

Perth Common Good Fund Committee

26 June 2013

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS 2012 CHALLENGE IN PERTH AND KINROSS
UPDATE****Report by Depute Director (Environment)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report seeks the approval of the Perth Common Good Fund Committee to designate the common good land referred to in this report as a Queen Elizabeth II (QE II) Field for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of Perth and Kinross. The opportunity has arisen following on from a challenge promoted by the National Playing Fields Association to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2012. This follows deferral at the meeting on 1 May 2013.

1. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge was promoted by Fields in Trust (FiT) to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2012. Local authorities were asked to nominate areas to be designated by public recognition for their importance for sport, play or recreation.
- 1.2 Following a public voting exercise organised by FiT in 2012, the area of the North Inch in Perth outlined on the plan in appendix 1 was approved by FiT for designation as a QEII Field. All QEII sites are seen as being at the heart of the community and offering facilities or space for the improvement of general health and wellbeing.
- 1.3 The area of the North Inch submitted to FiT was the area which is used for general recreation as well as pitch sports such as football and rugby. The North Inch Golf Course was not included as the area is more exclusively used by golfers with much less general recreational access. Some of the local elected members in Perth however requested that the whole of the North Inch be considered for QEII designation.
- 1.4 Following this request, FiT has confirmed that the golf course area of the North Inch can be included in the designation as a QEII Field. In addition Legal Services have established that the whole area of ground shown in appendix 2 is Common Good land. It is also considered that the future potential transfer of management responsibilities to Live Active Leisure (LAL) would not be affected in any way by the designation of the ground as a QEII Field.
- 1.5 All successfully nominated sites that have acquired Queen Elizabeth II Fields status can use any badging associated with this, however, there is no

requirement for any name change. There may be opportunities in future to access or attract external funding on the basis of having this prestigious designation.

2. PROPOSALS

2.1 Now that FIT have confirmed all the parks have been successfully awarded QEII Fields status, the Council is required to enter into a legal agreement, or separate legal agreements, with FIT. These include an undertaking by the Council not to use the designated land for any purpose other than public recreation unless FIT agree. This helps to protect the land for community use. The examination of the title deeds indicate that this extended area of the North Inch is part of the Common Good of the former burgh of Perth and the approval of this Common Good Committee is required.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The scheme gives the Council an opportunity to raise the profile of the North Inch together with the other designated sites namely the Riverside Park (Norrie Miller, Rodney Gardens & Bellwood), South Inch and Kinnoull Woodland Park (PKC area only). This safeguards their future for the use and enjoyment of the residents of Perth and the wider community of Perth and Kinross. It was also considered an appropriate way for the Council to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and acknowledge the value of key parks to our communities.

3.2 The Committee is asked to agree that Perth Common Good site identified in report 11/302, and submitted as part of the legacy project together with the extended area covering the North Inch golf course, should be included in the Agreement which is to be entered into with FIT.

Author(s)

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Approved

Name	Designation	Signature
Barbara Renton	Depute Director (Environment)	<i>Barbara Renton</i>
Date 12 June 2013		

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ANNEX

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The undernoted table should be completed for all reports. Where the answer is 'yes', the relevant section(s) should also be completed

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	None
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	Yes
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	None
Strategic Environmental Assessment	None
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	Yes
Legal and Governance	Yes
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The continued protection and promotion of public parks and open spaces helps deliver the following national government objectives for a society which is:
- i) Wealthier and fairer
 - ii) Healthier
 - iii) Safer and stronger
 - iv) Smarter
 - v) Greener
- 1.2 This also meet the following local outcomes in the Single Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Government:
2. Our area will have improved infrastructure and transport links
 3. Our area will have a positive image locally, nationally and internationally
 8. Our communities and people experiencing inequalities will have improved quality of life, life chances and health.

9. Our communities will be safer
10. Our people will have improved health and well-being
11. Our communities will be vibrant and active
12. Our communities will have access to the key services they need
13. Our area will have a sustainable natural and built environment
15. Our services will be responsive, of high quality and continually improving.

- 1.3 They also help deliver the place, health, sustainability and community objectives of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan

Corporate Plan

- 1.4 The Council's Corporate Plan 2009-2012 lays out five Objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. This report impacts on the following:-

- (i) A Safe, Secure and Welcoming Environment
- (ii) Healthy, Caring Communities
- (iii) A Prosperous, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy
- (iv) Educated, Responsible and Informed Citizens
- (v) Confident, Active and Inclusive Communities

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 There are no resource implications arising directly from this report, future site improvements and refurbishment will be identified and contained within the future capital budgets. Site maintenance will continue to be met from within the current Revenue budgets. The Head of Finance has been consulted, and has indicated agreement with the proposals.

