

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

To: Corporate Policy and Resources Committee

17 November 2015

Recognition Programme – Anniversary of the Somme 2016

For decision

Linkage to Corporate Plan	
Strategic Priority	Leader and Champion
Objective	Civic Leadership
Lead Officer	Liz Johnston
Cost: (If applicable)	To be confirmed

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Further to the report to last month's meeting arrangements are in hand for relevant officers to meet with the two groups who have requested support to deliver events recognising the Anniversary of the Somme in 2016 in line with the committee's recommendation, approved by Council.
- 1.2 Council's Museums Service, working in partnership with Good Relations Officers, has developed a programme of Council led events across the borough within the context of the "Decade of Centenaries". This report has been tabled for consideration by Leisure and Development Committee on 10th November 2015.
- 1.3 Council also approved committee's recommendation that a budget be allocated to assist groups to commemorate and that elected members be involved.
- 1.4 At Council's meeting on 27th October a notice of motion was agreed on the formation of a working group and budget provision was agreed, as follows:-
- "That Causeway Coast and Glens Borough council takes steps to commemorate the centenary of the battle of the Somme in 2016, and assists in the facilitation, co-ordination and support of associated community-led events.*

That Council formulates a working group comprising members, relevant officers, Royal British Legion branches, Somme Associations and other associated community interests across the Borough. The terms of reference of the working group will be to commemorate, through appropriately dignified and inclusive means, the centenary of the Battle of the Somme across the Borough; and that a budget be decided by this Council after the initial investigations and meeting of the working group to discuss possible events and initiatives.

It is imperative this Council remembers respectfully the sacrifice paid by so many from this Borough at the Somme and throughout the Great War, and that this Council strives for a peaceful and prosperous future for all.”

1.5 Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- (a) Council decide on the Elected Member representation on the Working Group to meet with the community interest groups;
- (b) The working group bring forward a recommendation with regard to budgetary provision.