

CHRISTMAS TREE OF REMEMBRANCE - ROTARY CLUB BALLYCASTLE	5th Sept 2017
TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	
FOR DECISION	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy, Engaged Communities
Outcome	Council will be supporting local charities by allowing the Christmas tree to be used by Ballycastle Rotary Club for charitable donations
Lead Officer	Head of Estates
Cost: (If applicable)	

Background

Council have been approached by Ballycastle Rotary Club requesting that they be allowed to use the town Christmas tree as a means of raising money for local charities during December.

Members of the public will be invited to leave messages in remembrance of loved ones who have passed away or others who cannot be with them for Christmas. These messages will be written on yellow ribbon which will then be draped onto the tree. For each message a donation can be made with the receipts shared by local Ballycastle charities.

Council are asked to allow the tree to be used for this purpose and to assist with the initial set up when the tree is being erected. This will be of minimal cost to Council. The Rotary Club will supply all fittings and man the tree daily during December to provide the ribbons and accept donations.

Note that this is a repeat request from last year and mirrors other similar initiatives in Ballymoney and Limavady.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council permit and assist the Rotary Club of Ballycastle to use the town Christmas tree as a means of raising money for local charities and in anticipation of further requests from other Rotary Clubs, permit the other Christmas trees to be used in a similar manner. It is further recommended that similar requests in future years be granted.