

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**Special Meeting of the Provost's Sub Committee – 14 December 2009****REQUESTS FOR CIVIC HOSPITALITY****Report by Head of Democratic Services****ABSTRACT**

This report relates to four requests for civic hospitality linked to special events and anniversaries taking place in Perth during Perth800.

1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Sub Committee approve the requests for civic hospitality as detailed in this report.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As members are aware, 2010 marks the 800th anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter to Perth in 1210 conferring Royal Burgh status and an extensive programme of events has recently been launched.
- 2.2 A number of organisations are proposing to join the year-long celebrations by organising their own events and activities in support of this very special landmark for Perth.
- 2.3 Plans are underway for four prestigious events to take place in Perth. It is proposed that the Council support these organisations by hosting civic receptions in recognition of their contribution to the community of Perth & Kinross.

3. PROPOSAL**Skin and Bone: Life in Medieval Perth – Exhibition**

- 3.1 As part of the Perth 800 Opening Weekend in January 2010, the year-long Skin and Bone exhibition in Perth Museum and Art Gallery will be officially opened.
- 3.2 It is envisaged that around 500 invitations will be issued for a reception planned to celebrate the launch of this very important exhibition.
- 3.3 Final costs have yet to be finalised in respect of the civic hospitality associated with this occasion, however, it is anticipated that these will amount to approximately £2,500.

The Order of St John

- 3.4 The Order of St John is an Order of Chivalry with a presence in around 40 countries, most of them in the Commonwealth. Eight of the countries have a 'Priory' status and conduct investitures for those being newly admitted to the Order or promoted within it. In Scotland, these investitures are part of a festival held each year in a different city or town.
- 3.5 The Perth & Kinross Branch of the Order, has focused on raising funds for a St John Day Room in the new MacMillan Cancer Support palliative care unit at Perth Royal Infirmary.
- 3.6 In 2010, the investiture will be held in Perth at St Ninian's Cathedral on 24 June 2010. It is traditional for the host city to provide a civic reception comprising a finger buffet and wine reception on the evening preceding the investiture.
- 3.7 The reception would take place in Perth Concert Hall for around 300 people. The cost for such an occasion would be in the region of £2,500 - £3,500

Mini Olympics 2010

- 3.8 The Council has been approached by Perth & Kinross Sports Council to host a civic reception in honour of sportsmen and women who will participate in the Mini Olympics being held in Perth in August 2010. A team from Perth & Kinross will compete against teams from Perth's twin cities of Bydgoszcz and Aschaffenburg.
- 3.9 The reception would cater for around 200 people and would be held in Dewar's Centre on Sunday 1 August 2010. The cost for such an occasion would be in the region of £2,500

Centenary of Girlguiding

- 3.10 Girlguiding UK is currently celebrating its Centenary with a year-long programme of exciting events and projects.
- 3.11 The Council has been approached to host a civic reception to thank those involved in Girlguiding in Perth & Kinross, past and present.
- 3.12 It is anticipated that 200-300 guests would attend a reception in Perth Concert Hall, possibly in September 2010. The cost for such an occasion would be in the region of £2,500.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Provost and the Chief Executive have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The above events will involve the attendance of high numbers therefore external venues will be required to accommodate guests.
- 5.2 The total estimated costs will be approximately £11,000
- 5.3 Subject to the availability of resources, the costs would be met from the 2010-2011 civic hospitality budget for Perth 800 events.

6. COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN OBJECTIVES 2009 – 2012

- 6.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2009-2012 lays out Objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation.
- 6.2 The proposals in this report meet the following objectives.
 - (i) A Safe, Secure and Welcoming Environment
 - (ii) A Prosperous, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy

7. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The Council's Corporate Equalities Assessment Framework requires an assessment of functions, policies, procedures or strategies in relation to race, gender and disability and other relevant equality categories. This supports the Council's legal requirement to comply with the duty to assess and consult on relevant new policies to ensure there is no adverse impact on any community group or employees.
- 7.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Assessment Framework and the determination was made that the items summarised in this report do not require further assessment as they do not have an impact on people's wellbeing.

8. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS).
- 8.2 The plan, programme or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the determination was made that the items summarised in this report do not require further action as they do not qualify as a plan, programme or strategy as defined by the act.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The year-long programme of events to mark Perth800 will presents unique opportunities for celebrations deserving of the Council's support.
- 9.2 The goodwill generated by civic hospitality to support these celebrations is deemed particularly important in terms of community involvement and awareness raising of Perth's 800th anniversary.

GILLIAN TAYLOR

Head of Democratic Services

Note: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

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