

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL
DECISION**

**DECISION OF: THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
WITH ADVICE FROM: COUNCILLOR BRYANT - EXECUTIVE MEMBER
FOR WASTE AND RECYCLING AND ARMED FORCES CHAMPION
DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE SERVICES**



DECISION NO: CSD80

**SUBJECT: COMMEMORATING THE CENTENARY OF THE END OF THE FIRST
WORLD WAR
KEY DECISION: NO**

BACKGROUND: This year is the centenary of the end of the First World War. A range of events are planned to mark the centenary, including a number of commemorative events in North Somerset. Many of these events will be taking place in the weeks leading up to Armistice Day on 11 November 2018.

A national charity 'Remembered' has launched a campaign called 'There but not there'. The aim of the campaign is to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War and to raise funds for armed forces and mental health charities. Part of the campaign involves installing silhouette statues of First World War soldiers and these are appearing in locations across the UK. The charity wants every person in the UK to be able to see one of the silhouettes in their local community and support a nationwide act of remembrance.

DECISION: To purchase two 'There but not there' silhouette statues of first world war soldiers to support the nationwide commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War. Funding from the purchase of the statues will support armed forces and mental health charities. The silhouettes will visit communities across North Somerset as part of the planned programme of events in the weeks leading up to Armistice Day on 11 November 2018. By Armistice Day, one silhouette will be installed at the Town Hall in Weston-super-Mare and one at the Council's Castlewood building in Clevedon. This recognises the strong forces links in North Somerset, particularly to the Royal Air Force.

REASONS: To support the nationwide commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War and the work of the armed forces and mental health charities which will receive funding from the purchase. The two silhouettes will add a further visible element to the commemorative activities taking place across North Somerset where there are strong forces links. This is in accordance with the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED: The Council could choose not to purchase any silhouettes. However, it is considered that the silhouettes represent very visible support for the 'There but not there' campaign and funding from the purchase will go to armed forces and mental health charities. The silhouettes will also enable all local communities to be part of a national act of remembrance in this centenary year. This recognises the strong links between local communities and the armed forces.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Costs: The total cost of purchase for two silhouette statues is £1,500 (£750 per silhouette). There will also be an installation cost to place the silhouettes at the Town Hall and Castlewood. Exact sites will be chosen to minimise installation costs whilst retaining visibility.

Funding: These costs will be met from existing revenue budgets.

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS: This purchase and installation is in line with the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Partnership and Armed Forces Community Covenant.

CONSULTATION: The Armed Forces Partnership met on 3 September and discussed the programme of events taking place across North Somerset to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. The Partnership was supportive of the aim to secure two silhouette statues to support the local commemorations.

RISK MANAGEMENT: Installing two silhouette soldiers in North Somerset increases the visibility of the commemoration of the centenary of the end of the First World War and enables communities across North Somerset to be engaged in the commemorations taking place across the country.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? No

Including the silhouettes in events taking place across North Somerset will enable access and increase awareness across communities.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS: This is in line with the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed: N.C. Allen
Leader of North Somerset Council

Date: 18/09/18

WITH ADVICE FROM:

Signed: [Signature]
Executive Member Waste and Recycling and Armed Forces Champion

Date: 18/09/18