

Decision Maker: **RENEWAL AND RECREATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER
FOR PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY BY THE RENEWAL AND
RECREATION PDS COMMITTEE**

Date: 23 June 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **INITIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WAR MEMORIAL
REFURBISHMENT**

Contact Officer: Kevin Munnely, Head of Renewal Tel: 020 8313 4582
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Chief Officer: Chief Planner

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

To provide Members of the Committee with the initial results of the condition survey undertaken on the 19 war memorials over which the Council has responsibility.

The report provides details on the budget for the estimated works and sets out a programme in order to have refurbishment completed in time for this November's 100 year commemoration of the start of World War I.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the R&R Portfolio Holder note the results of the initial assessment works and agrees the programme of refurbishment (first and second phases).

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council Quality Environment Safer Bromley Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £21,500
 2. On-going costs:: N/A
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Regeneration
 4. Total current budget for this head: £9,850 and £25,000
 5. Source of funding: Existing revenue budget for 2014/15 and Earmarked Reserve for the refurbishment of war memorials
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement :
 2. Call-in: Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Penge Ward Councillors have made a special request for the Penge War Memorial

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 To mark the significant commemoration of 100 years since the start of the World War I in November 2014, Full Council agreed on 24th February 2014 to set aside earmarked reserves totalling £25k from underspends in 2013/14 for refurbishment of war memorials as a one-off Member initiatives. The Borough is directly responsible for 19 War Memorials in the Borough.
- 3.2 In support of this work a comprehensive condition survey of the state of Bromley's war memorials was undertaken by Holwood Ground Maintenance Limited. Holwood were commissioned to survey all 19 memorials and report on the specification of works required for each with a cost estimate. The Council's contractor has now completed the comprehensive condition survey of all the 19 memorials. In general the condition of the majority of the memorials was considered to be fair to good, bearing in mind most of them are over eighty year old. There is a general need to provide a deep clean of all of them and for the majority of memorials there is only the need for a small amount of repointing and re-lettering. Only 2 of the memorials were identified as requiring further attention. These are the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at Crystal Palace and the Mottingham War Memorial. The condition survey found that there were potential structural problems with both of these memorials and officers are currently undertaking additional surveys to clarify potential costs. Detail specification of works to each memorial can be found in Appendix 1. Colour photographs of details will be available at Committee.
- 3.3 There has been a special request from local ward Councillors for Penge to have the name plaques at Penge war memorial replaced in cast bronze. The original plaques were stolen in 2012 and have since been replaced with a composite substitute. The cost of the replacement cast bronze plaques has been estimated at £11,500.
- 3.4 Holwood have estimated the initial cost for undertaking the refurbishment work identified in the schedule at Appendix 1 at £10,000 including contingency. However, this does not include the potential cost to the Crystal Place and Mottingham war memorials as explained above. A draft programme of works is currently scheduled to commence in July/ August 2014 and complete by the end of September.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Refurbishment works to these important local features in the towns of Bromley is consistent with Policy Objectives set out in Building A Better Bromley, in particular enhancing quality environment. These works will be consistent with Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Business Plan 2013/ 14, in particular with Outcome 2c Promote, protect and enhance the historical, natural and built environment of the Borough.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There is an annual war memorial Tenant Maintenance budget of £9,850 within the 2014/15 Regeneration budget. This budget is used to maintain the upkeep of memorials over which the Council has responsibility.
- 5.2 In addition, Full Council agreed on 24th February 2014 to set aside earmarked reserves totalling £25,000 from underspends in 2013/14 for the refurbishment of war memorials as a one-off Member initiative. This is to supplement the annual Regeneration funding given the significance of the commemoration ceremonies taking place this year. This brings the total funding available for this year to £34,850.
- 5.2 This report is seeking approval to use the earmarked reserve of £25k to fund the £21,500 costs of replacing the cast bronze plaques in Penge and to carry out the Phase 1 works identified in

Appendix 1. The improvement works identified in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 will be procured in line with the Council's Standing Orders.

- 5.3 Approval is also sought to use the balance of the earmarked funding of £3,500, together with the annual budget of £9,850 for the improvement works at Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve and Nottingham memorials (second phase).

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

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| Non-Applicable Sections: | |
| Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer) | |