

WW100 SCOTLAND EXHIBITION

Executive summary

1. As agreed at the meeting on 21 December 2018, parliamentary officials updated the exhibition organisers - WW100 Scotland - on the SPCB's discussions and concerns about their proposal to host a temporary public exhibition in the Parliament's Main Hall during 2019.

2. The exhibition's organisers have now come back with an updated proposal that reflects the points raised. The SPCB is asked to consider this new proposal and agree that the Scottish Parliament host this temporary exhibition as part of the Major Events and Exhibitions programme for 2019-20.

Issues and Options

3. WW100 Scotland are now proposing a much smaller exhibition that will be exhibited at the Scottish Parliament for two weeks before travelling to other venues across Scotland. The new, smaller exhibition will comprise an art installation - an abstract map of Scotland through which will be told 100 stories relating to Scotland and the Scots in World War One – along with some additional boards to tell the wider story of what Scotland learned.

4. Using digital technology, the map of Scotland will be filled with layers of information. The stories within the installation will cover the key events and battles that have formed the basis for Scotland's commemorative programme over the past four years. In addition to this, the installation will introduce a range of many lesser known stories and facts relating to WWI. Its creation builds on the principles of the Year of Young People and is a significant legacy piece of the WW1 Commemorations. At this time, Lateral North, the company behind the creation of the installation, are taking advice from WW100 Scotland on suitable events to include. The new exhibition would be based on the WW100 Scotland strapline ***What do we learn from all this?***

5. To complement the art installation WW100 Scotland will design a number of boards that will tell the story of how young people in Scotland engaged with the centenary in many different ways. Through written expression, arts projects, battlefield visits and community projects they have reflected on the war and its impact on the country as a whole and on individuals. WW100 Scotland will be seeking the best of the written work and photographs of arts projects from schools across local authorities and charities who have run workshops and competitions such as Never Such Innocence and Poppyscotland.

6. WW100 Scotland will be working with Poppyscotland to develop the exhibition. In due course when WW100 Scotland has completed its work, Poppyscotland will take responsibility for the exhibition along with other legacy

work developed by WW100 Scotland during the commemorative period. It is hope that this would continue beyond 2019 complementing other anniversaries and work being taken forward at that time. The message of remembrance is as important going forward as it was during the 100th anniversary year.

7. WW100 Scotland have indicated that their preferred time for the exhibition launch would be May 2019. Given other major events and exhibitions taking place this year and the staff resources involved, we would want to open the exhibition in September after the summer recess rather than May. If WW100 Scotland are fixed to May 2019 for the launch we would recommend they secure an alternative venue.

8. The Events & Exhibitions Team believes the new proposal from WW100 Scotland addresses the SPCB's concerns and would recommend the SPCB approves this temporary exhibition as part of the Major Events and Exhibitions programme for 2019-20 but with the proviso that it is launched in September 2019 rather than May.

Resource Implications

9. All costs for curation, design, build, install, derig and marketing of this exhibition would be met by the external partners.

Publication Scheme

10. This Paper will be published under the SPCB Publication Scheme.

Next steps

11. If the SPCB is content for this exhibition to proceed, officials will liaise with WW100 Scotland to determine whether it goes ahead in September 2019.

Decision

12. The SPCB is asked to consider this new proposal and agree that it can be exhibited in September 2019 at the Scottish Parliament in the Main Hall as part of the Major Events and Exhibitions programme for 2019-20.

Events and Exhibitions Team

8 February 2019