

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 24 JUNE 2013

REPORT ON: GREAT WAR DUNDEE PARTNERSHIP AND HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND APPLICATION

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES

REPORT NO: 288-2013

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the Great War Dundee Steering Group Partnership and plans for commemoration in the City from 2014.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 notes the content of this report and supports the bid for Heritage Lottery Funding for a Project Co-ordinator to plan and promote events relating to the commemoration of World War I in Dundee from 2014-2019.
- 2.2 agrees, on behalf of the Great War Dundee Steering Group, that Leisure & Culture Dundee act as employer and accountable agent for the management of HLF Funds.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 All costs will be met within existing budgets through the external funding sought from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Great War Dundee Partnership includes representatives from Leisure & Culture Dundee, Dundee City Council, Dundee University, DC Thomson & Co, the Black Watch Regimental Museum and the Western Front Association (Tayside Branch), in a bid to have a co-ordinated approach to the commemoration of World War I in Dundee. The City lost four thousand men, including most of its 'Dundee's Ain' 4th Battalion of The Black Watch. This casualty figure is among the highest for any British City. Moreover, an estimated 63% of all eligible Dundee men served in the forces during the First World War, again a proportion thought to be the highest for any city in the UK. The social and political impact was such that it has shaped the history of the City throughout the 20th Century.
- 4.2 Organisations across the City have formed a unique partnership, to provide a co-ordinated approach to the commemorations. The Great War Dundee Steering Group was established in December 2011 and is a constituted organisation.
- 4.3 The Heritage Lottery Fund is supporting applications from organisations across the UK for First World War commemorative projects which mark the Centenary and enable people to reflect on the events of the First World War and the experiences of those who were part of it.
- 4.4 The steering group have submitted a first round application to fund a project co-ordinator to manage commemoration events, exhibitions and reminiscence sessions in Dundee from 2014-2019. This has received a favourable response and a second stage application with a value of £248,400, spread over five years, will be submitted in June 2013. The partnership organisations who are supporting the bid will be making significant in-kind contributions.

4.5 This project will specifically concentrate on the local story and record people in the City who are alive today who have memories or artefacts relating to WW I. The project will aim to capture the public memories for the future.

4.6 The Great War Dundee Partnership is also keen to pay tribute to the families who lost loved ones, and the businesses, institutions and churches who lost colleagues with a special centenary memorial to the fallen of the Great War.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. No issues have been identified.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Democratic and Legal Services, and the Board of Leisure & Culture Dundee have been consulted on this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR, LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
10 June 2013