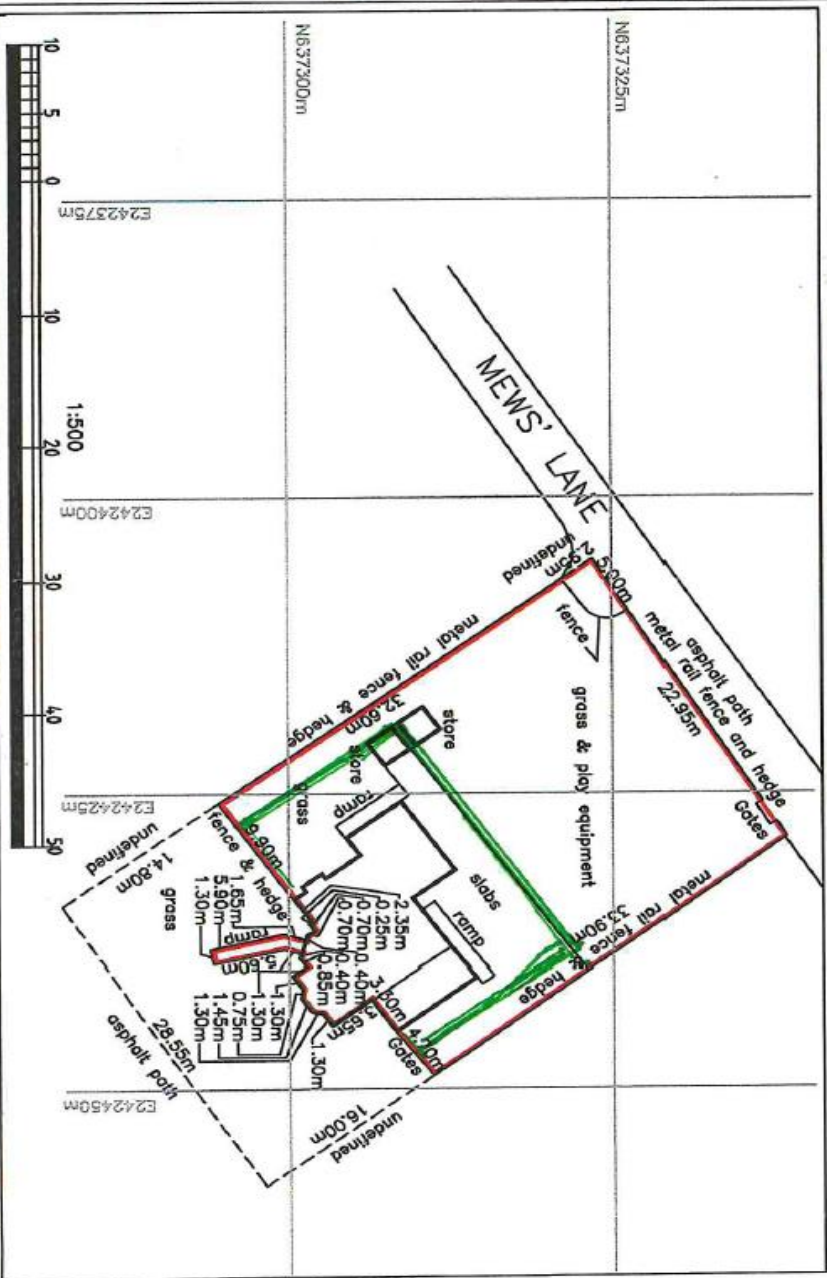
Site map for reference. Carers Cottage, Howard Park Drive, Kilmarnock:



LOCATION PLAN SCALE 1:2500

This is the plan referred to in the foregoing Lease between East Ayrshire Council and East Ayrshire Carers Centre.

THE BOUNDARIES A-L DO NOT ACCORD WITH THE PUBLISHED EDITION OF THE ORDNANCE SURVEY DIGITAL MAPPING AND HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY MEANS OF A SITE SURVEY. THE SOURCE SCALE OF THE DIGITAL MAPPING IS 1:1250



Rev.	Date	Revision	Initials

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East Ayrshire
COUNCIL

LAND SURVEY

Malcolm Rouleston
Head of Corporate Infrastructure

TITLE
PROPERTY AT
HOWARD PARK HOUSE
KILMARNOCK

PROJECT
LEASE OF PROPERTY
HOWARD PARK HOUSE
Property to be leased to East Ayrshire Carers Centre.

File No.	Legal File No.
O.S. Grid Ref. E242427,N637307	
Surveyed by JL & TW	OS Sheet No. NS4237SW
Processed by JL	Date 11.4.2012
Checked by JL	Revision A
Scale 1:500	Drawing No 13135