

**Report to the Champion for Armed Forces and Veterans**

**Report submitted by: Head of Service Legal, Governance and Registrars**

**Electoral Division affected:**  
(All Divisions);

**Champion Grants Scheme Application from:**

Lancaster Military Heritage Group

Contact for further information:

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**Brief Summary**

This report presents an application from an organisation requesting £1,000 towards their Armed Forces Day event from the Champion for Armed Forces and Veterans budget.

**Recommendation**

That consideration be given to the request for grant funding as set out in this report.

**Detail**

The role of Champion was first established in 2002 and the county council currently has six Champions, whose role is to support the Leader and individual Cabinet Members within their remits.

The six county council Champions are as follows:

- Armed Forces and Veterans
- Disabled People
- Mental Health
- Older People
- Parishes
- Young People

For the financial year 2024/25, each Champion has been given an annual allocation of £10,000 for use at their discretion to finance their activities, to which any unspent balance up to a maximum of £2,500 from the previous financial year could be added,



giving a maximum budget of £12,500 in any one financial year. The Champion for Armed Forces and Veterans total budget is set out in the financial section of the report.

Details of the request for grant funding are shown below:

<b>Full name of your organisation</b>
Lancaster Military Heritage Group
<b>How much are you applying for? Minimum £100</b>
£1,000
<b>What are you going to spend the grant on? Please give a brief outline of the project.</b>
<p>Armed Forces Day (AFD) is a National, Government sponsored celebration of support to the UK's Armed Forces and their families and they have chosen, for the second year, to include the Blue Light Services and members of the NHS. The Morecambe and Lancaster AFD 24 is planned to be held two days ahead of the National AFD week. The 22 June 2024 has been chosen as the Lancaster Bomber of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and the RAF Falcons Parachute Display Team have agreed, weather permitting, to display in and over Morecambe on this date. In addition to the overflight and parachutists, it is intended to include a Veterans, Cadet and Serving personnel parade along Morecambe front led by the Morecambe Brass Band. Following a Drumhead Service at the Arena, there will be many exhibits placed around the Arena area and at The Platform. The Flookburgh Brass Band will also be playing during the afternoon. The event will be fully inclusive and all will be welcome with marshals and security being on hand to specifically assist any disabled visitors so they can take full advantage of the exhibits and spectacles.</p>
<b>Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods</b>
22 June 2024
<b>What are the benefits expected to be achieved?</b>
<p>The parachute and Lancaster bomber displays are demonstrably popular, with people travelling significant distances to view even one of these world renown displays. These attractions, it is anticipated, could attract some 55,000 people to Morecambe front and promenade and provide significant business and commercial opportunities as well as advertising Morecambe, through the AFD Website nationally as an excellent venue for The Eden Project North.</p> <p>As an estimate, with 50,000 people attending and spending in the order of £20 pp, the local economy could benefit by circa £1M.</p>
<b>Please give a detailed breakdown of your expenditure for your activity / equipment.</b>
The requested £1,000 grant would go toward the fee for The Flookburgh Brass Band (£750) and also for commissioning a professional photographer (£250).



<b>If you are not asking for the full amount of the cost of your activity / equipment, please give us details of where the rest of the funding is coming from. Please also explain what you will do if we give you the grant, but you do not get the other funding.</b>
The funding will come from other grants, Duchy of Lancaster and Morecambe Town Council.
<b>If the Champion offers a grant of less than you have asked for, please explain below how that will affect your proposal – for example, will you still be able to complete your project or purchase, will you scale the project back, or seek funding elsewhere?</b>
Armed Forces Days are run by volunteers and solely rely on grants from local authorities and businesses. The level and uniqueness of activities through the day reflect the grants made available. A commensurate reduction in the events or services for AFD24 will be made if the full or partial grants cannot be made.
<b>Will the activity involve members of your organisation having significant contact with children or vulnerable adults?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### Risk management

No significant risks have been identified in relation to the proposals contained within this report.

### Finance

An up-date of spend in 2024/25 is shown below:

Budget for 2024/25		£10,000.00
C/F from 2023/24		£1,054.00
Refunds		£0.00
<b>Total Grant Available in 2024/25</b>		<b>£11,054.00</b>
Grant Allocations Already Approved	Wrea Green D-Day 80th Anniversary Committee	£636.75
	Veterans Living History Museum CIC	£1,200.00
	DWS Lifeskills CIC	£3,100.00



	Poulton in Bloom	£800.00
	Blackpool Fylde and Wyre Royal Marines Association	£1,000.00
		£6,736.75
<b>Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2024/25</b>		<b>£4,317.25</b>
Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected		
		£0.00
NEW REQUESTS	Duke of Lancaster's Regimental Association	£500.00
	Lancaster Military Heritage Group	£1,000.00
		£1,500.00
<b>Total Grant Requests in Progress</b>		<b>£1,500.00</b>
<b>Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2024/25 if all outstanding requests are approved</b>		<b>£2,817.25</b>

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
None		

