

**Mayor and Councillors
COUNCIL**

16 MAY 2013

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

AFFIXING COMMON SEAL FOR FREEDOM OF ENTRY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This reports seeks to formalise the affixing of the Kapiti Coast District Council Seal to the Charter between the Council and the 16th Field Regiment for the Freedom of Entry.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 The Council's significance policy is not triggered by this report.

BACKGROUND

- 3 In 2011 the 16th Field Regiment's 163 Battery asked if the District would consider providing the 16th Field Regiment with the honour of Freedom of Entry.
- 4 The granting and right to exercise Freedom of Entry derives from an ancient tradition and signifies the special relationship between a unit of the Defence Force and a community. Freedom of Entry to the District signifies bonds of friendship and often the expectation that the armed body who has the honour bestowed on them would assist in the defence of the District. While granting of Freedom of Entry gives no real rights or privileges, there is no higher honour a city can bestow on a regiment.
- 5 The 16th Field Regiment's 163 Battery is closely affiliated with the Paraparaumu Returned Services Association. This function was discussed with Council and included within the budgets of the 2012-2032 Long Term Plan.
- 6 Various dates were investigated but due to constraints around Council's programme and that of the Regiment, the opportunity to exercise that right was delayed until 12 April 2013.
- 7 At 10am 12 April 2013 the 163 Battery, representing the 16th Field Regiment, marched down Rimu Road into Iver Trask Place and halted outside the Civic Building. An official ceremony took place where the Mayor inspected the troops and then bestowed the Freedom of Entry on the 16th Field Regiment.
- 8 This event was well attended by primary school children from Kāpiti and Paraparaumu Primary Schools as well as representatives from Kāpiti and Ōtaki College as well as local residents.
- 9 The 16th Field Regiment were impressed with the turnout in Kāpiti and would like to repeat this on a regular basis, suggesting every two years.

CONSIDERATIONS

Issues

- 10 A ceremonial 'scroll' recording the right for the Regiment to exercise the 'Freedom of Entry' was not ready in time for the parade but has been developed for signing by the Mayor and the Regiment's Commander at the end of May 2013.
- 11 The scroll requires the fixing of Council's seal, however the use of the seal requires a resolution of Council.

Financial Considerations

- 12 The event was budgeted for in the Long Term Plan.

Legal Considerations

- 13 There are no legal considerations.

Delegation

- 14 The Council has not delegated this authority to any of its committees or subcommittees.

Consultation

- 15 Consultation is not required on this issue.

Policy Implications

- 16 There are no policy issues.

TāngataWhenua Considerations

- 17 There are no TāngataWhenua issues.

Publicity Considerations

- 18 The parade was well covered in the local print media.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 19 That Council approves the affixing of Council's seal to the Charter providing the 16th Field Regiment with Freedom of Entry to the Kāpiti Coast District as attached to report Corp-13-893.

**Prepared and Approved for
submission by:**

Bernie Goedhart

GM Corporate Services

ATTACHMENT: Draft Freedom of Entry Charter