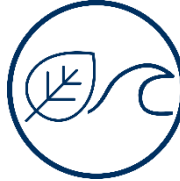


LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 11 AUGUST 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****USE OF INFLATABLES ON PENZANCE COUNCIL OPEN SPACES**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
	✓			✓		✓

Recommendation:

The 'Use of Inflatables on Council Land Policy', as set out at Appendix 1 to this report, be approved and adopted.

Background:

Following events at Penlee Park, Princess May Recreation Ground and Heamoor Old School Field it has become apparent that Penzance Council needs a policy to support safe inflatable / bouncy castle use on Council land.

A policy to cover future inflatable use will enable consistent decision making on when and how inflatables will be allowed to be operated. It will also help to ensure that any groups intending to carry out events involving inflatables will have carried out the necessary assessments of current and forecast weather conditions and have appropriate measures in place to deal with those eventualities safely and effectively.

Following a number of fatal accidents in 2018, guidance around the use of inflatables and the additional measures that need to be put in place has been revised significantly by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). This led to many Councils and other organisations taking a firm stance on conditions of use. Whilst a number of Councils have gone so far as to ban their use altogether, others have adopted robust policies and guidelines demanding strict adherence to the requirements set out in the documents to support continued use of inflatable play items.

It is important to note that, even with significant control measures and strong policies to cover the use of inflatable play equipment, a significant risk of injury occurring will always remain due to the inherent risk of the apparatus.

Despite this, the attached draft policy looks to strike a balance between continuing to facilitate inflatable use and ensuring that the equipment is operated in the safest possible way for users.

Appendix 1 – Inflatable Use on Council Land Policy

Ben Bros gall
Leisure and Amenities Manager



PENZANCE COUNCIL

USE OF INFLATABLES ON COUNCIL LAND

CURRENT POLICY STATUS

Version:	1	Approving Body:	Full Council
Date:	31/07/2023	Date of Approval:	
Responsible Officer:	Leisure and Amenities Manager	Minute Reference:	
Overview Committee:	Leisure and Amenities Committee	Review Date:	

VERSION HISTORY

DATE	VERSION	AUTHOR/EDITOR	COMMENTS
31/07/2025	1	BB	

REVIEW RECORD

DATE	TYPE OF REVIEW	COMPLETED BY

1. Purpose

It is widely recognised that serious injury or death can occur to both adults and children from accidents during the use of bouncy castles and other inflatable play equipment.

This document sets out Penzance Council's policy on the use of bouncy castles and other inflatables on land owned or managed by Penzance Council.

For clarity, the term “bouncy castle” used throughout this policy also includes any other type of inflatable play equipment

In writing this policy, Penzance Council has taken account of the Health and Safety Executive’s Bouncy Castle safety advice which can be found here: [Bouncy castles safety advice - HSE](#)

Penzance Council does not provide any insurance for the use of bouncy castles on its land. Penzance Council is only responsible for advising hirers, inflatable hire companies and event organisers that they must put appropriate arrangements in place to insure and manage the risks associated with inflatable play equipment and cannot accept any responsibility in the event of any accident on its land as a result of inflatable use.

2. Legislation and HSE Guidance

Legislation including the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA) sections 3 and 6 and the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1992 (PUWER) both apply to the use of inflatable equipment.

The Health and Safety Executive supports two industry inspection schemes for inflatables run by PIPA and Amusement Devices Inspection Procedures Scheme (ADIPs). Inflatable play equipment should display a numbered PIPA tag or an ADIPs declaration of compliance (DOC) to show that they comply with British Standard BS EN 14960.

3. Provision of documentation

In order for Penzance Council officers to approve the use of the inflatables, no later than one month before the scheduled event date, the event organiser must submit to Penzance Council:

- 1) Evidence of sufficient Public Liability Insurance (PLI)
- 2) A list of the inflatable items to be used at the event
- 3) PIPA / ADIPs documentation demonstrating compliance with BS EN 14960
- 4) Although the maximum windspeed that inflatables should be operated in is 24mph (force 5 on the Beaufort scale) many inflatables have a lower requirement for maximum windspeed for safe operation. Therefore, the details of all pieces of inflatable equipment and their safe operating wind speeds will need to be provided. (operators manual)
- 5) An annual inspection report completed by a competent person detailing that the inflatable and all parts and equipment that affects its safe operation has been inspected, this will include:
 - a. Wear or rips in the fabric
 - b. The internal air pressure
 - c. The number and condition of the anchors
 - d. The firmness of any walls and towers
 - e. The condition of the blower and confirmation that it has sufficient mesh guards.

