

MEMBER-SPONSORED EVENT: NEWBATTLE HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

Executive summary

1. This Paper seeks the SPCB's views on a request received by the Events and Exhibitions Team from Colin Beattie MSP to use the Members' Garden for a short lunchtime performance by Newbattle High School Jazz Band.
2. As all events that make use of the Landscaped Gardens must be approved by the SPCB, it was felt that owing to the unusual nature of a request to use the Members' Garden for a performance during working hours that this should also be referred to the SPCB for consideration.

Issues and Options

3. Newbattle High School, from Dalkieth has worked for years to develop a quality jazz band programme at the school. Colin Beattie MSP after having listened to the band play last year believes they should have the opportunity to showcase their talent at the Parliament. The Member would therefore like to have the Jazz Band play for Members and building users in the Members' Garden during lunchtime on a Thursday in June.
4. The Jazz Band comprises of 25 players. Any performance in the Members' Garden during working hours could cause disruption to the offices in the Members' Block and the Garden Lobby.
5. An alternative to using the Members' Garden would be to allow the band to play underneath the canopy at the front of the building or in the Landscaped Gardens.
6. Although this event meets the SPCB's agreed criteria for Member-sponsored events, if it is to be held in the Landscaped Garden or the Members' Garden during working hours the SPCB must approve the event. The Events and Exhibitions Team recommends that the SPCB approves this event to take place at the front of the building or in the Landscaped Gardens as part of the Member-sponsored events programme.

The SPCB is asked to consider this and to consider whether the performance takes place in either the Members' or Landscaped Gardens over lunchtime on a Thursday in June.

Governance issues

7. Discussions with Security, Visitor Services and the Parliament's Police unit indicate that there would be no issues with this event taking place in the Landscaped Gardens.

Publication Scheme

8. This Paper will be published once the event has been advertised.

Next steps

9. If approved by the SPCB as a Member-sponsored event in the Members' or Landscaped Gardens, the Events and Exhibitions Team will work with the Members' office and Newbattle High School Jazz Band to take forward the planning for the event.

Decision

10. The SPCB is invited to consider this Paper and agree that the Newbattle High School Jazz Band can perform in either the Members' or Landscaped Gardens over lunchtime in June sponsored by Colin Beattie MSP.

EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS TEAM

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