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## **75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY VE CELEBRATION FUND**

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### **Report by Service Director Customer & Communities**

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#### **Executive**

**11<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

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#### **1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report proposes the creation of a VE Celebration Fund to be launched on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020, to enable non-profit making community/voluntary groups, schools and churches to apply for funding to undertake special celebratory projects to mark VE Day.**
- 1.2 Awards up to a maximum of £2,500 will be available and to enable these to be processed quickly and efficiently on a fast track basis, it is proposed that decision-making should be agreed at Officer level, with final approval and sign off by the Director of Customer and Communities.
- 1.3 It is proposed that each Area Partnership will contribute from their Community Fund on a per-head of population basis to enable a fund of £60,000 to be created.
- 1.4 The VE Celebration Fund will close on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.

#### **2 I recommend that**

- 2.1 Approval is given to the creation of a VE Celebration Fund of £60,000 which is funded on a per head of population basis from each Area Partnership's Community Fund.**
- 2.2 Approval is given for decision-making for the Council's VE Celebration Fund to be agreed at Officer level, with final approval and sign-off by the Director of Customer and Communities**
- 2.3 That a report detailing the evaluation and outcomes of the VE Celebration Fund is brought back to Executive in late 2020.**

### 3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Victory in Europe Day, generally known as VE Day in Great Britain, is a day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces on May 8, 1945
- 3.2 To commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, it is proposed that a VE Celebration Fund is created to enable communities within the Borders to apply for grant funding to take part in special celebratory events/community projects.
- 3.2 The fund will be open to community councils, schools, community/voluntary organisations based in the Borders and Churches based in the Borders whose project/activity is for the benefit of the wider community (see attached Guidance Notes and Application Form). Projects will be required to meet a minimum of one of the following criteria:
- Communities have more opportunities to come together to celebrate VE Day (for example, through events, concerts, open days, street parties etc.)
  - Communities have more opportunities to create a lasting legacy of VE Day (for example, improving public spaces, playparks, community gardens etc.)
- 3.3 Typical grants (based on the analysis of the previous Queen's Diamond Jubilee Fund) are expected to be in the region of £1,000, but grants up to a maximum of £2,500 will be considered for larger projects or for projects that create a lasting legacy of VE Day.

### 4 IMPLICATIONS

#### 4.1 Financial

- (a) The VE Celebration Fund of £60,000 will be created by each Area Partnership contributing on a per-head of population basis from their Community Fund.
- (b) The per head of population contribution has been calculated as follows:

Locality	Contribution (£)
Berwickshire	10,925.93
Cheviot	10,160.15
Eildon	18,429.84
Teviot & Liddesdale	9,359.67
Tweeddale	11,124.67
<b>Scottish Borders Total</b>	<b>60,000.00</b>

#### 4.2 Risk and Mitigations

- (a) The fund is open for a relatively short period of time and therefore a robust communications strategy and plan will be required.
- (b) Checks are in place to ensure that fraudulent/improper awards are not granted.

#### 4.3 Equalities

- (a) An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal. It is anticipated that the Fund will have a positive impact on all communities. The Fairer Scotland Duty is not applicable in this instance.

#### 4.4 Acting Sustainably

- (a) The creation of a VE Celebration Fund is anticipated to have a positive effect in involving the community in developing and implementing projects, encouraging volunteering, improving community quality of life and improving community capacity.

#### 4.5 Carbon Management

- (a) N/A

#### 4.6 Rural Proofing

- (a) N/A

#### 4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

- (a) N/A

### 5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Service Director HR, the Clerk to the Council, Corporate Communications, Corporate Equalities & Diversity Officer and Procurement Officer have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated into the final report.

#### Approved by

**Name Jenni Craig** **Signature**  
**Title Service Director – Customer & Communities**

#### Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Shona Smith	Communities and Partnership Manager

**Background Papers:** n/a

**Previous Minute Reference:** n/a

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