



NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY, 17 MARCH 2023 AT 10.00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER - THE GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH

Telephone enquiries to Lisa Gallacher - Local Democracy Officer 02392 834056

Email: lisa.gallacher@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact named above.

Public health guidance for staff and the public due to Winter coughs, colds and viruses, including Covid-19

- Following the government announcement 'Living with Covid-19' made on 21 February 2022 and the end of universal free testing from 1 April 2022, attendees are no longer required to undertake any asymptomatic/ lateral flow test within 48 hours of the meeting; however, we still encourage attendees to follow the public health precautions we have followed over the last two years to protect themselves and others including vaccination and taking a lateral flow test should they wish.
- We strongly recommend that attendees should be double vaccinated and have received any boosters they are eligible for.
- If unwell we encourage you not to attend the meeting but to stay at home. Updated government guidance from 1 April 2022 advises people with a respiratory infection, a high temperature and who feel unwell, to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature. From 1 April 2022, anyone with a positive Covid-19 test result is still being advised to follow this guidance for five days, which is the period when you are most infectious.
- We encourage all attendees to wear a face covering while moving around crowded areas of the Guildhall.
- Although not a legal requirement, attendees are strongly encouraged to keep a social distance and take opportunities to prevent the spread of infection by following the 'hands, face, space' and 'catch it, kill it, bin it' advice that protects us from coughs, colds and winter viruses, including Covid-19.
- Hand sanitiser is provided at the entrance and throughout the Guildhall. All attendees are encouraged to make use of hand sanitiser on entry to the Guildhall.
- Those not participating in the meeting and wish to view proceedings are encouraged to do so remotely via the livestream link.

CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Councillor Steve Pitt (Liberal Democrat)

Group Spokespersons

Councillor Linda Symes, Conservative

Councillor George Fielding, Labour

Councillor Russell Simpson, Portsmouth Independents Party

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

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Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request should be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of interests**
- 3 Library and Archive Service Charges 2023 (Pages 3 - 18)**

Purpose of report

To review the charges levied by Portsmouth Library and Archive Service in respect of room and equipment hire and the Portsmouth History Centre.

RECOMMENDED

That the proposals provided in Appendix 1 for the increases in room and equipment hire charges for the Menuhin Theatre on the Third Floor Central Library and hire of IT Training Suites at Carnegie; Cosham and Central Library are agreed and implemented from 1st April 2023, in order to ensure full cost recovery of these services.

- 4 Revenue Funding Grants 2023-2024 (Pages 19 - 32)**

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the proposed funding levels for the Revenue Grant payments to cultural organisations for the financial year 2023/24.

RECOMMENDED

That the Revenue Grant payments as outlined are agreed for the financial year 2023/24.

5 Reviving Victoria Park Project (information report) (Pages 33 - 38)

Purpose of report

To provide an updated overview of progress on the Reviving Victoria Park project.

6 Pyramids Performance 12 Months After Re-opening (information report) (Pages 39 - 48)

Purpose of report

To provide the Cabinet Member with performance metrics at the Pyramids over the past 12 months to inform a judgement on the effectiveness of the 2020-21 investment into the facility.

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Agenda Item 3



Title of meeting:	Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision Meeting
Date of meeting:	17 March 2023
Subject:	Library and Archive Service Charges 2023
Report by:	Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services
Wards affected:	All
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To review the charges levied by Portsmouth Library and Archive Service in respect of room and equipment hire and the Portsmouth History Centre.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** That the proposals provided in Appendix 1 for the increases in room and equipment hire charges for the Menuhin Theatre on the Third Floor Central Library and hire of IT Training Suites at Carnegie; Cosham and Central Library are agreed and implemented from 1st April 2023, in order to ensure full cost recovery of these services.

3. Background

- 3.1** Room hire and other charges for Portsmouth Libraries and Archives were agreed last year, having not been reviewed since 2018. The proposals in this year's report are aimed at applying roughly ten per cent increase on room hire charges, whilst leaving other charges unchanged.
- 3.2** During the last year, the Menuhin Theatre has become the only space available for short term room hire, as the rest of the rooms on the third floor of the Central Library are now occupied by longer term tenants. One room has for several years been re-purposed as a Photographic Store for the city archive.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 The Menuhin Room

Given the reduction of rooms available to hire at Central Library, there has been a rise in the level of demand for the Menuhin Room. Furthermore, over the last

twelve months, an increasing number of commercial musical events have been staged utilising the Steinway Model D piano that has been based in the library since the mid-nineteen-eighties. As well as adequately reflecting inflationary increases, our hire charges for the room and the piano do need to properly factor in both the administrative burden on library staff to take bookings and set up rooms, plus the need to re-invest in improving the technical aspects of the Menuhin Theatre as there is no library budget to do this. Proposed charges are detailed in Appendix 1.