Workforce

- 2.2 The proposals in this report have no workforce implications for the Council.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 The proposals in this report has direct land and property implications. The Depute Director (Environment) has been consulted, and has indicated agreement with the proposals.

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations

between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

3.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- Assessed as **not relevant**.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

- The matters presented in this report were considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

Sustainability

3.3 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions.

3.4 The proposals have been assessed in terms of the requirements to manage the Council's Greenspace assets in a sustainable long term way. The designation, protection and promotion of the public parks and open spaces contributes to the overall environmental quality of Perth and Kinross is considered a sustainable use of resources.

Legal and Governance

3.5 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted. The proposals require the Council to place an additional burden on the titles of each of the parks and open spaces.

Risk

3.6 There is no risk to the Council arising from this proposal. The parks and open spaces are highly unlikely to be used for alternative purposes in the future and provision is made within the designation should this occur.

4. Consultation

Internal

- 4.1 The Heads of Legal Services, Democratic Services, Planning and Regeneration, Property and Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

External

- 4.2 There was no External consultation in the preparation of this report

5. Communication

- 5.1 There will be some communication about the designation of the sites. The type and format of the communication will be tailored to suit the particular circumstances.

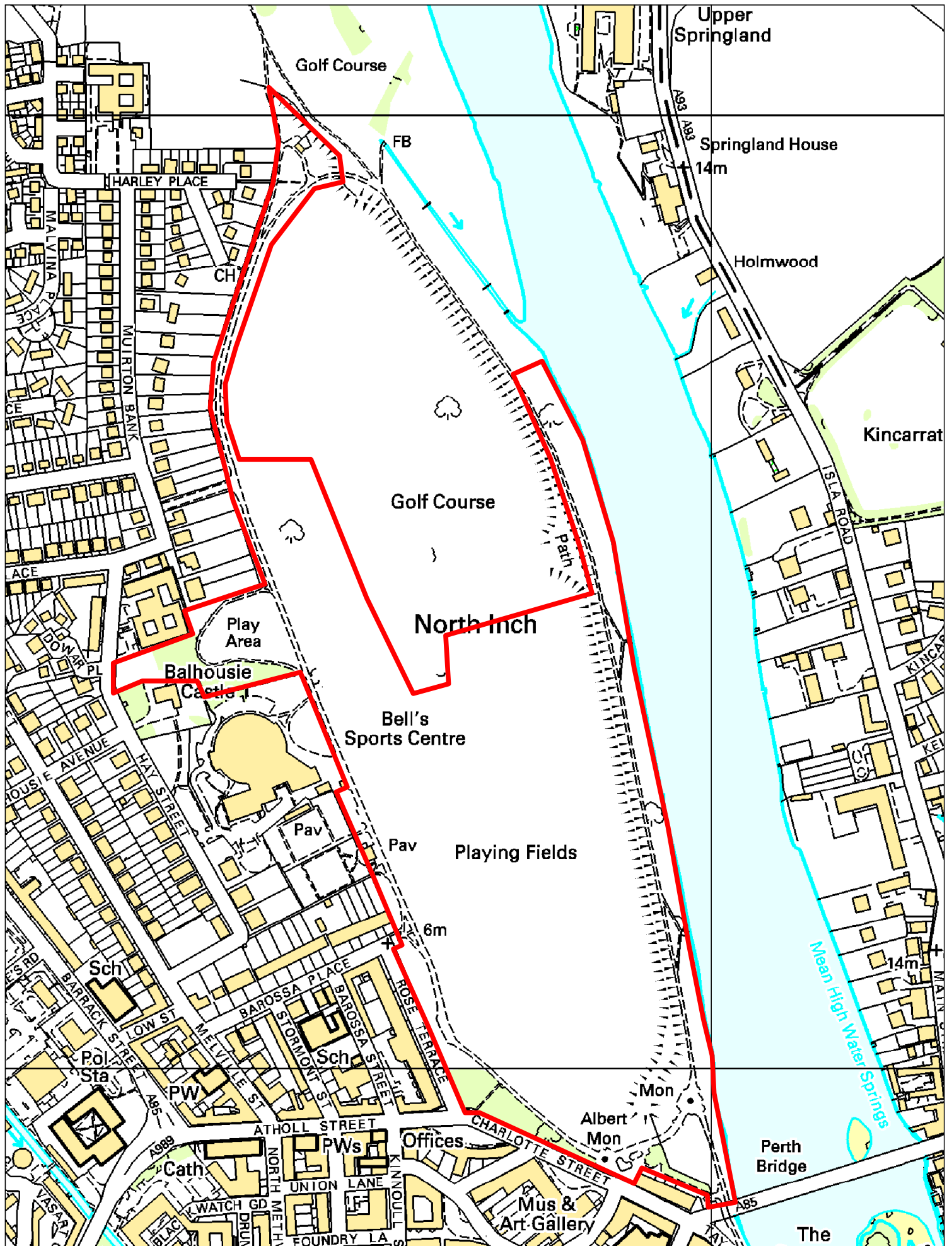
2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report; (list papers concerned)

