

COUNCIL, 20 MAY 2015

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

ROLL OF HONOUR

Governance Committee at its meeting on 30 April considered whether, as part of its programme to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the London Borough of Havering, to propose that a roll of honour be created in recognition of those armed forces personnel from this Borough who died on active service between 1 April 1965 and 1 April 2015.

1. The Committee recognised that at the time of drafting, two servicemen had been identified but considered that if further names were put forward in the future, they would be added to the Roll and accorded the same dignity with which it was proposed to honour the initial two soldiers.
2. According to Ministry of Defence records, Lance Corporal Kirk Redpath joined the Army in September 2003, subsequently passing out of training to join his Regiment of choice, the Irish Guards. Serving on exercises all over the world, he had been on operations in Iraq since early May. A member of the Battalion's Intelligence Cell he was attached to Badger Squadron, 2nd Royal Tank Regiment for the patrol on which he died. Although his job as a member of the Battalion's Intelligence Cell in no way required him to deploy outside his base, he constantly volunteered to do so.
3. Sadly, Lance Corporal Redpath was killed on Thursday 7 August 2007 when the Snatch Armoured Land Rover he was travelling in was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device during an operation to the north of the Rumaylah oilfields, which is to the west of Basra City.
4. According to Ministry of Defence records, Warrant Officer Class 2 (WO2) Fisher deployed to Afghanistan on 19 August 2013 as the Warrior fighting vehicle Sergeant Major for the Task Force Helmand Armoured Infantry Company of A Company, 3rd Battalion The Mercian Regiment. His unit was part of the Manoeuvre Battle Group of 7th Armoured Brigade, based at Patrol Base Lashkar Gah in the Nahr-e Saraj district of Helmand province.
5. On Monday 4 November, WO2 Fisher deployed with his company on a 2-day operation to disrupt insurgent activity in the vicinity of Kamparak to the north east of his patrol base. The following day, as a meeting was being conducted with Afghan National Security Forces, WO2 Fisher's vehicle was subjected to a vehicle-borne suicide attack. WO2 Fisher was evacuated by air to the military hospital at Camp Bastion, where it was confirmed that he had been killed in action.

The Governance Committee accordingly recommends to Council that:

As part of the 50th anniversary commemorations, a roll of honour be created in recognition of Lance Corporal Kirk Redpath and Warrant Officer Class 2 Ian Fisher, both of whom died on active service between 1 April 1965 and 1 April 2015, and any other members of the armed forces from this Borough who died on active duty during that period.