4.2 Portsmouth History Centre

Many of the History Centre charges were simplified or rationalised last year. After some benchmarking with neighbouring authorities, it has been decided to keep these charges as 2022. For example, the Parochial Church Council did change their charges this year but as both Hampshire and West Sussex County Councils are charging the same as Portsmouth City Council to provide copies of baptism certificates. See Appendix 2.

5. Integrated impact assessment

5.1 An integrated impact assessment has been completed. See Appendix 3

6. Legal implications

6.1 Library charges and fines are subject to the Library Charges (England and Wales) Regulations 1991 (the "Regulations") made under section 8 of the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 and the proposals in this report are in general accordance with those Regulations.

6.2 Where charges are made in accordance with the Regulations the amount and incidence of the charges are at the discretion of the Council as library authority.

6.3 The Council has a duty under the Regulations to display in a conspicuous place within each library premises occupied by it a notice which is easily readable specifying the library facilities made available by the authority for which it makes a charge in accordance with the Regulations and, in the case of each such facility, the amount of the charge or the basis on which the charge will be calculated.

7. Director of Finance's comments

7.1 The fees & charges have been reviewed and increased in line with inflation in order to remain resilient against rising costs and to ensure the financial sustainability of the libraries service

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Signed by:

Stephen Baily

Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Portsmouth Central Library Third Floor Room Hire - April 2023

Appendix 2- Portsmouth History Centre Charges April 2023

Appendix 3 - Integrated Impact Assessment

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

.....
Signed by:

Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development

Libraries and Archive Service Fines and Charges - Appendix 1
Portsmouth Central Library Third Floor Room Hire - April 2023
Discounted rate for charities and Portsmouth City Council shown in (brackets)

	Menuhin Theatre
Capacity - sq. Feet	1,536 sq feet
Capacity - seating (pre-Covid)	100
Current hourly charge during library opening hours	£35.00 (£21.00)
Proposed hourly charge during library opening hours	£38.50 (£23.00)
Current daily charge during library opening hours	£175.00 (£105.00)
Proposed daily charge during library opening hours	£192.50 (£115.50)
Current weekly charge during library opening hours	£875.00 (£525.00)
Proposed weekly charge during library opening hours	£962.50 (£577.50)

Discounted rate for charities and Portsmouth City Council shown in (brackets)

<u>Outside of Central Library opening hours, shown below, an additional charge of £25.00 per hour will be added to all room bookings to provide an Attendant to deliver security, access, and support for the duration of the event.</u>	
Availability will be checked before your booking is confirmed.	
Central Library opening hours are:	
Monday	9.30 - 17.00
Tuesday	9.30 - 18.00
Wednesday	9.30 - 18.00
Thursday	9.30 - 18.00
Friday	9.30 - 17.00
Saturday	10.00 - 15.30
Sunday	Closed
Equipment charges per event:	
Projector and screen: Daily £15.00 Weekly £60.00 (please confirm if laptop is required)	
Flip chart: Daily £10.00 Weekly £40.00	
Piano (upright) Daily £23.00 (£22.00) Weekly £92.00 (£88.00)	
Piano (Steinway Model D Grand) Daily £45.00 (£40.00) Weekly £180.00 (£160.00)	
Piano tune £75.00	
IT training suites £20.00 per hour (£18.00 per hour)	

Libraries and Archive Service Fines and Charges - Appendix 2
Portsmouth History Centre Charges April 2023

	Current charge	Proposed charge
Baptism, Marriage and Confirmation Certificates	£31.00	Retain
Research and transcription fees	30 mins - £15.00 60 mins - £30.00	Retain
Digital/photography and all high-resolution images. For private research Per image*	£7.00	Retain
Scan to CD Rom	£1.00 for CD	Retain
Postage	£5.00 minimum and additional at cost.	Retain
Prints from microfilm and microfiche - not high resolution	A4 B&W 50p A3 B&W £1.00	Retain
Staff supported copying	Black and white A4 50p A3 £1 Colour A4 £1.50 A3 £1.50	Retain
Photography permits (for whole day use)	£10	Retain
Images by external provider	At cost	Retain

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Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Integrated impact assessment (IIA) form December 2019

www.portsmouth.gov.uk

The integrated impact assessment is a quick and easy screening process. It should:

- identify those policies, projects, services, functions or strategies that could impact positively or negatively on the following areas:
 - Communities and safety
 - Regeneration and culture
 - Environment and public space
 - Equality & - Diversity - This can be found in Section A5

Directorate:

Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Service, function:

Culture & Leisure

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old) :

Library and Archive Service Charges 2023

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:

- ☐ Existing
- ☐ New / proposed
- ☒ ★ Changed

What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

To review the charges levied by Portsmouth Library and Archive Service in respect of room and equipment hire and the Portsmouth History Centre, making sure they are fair whilst providing full cost recovery.