- Report to the Environment Committee on 8 June 2011 (Report Number: 11/302)
- Report to the Perth Common Good Committee on 1 May 2013 (Report Number: 13/193)

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – North Inch original area proposed for QEII Field Designation
Appendix 2 – North Inch new area proposed for QEII Field Designation



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North Inch

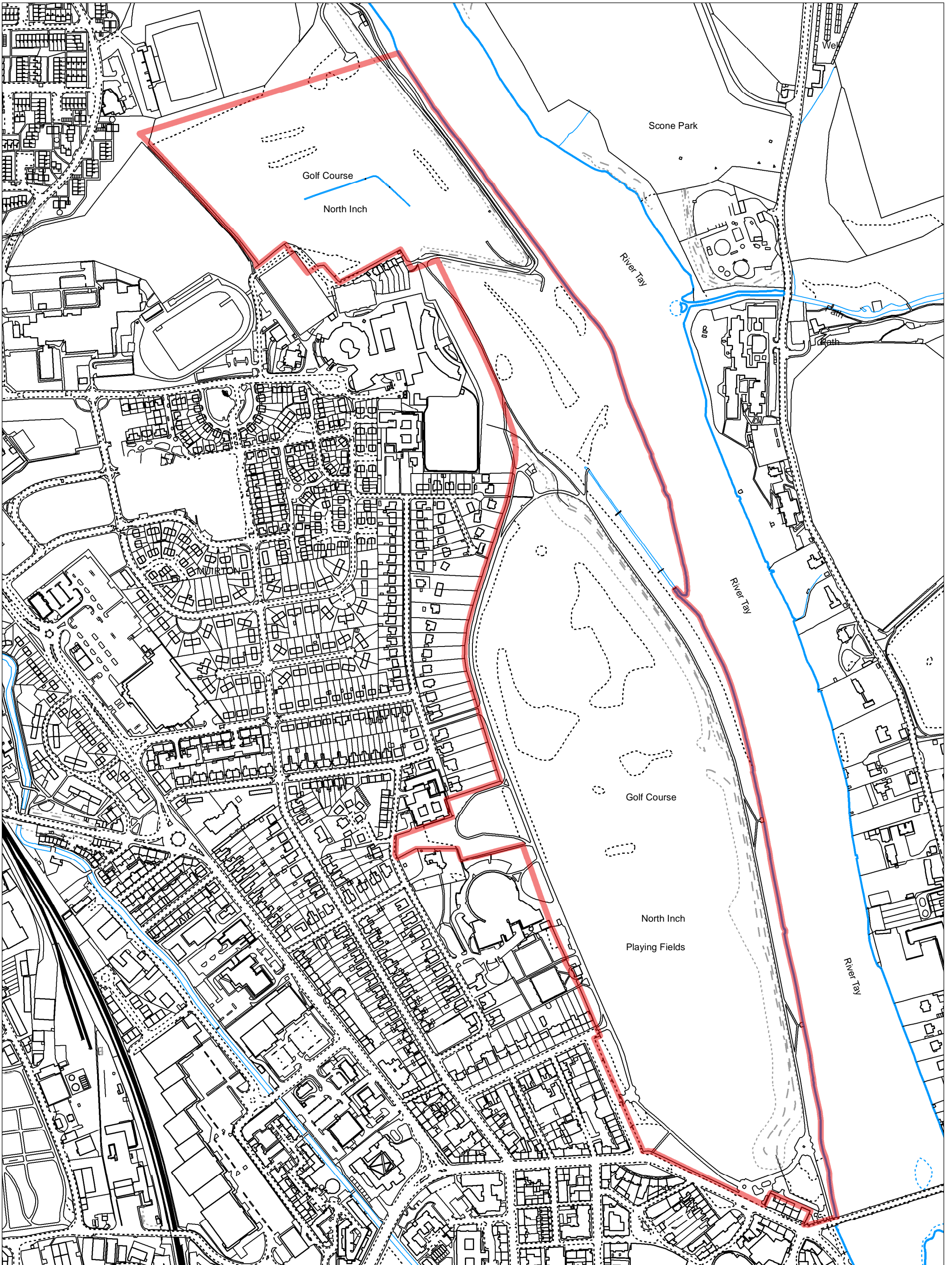
Contact: J Evans

Date: 06/07/11

Map for use in connection with Council duties under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003

Scale:
1:5,000





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Title: NORTH INCH
 Contact: A CLEGG
 Date: 11 JUNE 2013

