



<b>GLENARIFF BEACHFRONT PROPOSAL</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016</b>
<b>TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>FOR DECISION</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Protecting and Enhancing our Environments and Assets
<b>Outcome</b>	Natural Assets carefully managed to generate economic and social returns
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Gareth Doyle (Michael McConaghy & Rachel Bain)
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	HoGLPS (3rd Party Funder)

**The purpose of this report is to recommend proceeding with the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme, Glenarriff Beachfront Proposal**

The Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoGLPS) have developed a proposal in consultation with the local community which will improve access and biodiversity for the wider beachfront area, including the provision of benches, dog bins, cycle stands and interpretive panels. There will also be an extension to the footpath with a new boardwalk along the dunes linking the commons to the beach café area, with the provision of ‘natural play’ equipment located in the beach café area.

In addition to this, the proposal outlines a change in grassland management of several areas along the beachfront, from short cropped amenity grassland to hay meadow management, to a single cut taken August / September which will be enhanced with over sowing and plug planting of native wildflowers sourced from local sites. There will be some additional tree planting. There is a longer term aspiration to install some static gym equipment.

The HoGLPS have set aside **£45k to 100% fund this project**, subject to approval from their funders. They propose to deliver this project in 2016, with a view to handing over the long term management to the Council.

This work will be completed on the condition that the designated Council Officers are involved in and approve all project details, including design, infrastructure specifications and delivery, and that it must be consistent & comply with existing Council standards to allow Council to take on the long term maintenance of the site at no additional cost.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Council approve HoGLPS to proceed with this project.