Has any consultation been undertaken for this proposal? What were the outcomes of the consultations? Has anything changed because of the consultation? Did this inform your proposal?

Consultation has been undertaken with local cultural stakeholders regarding continued use of the Menuhin Room as a musical venue. Also benchmarking with neighbouring local authorities regarding Archive charges.

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A1-Crime - Will it make our city safer?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce crime, disorder, ASB and the fear of crime?
- How will it prevent the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances?
- How will it protect and support young people at risk of harm?
- How will it discourage re-offending?

If you want more information contact Lisa.Wills@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-spp-plan-2018-20.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How will you measure/check the impact of your proposal?

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A2-Housing - Will it provide good quality homes?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it increase good quality affordable housing, including social housing?
- How will it reduce the number of poor quality homes and accommodation?
- How will it produce well-insulated and sustainable buildings?
- How will it provide a mix of housing for different groups and needs?

If you want more information contact Daniel.Young@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/psh-providing-affordable-housing-in-portsmouth-april-19.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A3-Health - Will this help promote healthy, safe and independent living?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it improve physical and mental health?
- How will it improve quality of life?
- How will it encourage healthy lifestyle choices?
- How will it create healthy places? (Including workplaces)

If you want more information contact Dominique.Letouze@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cons-114.86-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-proof-2.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Archive charges kept at 2022 level to increase engagement. Increasing use of Menuhin Room for activities that support health and wellbeing eg, musical lunchtime concerts funded by PCC wellbeing. Regular hire of the Menuhin Room by HIVE Portsmouth and PCC to undertake planning, training and delivery of services that will improve physical and mental health of residents. Research of the Archive including family history gives individuals a sense of identity and belonging.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

Monitor bookings and obtain attendee feedback.

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A4-Income deprivation and poverty-Will it consider income deprivation and reduce poverty?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it support those vulnerable to falling into poverty; e.g., single working age adults and lone parent households?
- How will it consider low-income communities, households and individuals?
- How will it support those unable to work?
- How will it support those with no educational qualifications?

If you want more information contact Mark.Sage@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-homelessness-strategy-2018-to-2023.pdf>
<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/health-and-care/health/joint-strategic-needs-assessment>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Reduced hire rates are offered to PCC or charities. These groups are often developing services targeted at the city's most vulnerable residents. PCC Family Learning and City of Portsmouth College often provide courses through out ICT facilities that can develop skills of residents with no qualifications.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Monitor bookings and feedback from attendees.

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A5-Equality & diversity - Will it have any positive/negative impacts on the protected characteristics?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it impact on the protected characteristics-Positive or negative impact (Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, Age, disability, race/ethnicity, Sexual orientation, gender reassignment, sex, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership,socio-economic)
- What mitigation has been put in place to lessen any impacts or barriers removed?
- How will it help promote equality for a specific protected characteristic?

If you want more information contact gina.perryman@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cmu-equality-strategy-2019-22-final.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Charges are designed to be fair and equitable to all. Central Library is in an accessible location and in good proximity to transport networks. The building will have a new 'Changing Place' toilet facility open by the end of February 2023, on the third floor, close to the Menuhin Room. This provides accessible toilet facilities for those that need additional support.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Monitor bookings and feedback from attendees.

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B1-Carbon emissions - Will it reduce carbon emissions?

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
- How will it provide renewable sources of energy?
- How will it reduce the need for motorised vehicle travel?
- How will it encourage and support residents to reduce carbon emissions?

If you want more information contact Tristan.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cmu-sustainability-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Minor positive impact - few Portsmouth residents are more than a twenty minute walk from a library so greenhouse emissions may be reduced. ICT training facilities are available in Cosham; Carnegie and Southsea Libraries, again mitigating on the need for lengthy travel.

Central Library is in close proximity to public transport networks.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

Feedback from attendees at events, using postcode data, if available.

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B2-Energy use - Will it reduce energy use?

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce water consumption?
- How will it reduce electricity consumption?
- How will it reduce gas consumption?
- How will it reduce the production of waste?

