

SERVICES OF REMEMBRANCE

To consider the advice of the Town Clerk on the allocation of resources to, and the organization of, Services of Remembrance.

Recommendation:

1. Council is invited to consider the report and direct staff accordingly.

	Yes	No
Does the decision involve new expenditure?		No
Is there an existing budget for the proposed expenditure (insert code)	N/A	
What procurement level is required?	N/A	
Are there equalities impacts / an equalities assessment required?	Possibly	
Does this require a full council decision? (Reports for full council decision should still be sent to the relevant committee where possible.)	Yes	
Is there a background paper or papers? (provide links below).		No

1. Council currently supports, directly, four services of remembrance and the observance of the two minute silence on Armistice Day.
2. Council also receives invitations for the Civic Party to attend other events of remembrance and commemoration, and has to decide how resources are allocated.
3. There is no written protocol for how events are resourced or attended, and Council is keenly aware that the observance of Remembrance Sunday, in particular, is not its property but rather a collaboration with the Royal British Legion and other bodies.
4. Currently the first priority for Council and its Civic Party is the annual Service of Remembrance, shared between the Church of England and Church of Scotland churches on the Parade and Wallace Green, and the subsequent service at the War Memorial in Castlegate. Council then prioritizes the services at Spittal and Tweedmouth, and the observance of the two minute silence.
5. Protocol has always been that, where there are two events that conflict, the Mayor attends the event that have been assigned the greatest priority. This may mean, for instance, that where a request has been received, we may have to decline it if a request with greater priority is later received.
6. We have no records of when council last consulted on the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day; we would recommend that council consults with the Royal British Legion, Berwick Churches Together and other stakeholders as to the priority to be assigned, and the resources required to ensure residents are able to appropriately mark these significant occasions in the life of the town.

Issues arising from proposal.

None.

Rationale for recommendation.

Not applicable.