6) A risk assessment by either the hirer or the organisation managing the inflatable use.

Further to the above – the HSE guidance now recommends that operators carry out the following actions in line with the inflatable’s operator manual. Prior to authorisation being given, the event organiser will be asked to sign a copy of this policy document to state that they have read and understood the risks of operating inflatable equipment and that they will ensure that elements a – j and the “additional items” below are adhered to at all times during their event

- a. No inflatable should be used in winds above 24mph, Force 5 on the Beaufort Scale (small trees in leaf begin to sway at this wind speed).
- b. The manufacturer’s operating manual should be referred to, to determine if the inflatable has a lower maximum wind speed for the safe operation of the inflatable.
- c. When the inflatable is being operated outside an anemometer should be used to measure the wind speed at regular intervals.
 - i. If one is not available, the inflatable should not be operated outside.
- d. Smartphone weather applications should not be used to measure wind speed as they do not take localised wind conditions into account.
 - i. It should be noted that this can work in both directions with on the ground readings being able to record both lower and higher than the forecasted speeds
- e. When using the inflatable outside, all anchor points must be used, with metal ground stakes at least 380mm long and 16mm wide, with a rounded top. They should have a welded metal ‘O’ or ‘D’ ring fitted to the end.
- f. All inflatables must have at least 6 anchor points. The operator’s manual should be referred to, to confirm how many there should be, these should be regularly checked to ensure they remain in place and have not been removed.
- g. Ropes used to secure the inflatable should be in good condition and not be stretched, frayed or rotten. Improvised tow ropes, e.g. Bungee cord should not be used.
- h. If ground stakes cannot be used because of the surface (e.g. tarmac - ballast should be used with anchor points each weighing at least 163kg and with suitable fixings to attach the guy ropes. The inflatable should be tightly secured to the ground so that the wind cannot get under it and lift it up.
- i. If an inflatable is being used indoors, the operator’s manual should be referred to, to provide instruction on what anchorage is necessary to maintain the shape of the device and prevent overturn.
- j. All other associated equipment must be safe, including the blower.

Additional Points:

- The HSE recommends that there should be constant supervision of an inflatable or bouncy castle by at least suitably trained person.
- Where an event is scheduled to run and the forecast windspeeds are above 24mph but the “on the ground” windspeeds taken with an anemometer on the site are lower.

The event organiser will be responsible for ensuring that windspeed checks are undertaken and recorded every 30 minutes. These records will be provided to Penzance Council on request.

I confirm that as “the event organiser” I have read and understood the points set out in this document regarding the use of inflatable equipment on land and managed by Penzance Council. I confirm on signing that I understand that the liability of safely operating inflatable installations rests with me as the event organiser.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 11 AUGUST 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****PENZANCE JEWISH CEMETERY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
		✓		✓	✓	

Recommendation:

1. Penzance Council continue to maintain the Jewish Cemetery in Penzance for a further period of five years, from January 2026, on the same terms as those detailed within the maintenance agreement set out at Appendix 1 to this report.
2. Subject to (1.) above, a new agreement to this effect be developed, signed and entered into by the Town Clerk on behalf of Penzance Council.

Background:

Penzance Council have historically supported the maintenance and upkeep of the Jewish Cemetery in Penzance.

Working closely with the Friends of Penzance Jewish Cemetery, maintenance and inspection programmes are in place to regularly attend the cemetery and undertake a number of reactive repairs and proactive maintenance on the site.

The current arrangement is attached at Appendix 1 and has run from 2020.