If you want more information contact Triston.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

<https://democracy.portsmouth.gov.uk/documents/s24685/Home%20Energy%20Appendix%201%20-%20Energy%20and%20water%20at%20home%20-%20Strategy%202019-25.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B3 - Climate change mitigation and flooding-Will it proactively mitigate against a changing climate and flooding?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it minimise flood risk from both coastal and surface flooding in the future?
- How will it protect properties and buildings from flooding?
- How will it make local people aware of the risk from flooding?
- How will it mitigate for future changes in temperature and extreme weather events?

If you want more information contact Tristan.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/env-surface-water-management-plan-2019.pdf>

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-flood-risk-management-plan.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B4-Natural environment-Will it ensure public spaces are greener, more sustainable and well-maintained?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it encourage biodiversity and protect habitats?
- How will it preserve natural sites?
- How will it conserve and enhance natural species?

If you want more information contact Daniel.Young@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-solent-recreation-mitigation-strategy-dec-17.pdf>

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change**Yes****No**

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B5-Air quality - Will it improve air quality?

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce motor vehicle traffic congestion?
- How will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?
- How will it discourage the idling of motor vehicles?
- How will it reduce reliance on private car use?

If you want more information contact Hayley.Trower@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/env-aq-air-quality-plan-outline-business-case.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Minor positive impact expected - reduced travel needed if archive documents can be emailed to customers, or people can collect items from a local branch library. Few residents are more than twenty minutes walk from a library. ICT training facilities are available in three locations covering the city.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Feedback from customers regarding preference of location in the city.

B - Environment and climate change**Yes****No**

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B6-Transport - Will it improve road safety and transport for the whole community?

In thinking about this question:

- How will it prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users over users of private vehicles?
- How will it allocate street space to ensure children and older people can walk and cycle safely in the area?
- How will it increase the proportion of journeys made using sustainable and active transport?
- How will it reduce the risk of traffic collisions, and near misses, with pedestrians and cyclists?

If you want more information contact Pam.Turton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/travel/local-transport-plan-3>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B7-Waste management - Will it increase recycling and reduce the production of waste?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce household waste and consumption?
- How will it increase recycling?
- How will it reduce industrial and construction waste?

If you want more information contact Steven.Russell@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste/HampshireMineralsWastePlanADOPTED.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

C - Regeneration of our city

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C1-Culture and heritage - Will it promote, protect and enhance our culture and heritage?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it protect areas of cultural value?
- How will it protect listed buildings?
- How will it encourage events and attractions?
- How will it make Portsmouth a city people want to live in?

If you want more information contact Claire.Looney@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Simplified and fair charges will increase availability and visibility of cultural services eg. more music/theatre based events. Events can draw in attendees from outside Portsmouth, raising the profile of the city as a cultural destination. Likewise, use of the archive by local researchers but also those based elsewhere, nationally and internationally.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Attendee feedback/evaluation forms.

C - Regeneration of our city

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C2-Employment and opportunities - Will it promote the development of a skilled workforce?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it improve qualifications and skills for local people?
- How will it reduce unemployment?
- How will it create high quality jobs?
- How will it improve earnings?

If you want more information contact Mark.Pembleton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-regeneration-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Some positive impact as PCC and partner organisations delivering ICT training can upskill residents. Access to culture can improve aspirations of those attending events and activities. Access to archives can help with research skills.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

Monitor amount of bookings for ICT training and targeting partnerships with those who seek to provide qualifications and skills.

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C3 - Economy - Will it encourage businesses to invest in the city, support sustainable growth and regeneration?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it encourage the development of key industries?
- How will it improve the local economy?
- How will it create valuable employment opportunities for local people?
- How will it promote employment and growth in the city?

If you want more information contact Mark.Pembleton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-regeneration-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Neither positive nor negative impact expected.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

Q8 - Who was involved in the Integrated impact assessment?

Jackie Painting

This IIA has been approved by: Stephen Bailly

Contact number: 023 9268 8072

Date: 18/02/2023

Agenda Item 4



Title of meeting: Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision

Date of meeting: 17 March 2023

Subject: Revenue Funding Grants 2023 - 2024

Report by: Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the proposed funding levels for the Revenue Grant payments to cultural organisations for the financial year 2023/24.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Revenue Grant payments as outlined are agreed for the financial year 2023/24.**

3. Background

- 3.1. A core level of revenue funding has been provided to a number of cultural organisations as an essential part of the wider cultural offer across the city. In all instances the core level of funding as proposed in this report is then used by the organisations as seed corn funding to leverage in funding from other sources to support the on-going running costs of the organisations.
- 3.2. All revenue grant payments are supported by a detailed Service Level Agreement reporting against which has to be provided prior to the release of any payments. The payments are also provided to the organisations in two equal instalments pending receipt of the reporting information.
- 3.3. The information required ranges from updated business plans and audited accounts through to a range of operational policies and evidence of insurance policies. The Service Level Agreement also stipulates specific requirements depending on the nature and function of the organisation and requires them to respond to newly adopted council policies such as the PCC Social Value policy and the Reduction in carbon emissions.

