

**Request to fly the flag of St. George  
Individual Cabinet Member Decision  
(Councillor Eileen Blamire)**

**Report of the Head of Democratic Services**

<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>			
To consider a request to fly the flag of St George on Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls during major sporting events in support of England teams.			
<b>Key Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Non-Key Decision</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<b>Referral from Cabinet Member</b>
<b>Date Included in Forward Plan</b>	N/A		
<b>This report is public</b>			

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That approval be given to fly the flag of St George at both Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls in support of England teams during major sporting events.**

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 A request has been received to fly the flag of St George on both Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls in support of England teams during major sporting events.
- 1.2 A similar request was received in 2006, when the City Council flew the flag of St George during the football World Cup campaign. England's participation in the 2010 football World Cup is the catalyst for this request but there are other major sporting events which will involve teams from England which could also benefit from this small show of patriotism.

**2.0 Proposal Details**

- 2.1 There has and continues to be vast coverage of England's participation in sporting events. The people of the Lancaster District have always supported England in sporting campaigns and the upcoming 2010 football World Cup will be no exception. Already cars and houses are adorned with flags, stickers and bunting by way of support.

2.2 By flying the flag of St George from both Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls the City Council would be demonstrating, in a small way, its support of England teams during these major sporting events.

2.3 It must be noted however that the City Council is required to fly the Union Flag on key dates during the year. At Lancaster Town Hall there are three flag poles which would enable both the Union Flag and the flag of St George to be flown together. However, at Morecambe Town Hall there is only one flag pole so it must be noted that the Union Flag would take priority on any of those key dates.

### **3.0 Details of Consultation**

3.1 Property Services have been consulted and have indicated that they would be happy to arrange for the flags to be flown at Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls in accordance with their established procedures.

### **4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)**

4.1 Option 1 is to decline the request to fly the flag of St George in support of England teams during key sporting events.

4.2 Option 2 is to agree to the flying of the flag on Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls on dates on which England teams are competing in major sporting events throughout the year.

### **5.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)**

5.1 The preferred option is option 2. The City Council has already demonstrated that it is supportive of the England Football Team by flying the flag of St George during the competition in 2006. However, the show of support should not be limited to football and the City Council could demonstrate support of any team taking part in major competition. However, the national flag flying days would have to be observed as a priority in all cases, but flying the flag of St George at these key times will appeal to all people of the district who choose to support the England teams.

<b>RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK</b>
None
<b>CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)</b>
There are no direct implications as a result of this report.
<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>
There would be no financial cost to the Council. The City Council would use its existing flag stock to facilitate this request.

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Deputy Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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