

# The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday 23 September 2021

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 - Additional Leave

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Executive All
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### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 Council is recommended to:
- 1.2 note the proposal for one additional day's leave following the UK Government's announcement to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch in summer 2022;
- 1.3 approve that the spring holiday initially scheduled for Monday 18 April 2022 will be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 for all non-school employees;
- 1.4 approve that Victoria Day scheduled for Monday 23 May 2022 will be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 for all school-based employees; and,
- 1.5 approve that an additional fixed day's leave will be granted for all employees on Friday 3 June 2022.

**Stephen S. Moir**  
Executive Director of Corporate Services

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## Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 - Additional Leave

### 2. Executive Summary

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- 2.1 The report notes the UK Government's announcement of an additional holiday to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch in summer 2022 and thus seeks approval of an additional fixed day's leave for all colleagues on Friday 3 June 2022.
- 2.2 The report seeks approval of an alternative Spring Holiday date from Monday 18 April 2022 to Thursday 2 June 2022 for all non-schools' colleagues.
- 2.3 The report also seeks approval of an alternative Victoria Day date from Monday 23 May 2022 to Thursday 2 June 2022 for all schools' colleagues.

### 3. Background

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- 3.1 In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, 70 years of service. The UK Government announced that one of the scheduled public holidays should be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 and an additional holiday on Friday 3 June would be granted to allow for a four-day weekend to celebrate this event.
- 3.2 Public Holidays for 2021-27 were previously agreed at full Council in November 2020.
- 3.3 A motion on this topic was also raised by Councillor Laidlaw at full Council on Thursday 26 August 2021, link in section 8.

### 4. Main report

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- 4.1 The UK Government announced that the May Bank Holiday Weekend would be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 and an additional Holiday provided on Friday 3 June 2022 to allow a four-day weekend to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- 4.2 In Edinburgh, the May Bank holiday noted above at 4.1 has traditionally not been observed at the end of May. The equivalent Spring Holiday in Edinburgh is normally the third Monday in April. In 2022, this falls on Monday 18 April and as this

is the same day as Easter Monday it had not been finalised as part of the Public Holiday report taken to full Council in November 2020 and was still to be agreed.

- 4.3 The proposal is that the spring holiday that would have fallen on Monday 18 April 2022, would be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 for all non-schools-based employees.
- 4.4 In relation to employees working within schools, the proposal is that the Victoria Day holiday scheduled for Monday 23 May 2022 would be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022.
- 4.4 An additional fixed day's leave would also be granted for all colleagues on Friday 3 June 2022.
- 4.5 In relation to school-based employees, this would mean that schools would be closed on Thursday 2 June and Friday 3 June 2022.
- 4.6 This additional day's leave would mean a reduction in teaching days and permission would have to be sought from the Scottish Government's Learning Directorate. Education and Children's Services officers have been in discussion with Scottish Government officials on this point and our proposal has, at this stage, been noted. Government Officials are now awaiting confirmation of the Council's decision on this point.
- 4.7 A benchmarking survey was undertaken in conjunction with the Council and CoSLA initially in July 2021 to ascertain what proposals were being considered by other local authorities and this was refreshed again in September 2021.
- 4.8 The proposals from other Scottish Local Authorities that have responded to the CoSLA survey so far are that an existing public holiday for schools will be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022. However, all other services will remain open given that this holiday day is already included in the annual entitlement for local government employees in most cases.
- 4.9 With regard to Friday 3 June 2022, an additional day's leave will be granted and Councils (including schools) will be closed. Based upon the benchmarking returns received so far, other Scottish Local Authority proposals are in line with this recommendation for the City of Edinburgh Council.

## **5. Next Steps**

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- 5.1 Subject to Council approval, an additional fixed day's leave for all employees would be granted, and the spring holiday for non-schools' colleagues and the Victoria Day holiday for schools' employees would take place on Thursday 2 June 2022.

## **6. Financial impact**

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- 6.1 There is a notional cost of £1.99m for the additional fixed day's leave on Friday 3 June 2022. This cost has been assessed based upon the opportunity cost of lost working time due to the additional annual leave and the resulting enhanced payments and other costs for those employees / services required to still operate during the period concerned.

## **7. Stakeholder/Community Impact**

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- 7.1 There would, as a result of these proposals be a reduction in some Council services for the additional day of fixed annual leave and, equally, a reduction in the provision of teaching days across the City which would have implications for parents and carers within the City.

## **8. Background reading/external references**

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- 8.1 [Public Holidays 2021-2027](#)
- 8.2 [Motion by Cllr Laidlaw at Full Council Thursday 26 August 2021](#)

## **9. Appendices**

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- 9.1 None.