3.4. The proposed revenue grant contributions for 2023/24 are as follows:

Organisation	Purpose of the Revenue Grant	Proposed Grant for 2023/24
Aspex Visual Arts Trust	To support the work of Aspex as the primary contemporary visual arts space in Portsmouth	£16,900
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	To enable the orchestra to have Portsmouth as a key concert centre with high quality concerts and outreach programmes	£25,000
City of Portsmouth Preserved Transport	To provide specialist storage and maintenance for specific historic vehicles from Portsmouth's Museums collection	£8,680
Peter Ashley Activity Centres	To support the development of the outreach programme and delivery of activities	£3,000
Kings Theatre	To support the programme of work at the Kings Theatre including the development of education and outreach programmes	£48,000
New Theatre Royal	To support the programme of work at the New Theatre Royal including the of education and outreach programmes	£77,000
Ports Fest	To support the work of the Ports Fest annual festival event in late June/early July 2023	£3,000
Portsmouth Creates	To support this facilitating cultural organisation in the delivery of their work with individual creatives and bespoke projects	£50,000
Portsmouth Guildhall	To support the ongoing delivery of the key actions outlined in the detailed funding agreement and business plan	£177,000
Portsmouth Pride	To support the delivery of the Portsmouth Pride event	£10,000*

3.5 Please note the allocation towards Portsmouth Pride has already been secured from an agreed sum within Communities and Central Services and will not be funded from within Culture, Leisure & Economic development budgets. It is listed here in order to ensure that the principals of the application of a Service Level Agreement model and split payment are agreed.

3.6 During 2022 organisations had an opportunity to bid for the next round of National Portfolio Status funding from Arts Council England. Despite being identified as a 'Priority Place' by Arts Council England only two of the organisations we provide

funding two were successful in their applications, Aspex Visual Arts Trust and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. This matter has been taken up directly with the Arts Council.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. The provision of revenue funding to cultural organisations has a long history in Portsmouth and both officers and members have gone to considerable lengths to protect the revenue funding through the periods of budget reductions. The continued provision of this funding both acknowledges the strategic importance of these organisations but also the role this funding provides in attempting to leverage in financial support from other bodies such as Arts Council England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

5. Integrated impact assessment

- 5.1. Integrated Impact Assessment attached at Appendix A

6. Legal implications

- 6.1 The Council has a specific statutory power under Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make contributions (which would include grant funding) towards the pursuit of arts, entertainment and cultural objectives and may also rely on the general power of competence for local authorities in the Localism Act 2011, section 1.

7. Director of Finance's comments

- 7.1 The grants noted in this report will be met from the 2023/24 revenue budget.

.....
Signed by:

Stephen Baily

Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices:

Appendix A- Integrated Impact Assessment

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

.....

Signed by:

Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Integrated impact assessment (IIA) form December 2019

www.portsmouth.gov.uk

The integrated impact assessment is a quick and easy screening process. It should:

- identify those policies, projects, services, functions or strategies that could impact positively or negatively on the following areas:
 - Communities and safety
 - Regeneration and culture
 - Environment and public space
 - Equality & - Diversity - This can be found in Section A5

Directorate:

Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Service, function:

Culture & Leisure

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old) :

Revenue Funding grants 2023 - 2024

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:

- ☒ Existing
- ☐ New / proposed
- ☐ Changed

What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

Proposing the level of revenue grant funding to cultural organisations for 2023-2024 financial year.

Has any consultation been undertaken for this proposal? What were the outcomes of the consultations? Has anything changed because of the consultation? Did this inform your proposal?

NO

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A1-Crime - Will it make our city safer?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce crime, disorder, ASB and the fear of crime?
- How will it prevent the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances?
- How will it protect and support young people at risk of harm?
- How will it discourage re-offending?

If you want more information contact Lisa.Wills@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-spp-plan-2018-20.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How will you measure/check the impact of your proposal?

