

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>VE Day 2025</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Commemoration and Celebration Sub-Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>07 May 2025</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee YES/NO</b>	No

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services

<b>Estimated Timescale for Completion</b>	
Date to be Completed	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2025

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	TBC
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO Included 2025/26</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	3106*
Staffing Costs	

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>YES/NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>YES/NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide a Draft Programme for VE Day 2025 for consideration and approval.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024, Council resolved to agree the following Notice of Motion:

*“8th May 2025 will be the 80 year anniversary of VE Day where Nazi Germany officially surrendered, and World War 2 came to an end in Europe. I propose that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council organise and host a programme of events fitting to commemorate Victory in Europe Day on Thu 8th May 2025 - a programme that should be a spectacular celebration as well as remembering those who gave their all for all of us.”*

- 2.2 The revised Terms of Reference for the former Coronation Sub-Committee was updated and agreed at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024, to include commemorating VE Day 2025. It was also agreed to rename the Coronation Sub-Committee to Commemoration and Celebration Sub-Committee.

## **3.0 VE Day Action Plan 2025**

- 3.1 Officers have been working towards delivering a programme of activity. The VE Day Programme is attached at Appendix A.

## **4.0 Financial Implication**

- 4.1 A budget of £40K was agreed for 2025/26 in order to progress with activities associated with the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee’s work which includes the VE Day Event.

## **5.0 Equality Implications**

- 5.1 The VE Day Programme has been screened in accordance with the Council’s Policies and Procedures.

## **6.0 Other considerations**

- 6.1 As Members are aware, the VE Day event coincides with the NW200 and as Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025 is race day, road closures will be in place which may impact on planned activities for VE Day.
- 6.2 The NW200 Event Director has confirmed that a minute's silence will be observed prior to racing on the evening of Thursday 08 May 2025 with the riders and officials being invited to the front of the grid.

## **7.0 RAF Flypast**

- 7.1 Council's application for a flypast at the VE Day Event has been unsuccessful. The Royal Airforce has confirmed that unfortunately, participation at this Event is not possible and explained that every year the number of requests they receive far outstrips the resources that are available.

## **8.0 Consultation Meeting**

- 8.1 A further meeting was held on Thursday 10 April 2025 with various Stakeholder representatives in attendance. The draft Programme was considered at the meeting and updated accordingly.

## **9.0 Recommendation**

- 9.1 **It is recommended** that Members note the Programme of events due to take place on Thursday 08 May 2025 to commemorate VE Day 80.

## VE 80 Day

Thursday 8 May 2025

	Draft Programme
	<p>VE / VJ Exhibition in Coleraine Town Hall (29<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> September)</p> <p>Schools' Competition to design a souvenir mug which will be presented to the winner at the event</p> <p>Window dressing competition – winner announced at the event</p>
2 pm – 4 pm	Tea Dance, New Row Presbyterian Church Hall, Coleraine
6:00pm	<p>Military Village to be in-situ on Queen Street along with Kragfergus Living History Group historians who will provide WW2 talks/demonstrations</p> <p>Static WW2 vehicle display on Church Street</p>
6:30pm	Church Bells to ring
6:35pm	<p>Programme of Entertainment to commence in the Events Space outside Coleraine Town Hall.</p> <p>MC – Brian Moore to include: Leading Ladies Victoria Lagan Dance and Drama</p>

	DH Christie Memorial Primary School Stage, Picnic Tables, Bunting etc
8:30-40pm	Parade to leave Coleraine Leisure Centre
8:55pm	Parade to arrive at The Diamond - welcome by the Deputy Mayor
9:00pm	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial conducted by Rev Dr JI Thompson MBE DL  Names of WW2 fallen soldiers to be read out Wreath Laying – Cllr P Anderson, Veterans' Champion Minute's Silence Piper and bugler
9:15pm	Performance by Counterpoint choir at War Memorial to include I Vow to thee my Country
9:30pm	Lighting of Beacon by HMLL and VE Day 80 Tribute by Chair of Commemoration & Celebration SC
9:35pm	National Anthem performed by Choir
	Event Ends