

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	1 March 2023
Report by:	Chief Executive

Subject:	Coronation of King Charles III
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Committee with details of potential opportunities for South Lanarkshire communities to engage in events related to the Coronation of King Charles III, and how the Council can assist with such opportunities

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Executive Committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the arrangements around the coronation and opportunities for local communities and organisations to participate are noted.
- (2) that free lets should be offered to community groups for the specific purpose of participating in coronation events, with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture reimbursed for lost income, in key venues as outlined at 5.2.3.

3. Background

3.1. Following the death of HM The Queen, the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort is scheduled to take place on the morning of Saturday 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey in London. An extra bank holiday on Monday 8 May 2023 has been announced. The ceremony is expected to be shown live and in full by the BBC and other broadcasters.

3.2. The Lord Lyon King of Arms, Dr Joseph Morrow KC, wrote to the council on 7 February 2023, along with other local authorities across the UK, to give initial detail of how communities across the country might get involved in the event. Dr Morrow noted: "While London will be the focus of the Coronation, just as it was the centre of the Platinum Jubilee weekend, it is expected that festivities will take place throughout the land. In Scotland our celebrations of this nature are best when not imposed from above but community led, infused with local flavour and demonstrating the care and consideration of all involved."

4. Involvement in South Lanarkshire

4.1. The specific request of local authorities is that they promote this approach in their local areas and help communities consider how they may participate and prepare for the coronation. The Lord Lyon notes the short period available until the coronation for such preparations to be made.

- 4.2. A number of suggested ways that local organisations can take part have been made from within the Royal Household, with support from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. These include:-
- ◆ **Street Parties:** these would be organised by interested communities themselves, though they may have to apply to the Council for road closures.
 - ◆ **The Coronation Big Lunch:** groups are invited to gather on Sunday 7 May 2023 for a lunch “to celebrate communities, their connections and allow people to establish new friendships”. This is being organised nationally by the Eden Project, and more information can be found here: [The Big Lunch | Eden Project Communities](#)
 - ◆ **The Big Help Out:** this is suggested as “an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of His Majesty’s service and to highlight the impact of volunteering”. This will take place on Monday 8 May, the day of the extra bank holiday for the coronation. Individuals who want to donate time and skills to help charities, causes and the vulnerable can find out more here: [The Big Help Out](#)
 - ◆ **Events Held in Council Owned Civic Amenities:** for example exhibitions, storytelling or concerts. See 5.2.3 below.
- 4.3. The Lord Lyon acknowledges the budget restrictions facing local authorities and the cost-of-living crisis affecting households and adds: “this, quite rightly will be a consideration for all embarking on plans for celebrating the coronation”.

5. Next steps

- 5.1. South Lanarkshire Council will promote the invitation to local communities to participate in the Coronation via our usual communications channels, as appropriate, that is through southlanarkshirereview.scot and social media. Also, the Community Engagement Team will use its local networks and connections with community groups to make them aware of the opportunities and potential routes for funding.
- 5.2.1. In his letter, the Lord Lyon included details of a potential National Lottery route for community groups to apply for small grants to assist with costs for events. These were also promoted on social media. Details can be found here: [Funding programmes | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)
- 5.2.2. The Council is aware that this information issued by the Lord Lyon may not have reached community groups in time for their consideration. Through the routes outlined in 5.1. above we will make sure such groups are made aware of any potential other funding opportunities, including the council’s community grants. As members are aware, community grants can be used to help towards a range of costs, including administration and publicity, materials and temporary public entertainment licences. Full details can be found here: [Community grant information sheet - South Lanarkshire Council](#)
- 5.2.3. Furthermore, it is proposed that the Council should support events in each of the four localities by offering free lets for the purposes of community groups specifically marking the Coronation at the key venues of Rutherglen Town Hall, Lanark Memorial Hall, Hamilton Town House and East Kilbride Civic Centre.
- 5.3. The Council will also assist community groups to prepare for events in other specific ways within our regular duties, for example by considering requests for road closures to permit street parties and other events to take place.

5.4. The Lord Lyon has requested that local authorities keep him aware of planned activities in the area. The Council will do so, and will encourage community groups to make any planned events known to him. It is anticipated that events in South Lanarkshire will be added to a national interactive map similar to one that was created for the 2022 Platinum Jubilee.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. There are no significant employee implications other than the potential for staff to be involved in assisting community groups plan for and deliver events.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. The Council will cover the costs of any free lets provided through the provision at 5.2.3 to ensure no loss to South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

8.1. There are no climate change, sustainability or environmental implications arising from this report.

9. Other Implications

9.1. There are no other implications as a result of this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

10.1. No Equality Impact Assessments or consultations are necessary as a result of this report.

Cleland Sneddon
Chief Executive

16 February 2023

Link(s) to Council Values//Priorities/Outcomes

♦ Caring, connected, sustainable communities

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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