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A2-Housing - Will it provide good quality homes?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it increase good quality affordable housing, including social housing?
- How will it reduce the number of poor quality homes and accommodation?
- How will it produce well-insulated and sustainable buildings?
- How will it provide a mix of housing for different groups and needs?

If you want more information contact Daniel.Young@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/psh-providing-affordable-housing-in-portsmouth-april-19.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A3-Health - Will this help promote healthy, safe and independent living?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it improve physical and mental health?
- How will it improve quality of life?
- How will it encourage healthy lifestyle choices?
- How will it create healthy places? (Including workplaces)

If you want more information contact Dominique.Letouze@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cons-114.86-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-proof-2.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

We anticipate that the work and activities delivered by the organisations in receipt of the revenue funding may include projects or activities which support and promote involvement in culture as a means of improving physical and mental health.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

We would expect such work and it's impact to be reported through the annual reporting of how the funding has been used against the annual service level agreement.

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A4-Income deprivation and poverty-Will it consider income deprivation and reduce poverty?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it support those vulnerable to falling into poverty; e.g., single working age adults and lone parent households?
- How will it consider low-income communities, households and individuals?
- How will it support those unable to work?
- How will it support those with no educational qualifications?

If you want more information contact Mark.Sage@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-homelessness-strategy-2018-to-2023.pdf>
<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/health-and-care/health/joint-strategic-needs-assessment>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

We expect the organisations in receipt of the revenue funding to have initiatives in place to support access to their services for low income families as a way of removing price as a barrier to access. Some organisations may also have specific initiatives with low income communities as part of outreach programmes.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

We would expect such work and it's impact to be reported through the annual reporting of how the funding has been used against the annual service level agreement.

A - Communities and safety

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

A5-Equality & diversity - Will it have any positive/negative impacts on the protected characteristics?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it impact on the protected characteristics-Positive or negative impact (Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, Age, disability, race/ethnicity, Sexual orientation, gender reassignment, sex, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership,socio-economic)
- What mitigation has been put in place to lessen any impacts or barriers removed?
- How will it help promote equality for a specific protected characteristic?

If you want more information contact gina.perryman@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cmu-equality-strategy-2019-22-final.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

It is anticipated that the funding for the Portsmouth Pride event will have a specific role in promoting equality for some of the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

We would expect such work and it's impact to be reported through the annual reporting of how the funding has been used against the annual service level agreement.

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B1-Carbon emissions - Will it reduce carbon emissions?☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
- How will it provide renewable sources of energy?
- How will it reduce the need for motorised vehicle travel?
- How will it encourage and support residents to reduce carbon emissions?

If you want more information contact Tristan.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cmu-sustainability-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B2-Energy use - Will it reduce energy use?☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce water consumption?
- How will it reduce electricity consumption?
- How will it reduce gas consumption?
- How will it reduce the production of waste?

If you want more information contact Triston.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

<https://democracy.portsmouth.gov.uk/documents/s24685/Home%20Energy%20Appendix%201%20-%20Energy%20and%20water%20at%20home%20-%20Strategy%202019-25.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B3 - Climate change mitigation and flooding-Will it proactively mitigate against a changing climate and flooding?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it minimise flood risk from both coastal and surface flooding in the future?
- How will it protect properties and buildings from flooding?
- How will it make local people aware of the risk from flooding?
- How will it mitigate for future changes in temperature and extreme weather events?

If you want more information contact Tristan.thorn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/env-surface-water-management-plan-2019.pdf>

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-flood-risk-management-plan.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B4-Natural environment-Will it ensure public spaces are greener, more sustainable and well-maintained?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it encourage biodiversity and protect habitats?
- How will it preserve natural sites?
- How will it conserve and enhance natural species?

If you want more information contact Daniel.Young@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-solent-recreation-mitigation-strategy-dec-17.pdf>

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B5-Air quality - Will it improve air quality?☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce motor vehicle traffic congestion?
- How will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?
- How will it discourage the idling of motor vehicles?
- How will it reduce reliance on private car use?

If you want more information contact Hayley.Trower@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/env-aq-air-quality-plan-outline-business-case.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

B - Environment and climate change

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B6-Transport - Will it improve road safety and transport for the whole community?☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users over users of private vehicles?
- How will it allocate street space to ensure children and older people can walk and cycle safely in the area?
- How will it increase the proportion of journeys made using sustainable and active transport?
- How will it reduce the risk of traffic collisions, and near misses, with pedestrians and cyclists?

If you want more information contact Pam.Turton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/travel/local-transport-plan-3>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

B7-Waste management - Will it increase recycling and reduce the production of waste?

