

**COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2026**

No	Item	<i>Summary of Key Recommendations</i>	<i>Estimated Timescale for completion</i>
1.	Apologies	<i>Alderman Fielding, Councillor Wisener</i>	<i>N/A</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>
3.	Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 3 June 2026	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	
4.	Armed Forces Day 2026	<i>Verbal update received</i>	
5.	Freedom of the Borough Event: NIPS – 28 th August 2026	<i>Verbal update received</i>	
	'In Committee' (Item 6 inclusive)		
6.	Commemoration Programme Update – HM Queen Elizabeth	<i>Noted</i>	<i>December 2026</i>
6a.	Scope, Objective, Timeframe for EQIA HM Queen Elizabeth II	<i>To recommend that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee accept the scoping document.</i>	<i>December 2026</i>
7.	Date of Next Meeting - TBC	<i>To be confirmed</i>	

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCE ON
WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 6.00PM**

Chair: Alderman Knight-McQuillan

In Attendance: Councillor McCully, Storey

Officers Present: A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services Manager
J Keen, Democratic Services Officer

Press 1 no.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Alderman Fielding and Councillor Wisener.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2026

Summary, previously circulated.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee meeting held Wednesday 3 June 2026 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. ARMED FORCES DAY 2026 UPDATE

The Democratic and Central Services Manager provided a verbal update.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager provided information for attendance and social media interactions in respect of Armed Forces Day as follows:

- There were approximately 25,000 attendees
- Facebook and Instagram content generated approximately 2.7million views with 18,800 content interactions and 855 new followers during the month of June.
- Facebook recorded 1,917,997 views which is an increase of 58.3%
- Instagram recorded 779,600 views which is an increase of 600.1%

- Both Facebook and Instagram experienced their strongest activity around 20-22 June
- Facebook results were 100% organic with no view generated from advertising.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager stated that visual storytelling was highly engaging, and it covered events such as parachute displays, military personnel, bands, the parade, crowds and atmosphere. The human and emotional storytelling also worked well as this suggests that audiences responded to the human and emotional aspects of the event. The Democratic and Central Services Manager further stated that Coleraine itself was visible throughout the campaign which promoted the town as a tourist destination.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager stated that the event was successful and accessible both offline and online.

The Chair stated she had received positive feedback from visitors, locals and businesses and that the event was well organised. The Chair wished to put it on record her thanks to Council staff for their efforts and stated this event was one of the highlights of the Council year.

Councillor Storey concurred with the comments made by the Chair and commented on how the whole town will have benefited from Armed Forces Day. Councillor Storey commented on how signage is important and it would have been beneficial to have all the events listed on one sign.

Councillor McCully also expressed thanks to staff for their work. He stated that the feedback from the Alliance party and the public has also been positive.

Sub Committee NOTED the verbal update.

5. FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH EVENT: NIPS – 28 AUGUST 2026

The Democratic and Central Services Manager provided a verbal update.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager advised that 114 guests attended the event and that the excellent weather contributed significantly to its success, with a substantial proportion of the event taking place outdoors. She advised that, due to security considerations, there had been limited promotion of the event in advance. However, the Public Relations and Communications team had prepared communications in advance and video content was also produced on the day.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager reported that three social media posts had been published in relation to the event, which had received a total of 43,604 views, 21 shares and 211 positive reactions.

The Democratic and Central Services Manager advised that positive feedback had been received from Elected Members and the Mayor regarding the coverage of the event. She also read correspondence from the Director General of the Northern Ireland Prison Service expressing appreciation for the conferring of the Freedom of the Borough upon the Northern Ireland Prison Service.

The Chair stated that former Prison Officers had expressed their delight at the event and appreciation for the recognition of their work. She considered the event to have been a positive occasion for Limavady and noted that it had provided an opportunity to learn more about the work of the Northern Ireland Prison Service and its longstanding connections with Limavady, as the closest town to Magilligan Prison. The Chair placed on record her thanks to all staff involved in organising and delivering the event and for their contribution to its success.

Councillor Storey concurred with the comments made by the Chair and welcomed the use of this part of the Borough to host the event. He commented on the respect and sensitivity with which the ceremony had been conducted and noted that the order of proceedings had been well executed. He congratulated all those involved in organising the ceremony.

Councillor McCully expressed his thanks to staff for their work in delivering the event and advised that the feedback received had been universally positive. He welcomed the opportunity for Limavady to be placed in the spotlight and recognised the success of the occasion.

Sub Committee NOTED the verbal update.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’

Proposed by Councillor Storey
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

AGREED – that the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee moves ‘*In Committee*’.

* **Press left the meeting at 6:22pm**

6. COMMEMORATION PROGRAMME HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated, was presented by the Democratic and Central Services Manager.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the Commemoration Programme for HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Recommendation

It is recommended that members note the update. In addition, the agreed design idea from Northern Regional College (in Appendix D) is attached for Members. It is further recommended that the information detailed in Appendix A is noted and that work continues by Officers to research costs and methods of delivery for the various activities contained in the agreed Commemoration Programme for HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Councillor Storey commented on the importance of keeping the process moving forward to bring the project to its conclusion.

Sub Committee NOTED the report.

6a. Scope, Objective, Timeframe for EQIA HM Queen Elizabeth II

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated, was presented by the Democratic and Central Services Manager.

In response to a query from Councillor Storey the Chair advised that the EQIA was being completed as part of due process.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Councillor Storey and

AGREED - To recommend that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee accept the scoping document.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There was discussion regarding the date of the next meeting.

It was agreed that if there is not enough material to consider on 7 October 2026 a written update will be provided to Members by the Democratic and Central

Services Manager and a meeting will then be scheduled for 4 November 2026 at 6pm. It was agreed that closer to the time the Democratic and Central Services Manager will discuss with the Chair which date is most appropriate to hold the next meeting

MOTION TO PROCEED '*IN PUBLIC*'

Proposed by Councillor Storey
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

AGREED – to recommend that the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee moves '*In Public*'.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 6:40pm.

Chair