



REPORT TO: Grampian Valuation Joint Board on 4 February 2022

SUBJECT: Public Holiday - Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

BY: The Assessor & ERO

1. Reason for Report

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

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Board note the content of this report and agree to designate Friday 3 June 2022 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 Friday 3 June 2022 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and that the traditional late May bank holiday will be moved to Thursday 2 June to allow for a four-day long weekend to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years on the throne.

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. Thursday 2 June falls into this latter category and the Board's office will therefore remain open on this day. Whilst there is no automatic entitlement to the additional public holiday, the Board has previously granted employees the public holidays that were announced to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee on Monday 3 June 2002 and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Tuesday 5 June 2012.

4.2 There would be no critical operational considerations or financial penalties incurred in awarding employees with an additional public holiday and closing the offices on Friday 3 June 2022. This date is not a deadline in the electoral register statutory update timetable and there are no Valuation Appeal Committee hearings scheduled for this day.

4.3 All three of the constituent authorities have awarded their staff with an additional public holiday on Friday 3 June 2022.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 Designating Friday 3 June 2022 as an additional public holiday for all employees and closing the Board's offices on this date would have a positive impact on morale and would fall immediately after a particularly demanding period of activity for the Scottish local government elections scheduled for 5 May 2022. 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 office would not give rise to any financial or critical operational considerations for the Assessor & ERO or the Board.

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