

## **PUBLIC PROCESSIONS COMMITTEE, 24 APRIL 2019**

A proposed procession by the group All Under One Banner was considered by the council's Public Processions Committee on 24 April, 2019.

The organiser had notified the council of its intention to carry out a procession, with around 20,000 participants, between Kelvingrove Park and Glasgow Green at 1.30pm on Saturday, 4 May.

You can read the full report that went to the Public Processions Committee here.

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=92909>

Before reaching a decision, committee considered evidence from Superintendent Hazlett of Police Scotland that the organiser had increased the estimated number of people taking part in the procession from 20,000 to 100,000; which the organiser confirmed was correct.

Supt Hazlett told committee that any procession of 100,000 people using the proposed route at the proposed time of day would cause significant disruption and raise considerable safety concerns - for procession participants, the general public and motorists within the city and on the motorway network.

There was, he said, a risk that such a large procession would become disorganised - resulting in some participants intermingling with motor traffic. There was also a risk of traffic congestion and consequent risk of motor vehicle accidents if the procession blocked motorway entrances and exits as it would if it used the original route.

Members of the committee also noted the organiser's statement that 500 trained stewards were available to manage the procession and could easily and quickly train others to act as stewards.

However, the required ratio of stewards to participants is 1:10 and committee doubted the organiser's ability to train up to 10,000 stewards in little over a week.

The committee concluded that, on balance, there would be a clear danger to public safety and disruption to the life of the community if the procession took place as proposed – and that an earlier start time and amendments to the route would be proportionate conditions that would mitigate that risk, including risks to those participating in the procession.

It imposed the following conditions on the procession.

1. The procession will assemble in Kelvingrove Park at 10:00 hours and start at 11:00 hours; and
2. The route will be Kelvingrove Park, Kelvin Way, Sauchiehall Street, Pitt Street, West George Street, Blythswood Square, West George Street, Nelson Mandela Place, West George Street, George Square, George Street, High Street, Saltmarket, Glasgow Green.

The meeting was broadcast on the council's webcast and can be viewed here:

[https://glasgow.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast\\_interactive/419166](https://glasgow.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/419166)