

LOUGH FOYLE FERRY SERVICE - UPDATE	2nd February 2016
To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	
For Decision	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Protecting and Enhancing our Environments and Assets
Outcome	All environments in the area will benefit from pro-active decision making which protects the natural features, characteristics and integrity of the Borough
Lead Officer	John Richardson
Cost: (If applicable)	N/A

1.0 Background

Legacy Limavady Borough Council has a lease agreement with Lough Foyle Ferry Company to provide a pier, slipway and ferry terminal to deliver a ferry service between Magilligan and Green Castle. This agreement commenced on the 21st October 2014 and terminates 30th March 2016 with an option to extend the term on two occasions for a period of 2 years on each occasion.

The Foyle Ferry Company has given notice not to extend the contract and will no longer be providing the ferry service as of 30 March 2016.

Donegal County Council (DCC) & Limavady Borough Council (LBC) have collaborated over many years to secure a ferry service between Magilligan Point and Greencastle.

Officers have met with Donegal County Council on several occasions since November 2015 and have agreed to ask Members (DCC & CC&GC) to seek expressions of interest to seek a new operator to provide a service between Magilligan & Greencastle. Tender documentation, including qualifications stipulations will be prepared together with a new lease.

1.2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Members approve seeking expressions of interest via public tender to procure a new ferry operator to provide this service in conjunction with Donegal County Council. The results of this tender and procurement process will be brought to Council for decision at a later date.