



REPORT TO: GRAMPIAN VALUATION JOINT BOARD ON 27 JANUARY 2023

SUBJECT: BANK HOLIDAY – CORONATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

BY: THE ASSESSOR AND ERO

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Board of the position in relation to the additional bank holiday.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Board note the content of this report and agree to designate Monday 8 May 2023 as an additional public holiday for employees and close the Board's offices on this date.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The UK and Scottish Governments have announced that there will be an additional bank holiday on Monday 8 May 2023 to mark the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III.

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The existing contractual rights of Board employees allow for 7 fixed public holidays per annum where the Board's offices are closed. Employees are also entitled to a further 5 public holidays that correspond with local holidays and other bank holidays, and the Board's offices remain open on these days. These are designated "floating days" and added to the employee's annual leave entitlement. Whilst there is no automatic entitlement to the additional bank holiday, the Board has previously granted employees the holidays that were announced to celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Jubilee celebrations in 2002, 2012 and 2022.
- 4.2 There would be no critical operational considerations or financial penalties incurred in awarding employees with an additional public holiday and closing offices on Monday 8 May 2023. This date is not a deadline in the electoral register statutory update timetable and there are no valuation appeal hearings scheduled for this day.
- 4.3 At the date of writing this report, I have been unable to establish the formal decisions of the 3 constituent councils in relation to this matter.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Designating Monday 8 May 2023 as an additional public holiday for all employees and closing the Board's offices on this date would have a positive impact on staff morale and would fall immediately after another particularly demanding period of activity in connection with the general revaluation of non-domestic properties. Such a measure would reward employees who are being asked to deliver continuous improvements in services within a particularly challenging environment. Granting the additional public holiday and closing the Board's offices would not give rise to any financial or critical operational considerations for the Assessor & ERO or the Board.**

Author of Report: Mark J Adam, Assessor & ERO