

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Executive Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>16 May 2018</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Events to Mark the Centenary of the End of World War 1</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Executive Committee with information on the current events/initiatives involving the Council to mark the Centenary of the end of World War 1 on 11 November 2018
- ◆ highlight a number of National Initiatives which the Council has been asked to support and promote

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council has, over recent years, forged a strong working relationship with local Ex Services' organisations. This has led to the development of a number of annual civic events relating to the theme of Remembrance and these are highlighted below.
- 3.2. This being the Anniversary year of the end of WW1, the opportunity is being taken to review these events and to assess what additional support can be given and how the general profile of those events can be raised to maximise community participation in the Centenary year. As the range of annual civic events has grown over the years, it is considered that there is no requirement to arrange any "one-off" events over and above the annual events already scheduled to take place.

The list of civic events currently planned is as follows:-

- ◆ **Garden of Remembrance Service in Hamilton on Saturday 3 November 2018**  
The Garden of Remembrance Service is held annually at the Top Cross adjacent to the former Baird's store and is led by the Royal British Legion with support from the Council. This year we plan to work with the RBL to improve promotion of the event and to improve other aspects of the event sound system and support with printing of Orders of Service. It is planned that the Council will provide a civic lunch for those participating in the Council Offices following the event.

◆ **Festival of Remembrance in Hamilton Town Hall 4 November 2018**

This will be the main flagship civic event and will be led by the Council and will be delivered in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council, The Lanarkshire Lieutenancy and Ex Service Organisations. The event, which will be co-hosted by both Provosts, will include pieces of drama and music from schools from both North and South Lanarkshire and will also include a multi-faith Drumhead Service and the sombre an act of remembrance.

South Lanarkshire Council has convened 3 very productive meetings of the Steering Group for the event and good progress has already been held to progress event format, guest lists, hospitality etc.

The event will commence earlier in the evening at 5p.m in order that younger children can attend and participate.

As previously highlighted, in terms of organising the event South Lanarkshire Council will take the lead in coordinating this event

It should be noted that apart from participating in the festival of Remembrance and the national initiatives outlined in Paragraph 4, North Lanarkshire Council have no other special events planned. Glasgow City Council have been chosen to host the National Memorial Service in Glasgow Cathedral on the afternoon of the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and an invite will be sent to all Lieutenancies requesting that potential guests be identified and invited. At this stage Glasgow are not planning to hold any other one off events and they will ofcourse be arranging their annual remembrance event in George Square.

◆ **Remembrance Services Hamilton, East Kilbride, Rutherglen and Lanark 11 November 2018**

These are annual events and Local Remembrance Services will take place throughout South Lanarkshire on the morning of Sunday 11 November 2018 and the Council will provide support locally as it has done in previous years.

In terms of the larger towns, the Council has historically had a more significant role in the organisation of the Services in East Kilbride and Hamilton and has had less involvement in the events in Lanark and Cambuslang/Rutherglen where the events have been coordinated by the local churches and/or Community Councils or other Community Groups. As this is the Centenary, contact will be made with remembrance event organisers to assess what additional support the Council might be able to provide to mark this special anniversary.

◆ **Service at VC Memorial in Hamilton Town Centre 12 November 2018**

A special Service will be held the day after the Armistice to pay tribute to the people from South Lanarkshire who served the country with distinction and who were awarded the Victoria Cross.

- ◆ A Service will be held at the VC Memorial adjacent to the ASDA store in Hamilton at 11.am. on 12 November 2018 which will be led by the Provost. As part of the arrangements the Council will provide hospitality for invited guests in the Muir Street Museum.

#### **4. National Initiatives**

4.1. On the 11 November 2018 the Council will also play its part in promoting a number of nationally coordinated tributes throughout the day which includes:-

- 6a.m. Local Pipers to play "Sleep in Peace – Now the Battles Over"
- 6.55p.m. Local Buglers/Trumpeters to play "The Last Post"
- 7p.m. Individuals or community groups to be encouraged to light a beacon
- 7.05p.m. Churches to be encouraged to ring their bells

4.2. The National Guidance on how to participate in these events has been uploaded to the Council's Website and copies of the Guidance will be distributed to Community Councils and churches encouraging them to participate. The deadline for registration to take part is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Liaison is also taking place with the Council's Instrumental Music Coordinator within Education Resources in order to get as many young pipers and buglers involved as possible.

4.3. Administration Services will take the lead in raising the awareness of all Council Resources on the national initiatives so that school children, users of Social Work Facilities, Leisure facilities can also become fully involved.

4.4. Administration Services will take a proactive approach to taking this forward with the Communication and Strategy Section, to maximise the level of participation in these various national tributes.

4.5. Corporate Communications will lead on publicising the various events at both a national and local level to maximise awareness within communities.

#### **5. Other Activities**

5.1. As well as the Civic programme detailed above, Council Resources/SLLC have been approached by Administration Services with a view to raising awareness of the importance of this anniversary and developing a range of projects and events being planned by Resources to mark the Centenary. Currently the following are being developed:-

- ◆ a specially commissioned drama piece for presentation at the Festival of Remembrance in Hamilton (SLLC)
- ◆ Schools in South Lanarkshire will be giving the Centenary a great deal of prominence in terms of learning and the Centenary will be commemorated in a number of ways including Remembrance Activities both in school and in the community .It will also include assemblies and curriculum inserts in respect of History, War . Poetry and Art. The Centenary will be used for other activities too such as concerts, debates drama and exhibitions. Other themes will be explored such as the changing role of women and of technology and changes in the political landscape. The specifics of these initiatives will be finalised next school term (Education Resources)
- ◆ a range of events will take place at Older People's facilities including the planting of a special rose within the gardens of Meldrum House, arts and craft sessions to make poppy waves at Saltire Day Centre and an event in The Council's Banqueting Hall on 8 November 2018 where older people from all of the centres in Hamilton can participate (Social Work Resources)
- ◆ a programme of events being coordinated by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Trust is attached as appendix 1 to this report
- ◆ elected members are also undertaking a cycle challenge with proceeds going to the poppy foundation

5.2. As members will be aware resources totalling £0.100 million were identified within the Capital Programme to enhance War Memorials throughout South Lanarkshire and this work will be undertaken by Land Services prior to the 100 year anniversary in November 2018.

## **6. Employee Implications**

6.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

## **7. Financial Implications**

7.1. The costs associated with Remembrance events this year are £10,000 to £12,000 and will be met from the Civic Events budget.

7.2. The Capital resources associated with enhancing War Memorials has been approved as part of the 2018/2019 Capital Programme.

## **8. Other Implications**

8.1. There is a risk to the Council's reputation if it is not seen by the public to be supporting the Remembrance arrangements as fully as possible.

8.2. There are no issues in terms of sustainability.

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

9.1. There is no requirement to carry out a formal EIA in terms of this report.

9.2. No formal consultation has been carried out but liaison has taken place with a range of organisations and stakeholders.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Paul Manning Resources)**

21 March 2018

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

◆ Working With and respecting others

## **Previous References**

◆ None

## **List of Background Papers**

◆ None

## **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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