☐☒

In thinking about this question:

- How will it reduce household waste and consumption?
- How will it increase recycling?
- How will it reduce industrial and construction waste?

If you want more information contact Steven.Russell@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste/HampshireMineralsWastePlanADOPTED.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

C - Regeneration of our city

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C1-Culture and heritage - Will it promote, protect and enhance our culture and heritage?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it protect areas of cultural value?
- How will it protect listed buildings?
- How will it encourage events and attractions?
- How will it make Portsmouth a city people want to live in?

If you want more information contact Claire.Looney@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/pln-portsmouth-plan-post-adoption.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

Provision of the revenue grants ensures that the cultural infrastructure of the city can be maintained and active in delivering a substantial programmes of activity both directly in venues and through outreach and education programmes. All organisations work across the whole city providing opportunities to engage directly with culture and heritage, supporting both residents and visitors. All activities provided through these grants enhance the cultural activity of the city, promote and engage directly with supporting the thriving Cultural Industries through job and employment and well as enhancing the visitor offer.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Detailed service level agreements will be in place to underpin the delivery of the work associated with each of the individual grants.

C - Regeneration of our city

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C2-Employment and opportunities - Will it promote the development of a skilled workforce?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it improve qualifications and skills for local people?
- How will it reduce unemployment?
- How will it create high quality jobs?
- How will it improve earnings?

If you want more information contact Mark.Pembleton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-regeneration-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?

C - Regeneration of our city

Yes

No

Is your policy/proposal relevant to the following questions?

C3 - Economy - Will it encourage businesses to invest in the city, support sustainable growth and regeneration?



In thinking about this question:

- How will it encourage the development of key industries?
- How will it improve the local economy?
- How will it create valuable employment opportunities for local people?
- How will it promote employment and growth in the city?

If you want more information contact Mark.Pembleton@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or go to:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-regeneration-strategy.pdf>

Please expand on the impact your policy/proposal will have, and how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts?

The creative industries is one of the growth areas of the city with many creatives deciding to live and work here. These grants enable the key venues and organisations based here to support this specific industry providing job opportunities across a wide range of art forms and specialisms.

How are you going to measure/check the impact of your proposal?
Through the Service level agreements for each specific grant.

Q8 - Who was involved in the Integrated impact assessment?

Claire Looney

This IIA has been approved by: Stephen Bailly

Contact number: 4175

Date: 7th March 2023

Agenda Item 5



THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Briefing Meeting
Subject:	Reviving Victoria Park Project
Date of meeting:	17 March 2023
Report by:	Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services
Wards affected:	Charles Dickens

1. Requested by

- 1.1 Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To provide an updated overview of progress on the Reviving Victoria Park project

3. Information Requested

- 3.1 The Reviving Victoria Park project will restore the park to its original Victorian design, repair historic memorials, provide new play opportunities and create a new central hub building, with facilities to engaging the wider community in culture, heritage and education activities.
- 3.2 The project will uncover, restore, and celebrate the park's heritage and create a more inclusive space, so that more people can use the park to improve their wellbeing. The project will include:
 - 3.2.1 Dedicated outreach work with local communities which will identify and overcome barriers so that the visitor profile more closely matches the catchment area population
 - 3.2.2 A new educational programme and classroom space will deliver unique learning opportunities for children, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, and a wider health and wellbeing programme for schools



THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

- 3.2.3 Inclusive activities and interpretation which will transform visitors' engagement with the park, overcome barriers to greater use, and contribute to improved wellbeing
- 3.2.4 Restoration of Alexander McKenzie's historic design and infrastructure improvements will mitigate against increased use, improve accessibility, enhance environmental performance and tackle the effects of climate change
- 3.2.5 Additional staff and volunteers, a horticultural apprenticeship, a new Friends group and income generation opportunities will improve resilience, increase skills and ensure the sustainability of project outcomes



- 3.3 After considerable community engagement, site investigations and specialist design work between 2018 and 2021, PCC initially secured £2.27m from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to deliver the project between 2022 and 2026. In October 2022 PCC applied for a further £157,612 to cover increased costs due to inflation. Our application was successful, bringing the total grant awarded to £2.43m.

