

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE – 18 MAY 2005

COMMEMORATION OF THE END OF WORLD WAR 2

Report by the Chief Executive

1. Purpose

To seek approval for a grant to support an all-Ayrshire commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War 2.

2. Background

2.1 The summer of 2005 will be the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War 2. This event will be marked by ceremonies throughout the United Kingdom and Scotland. It is felt that the 60th Anniversary marks the last milestone at which significant numbers of people who lived through these momentous events will be able to gather together in any numbers.

2.2 Discussions have been initiated by the Lord Lieutenant of Ayrshire to plan an event in this area as a contribution to the national commemorations. All three Ayrshires have been represented at these discussions, with the preference being for an all-Ayrshire event, supported, if desired, by more local events.

3. Proposal

3.1 It is proposed to mount a drumhead service on Saturday 11 June 2005 in Wellington Square, Ayr. The ceremony will take place at about 11.45 – 12.30 and will be led by local church representatives. Veterans from the armed services and civilian organisations such as the Red Cross, Bevan Boys and Woman's Land Army will be invited. The ceremony will be followed by a reception in County Buildings, Ayr.

3.2 East Ayrshire is contributing to the organisation of the event, possibly through the presence of certain school bands. The public relations departments of the three Councils have been co-operating by publicising the event. The invitations will go out in the name of the 3 councils.

4. Policy / Legal Implications

Nil.

5. Community Plan Implications

Nil.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Costs of the reception will be shared equally by the 3 Ayrshire Councils. A contribution of £2,000 is being sought by the organisers from East Ayrshire.

7. Recommendations

7.1 It is recommended that Members:

- i. agree a grant of up to £2,000, based on an equal share between the 3 Ayrshire authorities, to support the veterans reception at the 60th Anniversary of World War 2 on 11 June 2005; and
- ii. otherwise note the contents of this report.

Fiona Lees
Chief Executive

FL/GRS/MG
14 April 2005

Members requiring further information should contact Graham Short, Head of Service : Quality Improvement (01563 – 576089) or Dave Farrow, Quality Improvement Officer (01563 555650)

Implementation Officer : Graham Short

List of Background Papers Nil