

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	21 February 2013
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive
TITLE OF REPORT	Queen's Diamond Jubilee
REPORT NUMBER:	OCE/13/006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee an update on the consideration being given to the means by which the Council might commemorate the Diamond Jubilee and the Queen's reign.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes the update provided and agrees that the matter be considered again at a future meeting of the Committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Diamond Jubilee Working Group has requested that officers develop options relating to a statue of the Queen and a Commonwealth travel scholarship. The financial implications of both will be explored and reported on as part of this work. Based on the Gordon Highlanders statue it is likely that a budget of £175,000 will be required for the statue of the Queen.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The other implications of the options will be explored and reported on as part of the work requested by the Diamond Jubilee Working Group.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

At its meeting of 13 June 2012 the Council had before it a Motion by Councillor Martin Greig in the following terms:

That this Council produces a report with recommendations for identifying any possible financial sources and fundraising opportunities in order to create a permanent commemoration in the City of the Diamond Jubilee and of the Queen's reign.

The Motion was considered by the Finance and Resources Committee at its meeting of 21 June 2012 and the Committee resolved to instruct that officers consult with all elected members to ask for suggestions as to how to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee and the Queen's reign, and to report back in terms of the motion at the meeting of the Committee on 4 October 2012.

At its meeting of 4 October 2012 the Finance and Resources Committee had before it a report by the Chief Executive (OCE/12/019). The Committee resolved to establish a working group of seven members to be chaired by the Depute Provost to consider the proposals contained in the Chief Executive's report and any other members might make, and that officers report back on a preferred option for approval.

The Diamond Jubilee Working Group met for the first time on 18 December 2012 and had before it the report by the Chief Executive (OCE/12/019) which lists the suggestions made by elected members. The Working Group resolved:

- i) to agree in principle that the preferred option for commemorating the Diamond Jubilee and the Queen's reign was a statue to be made of the Queen;
- ii) to request that officers develop the options available in relation to the statue, exploring all financial matters such as match funding from the Scottish Government and local businesses;
- iii) to request that officers also investigate the idea of a travel scholarship for young people to Commonwealth countries and report this and the details of the statue option to a future meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee; and
- iv) to note that the Depute Provost would contact Rotary International for further advice on match funding.

The Working Group meets again on 28 February 2013 and work by officers is underway exploring the two options as requested.

The Committee is requested to note the update provided in this report and agree that the matter be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee.

6. IMPACT

The subject matter of the report is of interest to the public.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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