

## Magus Muir Fire Management Policy

### Aim:-

To reduce the risk of out of control fires at Magus Muir through risk assessment, management options and authorisation policy.

1. Written permission.  
In line with existing legislation fires will only be permitted at Magus Muir with the written permission of Strathkinness Community Trust, in line with the Fire Management Policy (FMP). Written permission will only be granted to qualified persons at the discretion of the Trust. Anyone lighting fires without written permission will be reported to the police/fire brigade.
2. Risk Assessment  
All fires must have a current risk assessment in place (see example in appendix 1) This should be dated, authorised person and first aiders name added and copies retained by a trust member and the authorised person.
3. Fire location  
For the purpose of this plan fires will only be permitted in the fire pit located in the learning area.
4. Fire safety talk given before each session  
The authorised person shall be responsible for giving a safety talk to each group before any fires are lit. It shall be their responsibility for adherence to the risk assessment by group members.
5. Check ground/overhead  
Before any fires are set the ground shall be assessed for any combustible material and any such removed from the area of the learning den, defined by the perimeter upright posts. An overhead check for branches that are at risk of catching shall also be carried out.
6. Weather conditions  
Fires will not be permitted during prolonged dry periods or when there are strong winds, especially from the west or south west. The trust will refuse permission during such periods and the authorised person shall check conditions at the time of the proposed fire.
7. Fire fighting/safety equipment  
No fires will be permitted unless water is available to properly extinguish the fire in an emergency or after use. A fire blanket shall be present for emergencies. Fire beater shall be provided by the trust next to the learning area; these will be checked for presence and condition on a monthly basis. A first aid kit and a qualified first aider

must be present during any fire. The kit and the first aider's certificates must be assessed regularly by the trust. A working mobile phone shall also be present, the number of which should be on the current risk assessment.

8. Fire brigade notification

On the day of any fire the local fire station shall be notified of the intention to burn at Magus Muir. The size and duration of the fire should be included, along with the name of the authorised person and their contact number.

9. Lighting the fire

No flammable liquids are to be used to light or accelerate fires. Lighting equipment, such as matches, shall be placed out of reach when not in use. A safe working distance 1.5m from fire shall be adhered to by anyone not the authorised person. For youth groups a ratio of 8:1 shall be in place.

10. During the fire

The fire shall be attended by the authorised person or a nominated adult at all times. These persons shall be listed on the current risk assessment and have training in the use of fire fighting and first aid equipment. They shall have the designated mobile phone present at all times. No one shall add fuel to the fire without the permission of the authorised person. The fire shall not be permitted to have flames higher than knee height. Access to the area shall be controlled by the authorised person and follow agreed access and escape routes. No running or pushing shall be permitted. No plastics shall be burnt. Firewood shall be placed on the fire not thrown.

11. Extinguishing fires

All fires must be extinguished at the end of a session. Water should always be to hand during campfire sessions. Whenever possible, all fuels should be burnt off to ash. Any large remains of wood are separated from one another. At the end of the session, the fire must be doused down with water and stirred until all smoke and steam has ceased. Large build ups of potash, from several fires, need to be dispersed. This must only be done when it has totally cooled, preferably the following day. It should be finely scattered throughout the woodland to enable natural decomposition. This shall be the responsibility of the authorised person.

12. After fire

The authorised person shall be responsible for notifying the fire brigade and the Trust that the session is over and that the fire has been properly extinguished. They shall ensure all tools/equipment are collected up and accounted for. They shall ensure no litter is left. They shall also ensure that all participants are safe and leave the site.