Appendix 1 – Jewish Cemetery Maintenance

Ben Bros gall
Leisure and Amenities Manager



**PENZANCE
COUNCIL**

**PENLEE CENTRE
PENLEE PARK
PENZANCE
CORNWALL TR18 4HE
Telephone: (01736) 363405
Email: info@penzance-tc.gov.uk**

TOWN CLERK: HESTER HUNT

19 December 2019

Dear Ms Waterman ,

The Jewish Cemetery- Leskinnick Terrace – Penzance – Maintenance Agreement

This letter is to record the terms upon which we, Penzance Council, are to be responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery and supersedes any prior agreement between us.

We will

- 1 maintain the cemetery (to a reasonable standard) keep the gardens of the cemetery maintained in a good state of repair and in a neat and tidy condition;
- 2 keep the boundary walls and capping of the cemetery free from vegetation;
- 3 keep any areas of the cemetery that are not built upon neat and tidy and free from weeds; and
- 4 Cut the grass once a month between 1 April and 31 October and once every 6 weeks between 1 November and 31 March.

No other work will be carried out without your prior consent.

No work will be carried out at the cemetery on any Jewish Holy Day (including the Sabbath from sundown on Friday to one hour after sundown on Saturday).

This agreement is to run from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2025 to be reviewed at that date.

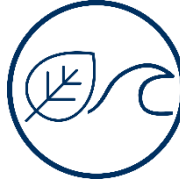
Please sign the enclosed copy of this letter to confirm your acceptance of its terms.

Yours sincerely,

Hester Hunt
Town Clerk

Dawn Waterman
DAWN WATERMAN
Read as Deputies of British Jews

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 11 AUGUST 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****STATUE AND MEMORIAL CLEANING**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
✓			✓			

Recommendation:

The indicative costs of £3,650, exclusive of VAT, for a “DOFF” cleaning method for the statues and memorials in Penzance parish be noted and included within the draft budget for 2026/27.

Background:

Indicative costs have now been received for a “DOFF” cleaning method for the ongoing cleaning of the statues and memorials across Penzance parish.

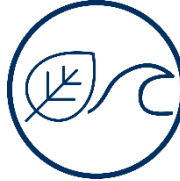
This cleaning method is recommended across a number of statue and memorial maintenance documents and provides a minimally invasive method of cleaning statues, memorials and other historically significant structures. This method utilises super-heated steam to remove dirt, grime and contaminants from various surfaces.

In line with further guidance within the Historic England guide to war memorial maintenance, it is recommended that cleaning activity is kept to a minimum. As such, the proposal for budget setting process will be to reduce the cleaning frequency from two instances to one across the year, whilst also retaining the ability to put a second clean in place utilising the earmarked reserve for statues and memorials if deemed necessary.

The current cost of the cleaning programme is approximately £440 per clean. The estimate received for budget setting purposes is £3,650 excl VAT per clean.

Ben Bros gall
Leisure and Amenities Manager

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 11 AUGUST 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****INTERNAL REFURBISHMENT OF SOUTH PIER PUBLIC TOILETS**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
			✓			✓

Recommendation:

1. The use of up to £25,000 from the Public Toilet earmarked reserve be approved in order to undertake the internal refurbishment of the male and female toilet facilities at South Pier public toilets.
2. Subject to (1.) above, authority be delegated to the Town Clerk, following consultation with the Chair of the Leisure and Amenities Committee, to appoint a contractor(s) to undertake said works.

Background:

Following the replacement of the roof at South Pier toilets in 2024, quotes for the required internal refurbishment work at South Pier have been progressed over the course of the last twelve months.

The work which has been identified includes, but is not limited to, the replacement of the urinal and toilet facilities and for them to be replaced with appropriate commercial grade installations as well as the improvements to the flooring to improve slip resistance and improved finishes to the walls. Estimates have been received in the region of £20 - £25k and it is proposed that the work is undertaken in two phases, keeping half of the facility open whilst the other half is being worked on.

It is proposed that the Public Toilet Earmarked reserve is utilised and this currently stands at £81,280.

The work will be completed outside of the summer season so as to avoid disruption to users of the Scillonian.

Ben Bros gall
Leisure and Amenities Manager