

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**CIVIC HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

**Minute of meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 8 March 2023.**

**Present:**

Provost Mary Montague  
Deputy Provost Kate Campbell

Councillor Caroline Bamforth

Provost Montague in the Chair

**Attending:**

Linda Hutchison, Senior Committee Services Officer; Pamela Watson, Members Services Officer; and Liona Allison, Committee Services Assistant.

**Apology:**

Councillor Paul Edlin.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**372.** There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**CIVIC HOSPITALITY COSTS AND USE OF COUNCIL ACCOMMODATION**

**373.** The Committee considered a report by the Director of Business Operations and Partnerships confirming the position on civic hospitality costs for various recurring events in 2022/23, the current estimated level of funding available for new events in both 2022/23 and 2023/24, and the extent to which in terms of delegated powers permission had been given to outside bodies to use Council accommodation for meetings and functions where responsibility for this fell out with the letting arrangements managed by other departments.

Having heard the Senior Committee Services Officer highlight key aspects of the report, in response to Councillor Bamforth, she confirmed that any unused budget from 2022/23 would not be carried forward to the following financial year, and that it was expected that the costs of events organised in 2023/24 would be met from the Committee's budget for that financial year.

The Committee noted the report.

**REQUEST FOR CIVIC HOSPITALITY – WORKERS’ MEMORIAL DAY**

**374.** Under reference to the Minute of meeting of the Council of 7 September (Page 152, Item 112 refers), when it had been agreed that it be remitted to this committee to consider the merits and options for commemorating Workers’ Memorial Day (WMD) annually on 28 April and to consider a permanent memorial in East Renfrewshire, the Committee considered a report by the Director of Business Operations and Partnerships, requesting that the Committee consider marking WMD annually and related proposals.

Having referred to the discussions at the Council meeting, the role and establishment of the Committee and the budget available for new civic hospitality proposals, the report summarised the WMD arrangements in place in other Scottish local authority areas. In the first instance, the Committee was invited to consider if WMD should be commemorated annually, taking account of the general support for this expressed at the Council meeting and if so, and taking account of arrangements in place elsewhere and budget considerations, a proposed way forward to mark the day in 2023. Related issues were commented on.

Regarding consideration of a permanent memorial, it was explained that investigations thus far had suggested the associated costs could be high, possibly several thousand pounds in the case of a cairn. Having commented on related issues, including budgetary matters and that it was understood that permanent memorials in some areas had been funded on a joint basis, such as between the local authority concerned and the Trade Unions, the report proposed, subject to the views of the Committee on whether or not a more permanent memorial should be considered, that further time be taken to consider what form that could take; the detailed financial implications which remained to be fully and accurately quantified; and if any other funding could be sourced to help meet the associated costs.

Members of the Committee supported WMD being commemorated annually. During discussion on a permanent memorial, reference was made to those in place in some other areas and related issues. Support was expressed for considering if one could be established locally using a proportion of the funds available within the civic hospitality budget. In response to questions, the Senior Committee Services Officer clarified that the costs involved would depend on the size and type of memorial chosen, citing examples of the approximate costs of various options to the extent this had been explored thus far. In response to the Provost, she explained further what it was proposed to do to mark WMD 2023.

The Committee agreed:-

- (a) that Workers’ Memorial Day be commemorated annually by the Council;
- (b) to approve the proposals as set out in the report to mark the day in 2023; and
- (c) that proposals for a more permanent memorial be explored further as outlined in the report, in respect of which, a further report would be submitted to the Committee in due course.

PROVOST