

Item 10 - Question Time

To the Leader of the Council

“What steps is the Council taking to mark the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the Second World War?”

Response to Mr G Cruickshank

In accordance with the UK Government’s decision to move the 2020 May Bank Holiday to Friday 8 May to mark 75 anniversary of VE Day, consideration is being given to ensuring that the people of the Highlands have the opportunity to mark this most significant occasion in the history of the Nations of the United Kingdom.

Discussions are being held with the Inverness Branch of the Royal British Legion to ascertain potential for an Inverness based event which would serve to mark the occasion on behalf of the Council. This will be led by the Inverness City Area Manager who will report progress to the Convener and the Provost of Inverness.

It will be important to enable communities to mark the occasion in their own way and ensure that the Highlands is represented through an appropriate event supported by the Royal British Legion, and Members have historically had an key role in this in their local areas.

Care will be taken to ensure that any plans for Highland compliment those planned nationally across Scotland.

As well as marking the Allies' victory in 1945, the bank holiday will serve as an opportunity to pay tribute to those who have served and continue to serve in the UK Armed Forces and their families.

Once plans are developed, Members and Communities will be updated.