



REPORT TO: MORAY COUNCIL ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017

SUBJECT: HMS SPEY – CIVIC AFFILIATION

BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Council of a request from the Naval Regional Commander Scotland and Northern Ireland that the Council consider entering into a civil affiliation between HMS Spey and Moray Council.

1.2 This report is submitted to Council in terms of Section II (20) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the determination of a matter that does not fall within the terms of reference of any Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Council is invited to consider a request from the Naval Regional Commander Scotland and Northern Ireland that the Council consider entering into a civil affiliation between HMS Spey and Moray Council.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 A request has been received from the Naval Regional Commander Scotland and Northern Ireland inviting the Council to consider entering into a civil affiliation between HMS Spey and Moray Council.

3.2 HMS Spey will be the last of the new class of five Offshore Patrol Vessels and has recently commenced construction at BAe Systems at Govan on the River Clyde. The ship will be formally named in early 2019 and will then commission under the white ensign later that year.

3.3 Civic affiliations seek to establish a more personal link with today's Royal Navy (RN) and the society it represents, protect and recruit from. Each affiliation inevitably takes its own course over time but given the RN's historical links with Moray it was considered that Moray be offered to consider hosting the civic affiliation with HMS Spey. The imminent arrival of the P8 Maritime Patrol Aircraft at RAF Lossiemouth will see a resurgence of the RN's profile there also.

3.4 Once the ship's civic affiliation is settled, other affiliations are shaped around this. Each ship will be generally paired with an RAF Squadron and Army Regiment, and then also a London Livery Company. In the case of Scottish

named ships they are traditionally named with a bottle of whisky and enjoy a Distillery affiliation too.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Moray 2026: A Plan for the Future and Moray Corporate Plan 2015 - 2017

Supporting the Armed Forces personnel and their families will assist in the delivery of all five priorities.

(b) Policy and Legal

None associated with this report

(c) Financial implications

None associated with this report

(d) Risk Implications

None associated with this report

(e) Staffing Implications

None associated with this report

(f) Property

None associated with this report

(g) Equalities

None associated with this report

(h) Consultations

None associated with this report

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 A Civic affiliation like this would complement the Military Covenant which provides a vital civic/military forum with the Armed Forces stationed in Moray at RAF Lossiemouth and Kinloss Barracks and be mutually beneficial by providing links to the Moray Chamber of Commerce and carrying Moray's name and brands to a global audience.

Author of Report: Moira Patrick, Democratic Services Manager
Background Papers: Letter dated 2 October from Naval Regional Commander
Ref: 230-24837