

REPORT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**ARMED FORCES DAY 2013 AND REPLACEMENT OF MOSAIC OUTSIDE
COUNTY HALL****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Committee about preparations for national Armed Forces Day 2013, which will be hosted by Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, and which will take place on 29 June.
2. To seek approval for the recommended design of a permanent memorial to honour the fallen of the County at County Hall.

Information and Advice**Background**

3. Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have a proud military heritage. In recognition of this heritage, the City and County have been chosen to host the fifth annual Armed Forces Day event on Saturday 29 June.
4. Celebrations on this day will see the culmination of public events throughout the United Kingdom honouring the achievements and efforts of personnel of all three military Services, past and present.
5. This prestigious event will provide the opportunity for members of the public to express their thanks to the military, and to find out more about the work of the three Services. In particular, the event looks to recognise and honour the important contribution of veterans, and the growing role of military reservists.
6. Previous Armed Forces Day events have been held in Plymouth, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Chatham. It is a Government initiative and is a key element of the national Military Covenant. As in previous years it is anticipated that the event will have senior VIP attendance; at the 2012 event in Plymouth, HRH The Earl of Wessex attended, with the event attracting 40-60,000 visitors as well as extensive local, national and international media coverage.
7. Preparations for the event are now well underway. The main base for activities on 29 June will be Nottingham city centre, with a military parade, Drumhead Service and family focused fun day being the key elements. However, it is also intended that a key component of the day will be the formal

unveiling of a permanent memorial to honour the fallen of the County at County Hall.

8. At its meeting of 1st November 2012, the County Council resolved to replace the current mosaic outside the main entrance of County Hall with a permanent memorial.
9. The current mosaic, which was laid over 23 years ago, is in a very poor state of repair. Its replacement presents the Council with an opportunity to provide a lasting memorial to honour men and women from the armed forces, the emergency services and others who have lost their lives in service of this county and the country.
10. Memorials play an important role in society, acting as historical touchstones. They link the past to the present and provide a focal point for people to remember and respect the sacrifice of those who died, fought, participated or were affected by conflict, or who died in fulfilling their public service duties. Memorials are also an important source of information for young people in understanding the sacrifices made by past generations.
11. Following the Council's decision in November, designs have been progressed, resulting in a proposal for implementation. The new memorial will be a unique fitting tribute of robust construction to stand the test of time.
12. It is proposed that the memorial be surrounded by solar powered lights to represent an eternal flame and the relevance of the compass being representative of the four corners of the county. The suggested logos represent the three oldest seats of governance in the county, these being Nottinghamshire County Council (logo and coat of arms), The High Sheriff of Nottingham and the Lord-lieutenant of Nottinghamshire which will be replicated in full colour. Consideration is also being given to protecting the memorial by means of a low level removable chain fence. The design has the flexibility if desired at a later date to accommodate a statue in the centre. This option could provide the opportunity for the people of Nottinghamshire to be engaged in a design competition if considered appropriate.
13. Appendix A shows three concept design options. If approved the works would be undertaken in May with an anticipated completion date of mid June. Based on cost, long term maintenance and deliverability option one provides the best value, with an estimated target cost of £40,000.

Other Options Considered

14. Other design options are set out in Appendix A.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. The establishment of a permanent memorial will provide a fitting tribute to Nottinghamshire's fallen.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and legal advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

17. Funding for this purpose has been allocated from contingency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

18. That Policy Committee approves design option one for the new memorial at County Hall for implementation as outlined in the attached Appendix.

Councillor Kay Cutts
Leader of the County Council

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Sue Jaques
Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) Programme Manager
Transport Planning and Programme Development Team

T: 0115 9774368
E: sue.jaques@nottsccl.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (SHB 01.03.13)

Committee have power to decide the Recommendation

Financial Comments (TMR 01/03/13)

The financial implications are set out in paragraph 17 of the report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Replacement of the Mosaic Outside County Hall - Report to Council, 1 November 2012

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.