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

3.4 This funding has supported the following work to date:

- 3.4.1 The appointment of four members of staff - a Project Manager, Community Engagement Officer and Volunteer & Training Coordinator for the duration of the project, as well as a Horticultural Apprentice for 18 months.
- 3.4.2 The completion of detailed designs by the external design team for the restoration and improvement works and onsite interpretation scheme.
- 3.4.3 The appointment of local construction company DM Habens as main contractor. DM Habens included a strong social value statement in their tender and are committed to working with the Friends of Victoria Park, our volunteers and local residents to ensure a deeper involvement in heritage, community and the environment. They are currently running a drawing competition for children and adults alike. Winner's work will be printed onto the site hoarding. They are committed to running events whilst they work with PCC. These include bird watching, litter picking and offsetting their carbon footprint with planting in the city.
- 3.4.4 A range of community activities including liaison with local organisations and stakeholders, monthly Friends meetings and diverse programme of events and activities in the park. Most recently the project team worked with DM Habens to deliver a public exhibition, giving residents an opportunity to view detailed plans and discuss the changes. The Community Engagement Officer is working with community partners such as Shaping Portsmouth, Portsmouth Ambassadors, RSPB, MAKE and Trash Arts to co-create a comprehensive programme of free events and activities.
- 3.4.5 A volunteer recruitment drive to support the delivery of the project, including event stewards, historical researchers, community gardeners and website and social media administrators. To date, we have received 22 expressions of interest, with 8 volunteers signed up so far. Volunteers have already delivered walks and talks in the park, focusing on the many trees from around the world and the animals the park is home to. We are now preparing to launch our park maintenance and heritage research projects.
- 3.4.6 Onsite and online communication about the project, including a project website (<https://victoriaparkportsmouth.org.uk/>), social media and email newsletter
- 3.4.7 The planting of 29 new trees to begin our works to restore the grandeur of the central avenue and increase the biodiversity in the park.
- 3.5 The funding will support a range of capital works, activities and events over the next four years including:

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

3.5.1 Winter 2023

- Main capital works started onsite in January
- Demolition of the dilapidated green houses in the maintenance yard is complete
- Tree protections are in place
- Site set up and preparations are underway
- New community building works will commence
- Outdoor activity and events programme underway
- Volunteer recruitment drive
- Interpretation plans finalised and procurement will commence
- Fountain restoration specialist procurement

3.5.2 Summer 2023

- Interpretation works start onsite
- Entrance and railing improvement works commence
- New planting preparation works commence
- Fountain restoration works commence

3.5.3 Autumn 2023

- Capital and interpretation work complete
- Site wide planting works commence
- The Green House, our new community hub in Victoria Park, opening celebration
- Full activity programme launches using the Green House, including educational programme, community events and stakeholder projects

3.5.4 Autumn 2023 - Winter 2025/26

- Ongoing activities, events, training and volunteering programme

3.5.5 Winter 2025/26

- Project completes



THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Signed by

Stephen Baily

Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices: None

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

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Agenda Item 6

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Title of meeting: Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision Meeting

Subject: Pyramids Performance 12 Months After Re-opening

Date of meeting: 17 March 2023

Report by: Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Wards affected: St Jude (facility); Citywide (stakeholders)

1 Requested by

1.1 Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Economic Development

2 Purpose

2.1 To provide the Cabinet Member with performance metrics at the Pyramids over the past 12 months to inform a judgement on the effectiveness of the 2020-21 investment into the facility.

3 Information Requested

3.1 Background

3.1.1 The Pyramids has been a highly prominent leisure facility on Southsea seafront since it opened in 1988. Since 2013 it has been operated by BH Live.

Key dates	
Sep 2019	End of contract with BH Live
Oct 2019 to Mar 2022	Period of open-book operation when PCC underwrote trading deficits (for large parts of this period the Covid-19 pandemic restricted opening)
Nov 2020 to Jan 2022	The Pyramids underwent substantial re-purposing to convert the leisure pools into Exploria and the Plaza events space into a new gym.
Apr 2022	Main leisure facilities management contract varied to include the Pyramids - initially for 2 years.
Jan 2023	Pyramids completes 12 months in its new configuration

3.1.2 Between Nov 2020 and Dec 2021 the Pyramids underwent a phased re-purposing to address the significant and ongoing operational losses it had been making. In its final year of operation in its former configuration it made an operational loss of £714,870. While the last two weeks of March saw the centre close due to the Covid-19 pandemic the main reason for the losses was the leisure pool. The high energy costs and staffing costs of running the pool along with the declining

demand for leisure pools nationally (mirrored locally) made it impossible for the leisure pool to operate without substantial subsidy. Neither the operator nor the council was able to provide the high levels of subsidy needed to keep the pool open.

- 3.1.3 In March 2020 the operator BH Live proposed a re-purposing of the facility into a soft play and bounce attraction and a large health and fitness gym. This essentially retained the parts of the former configuration that were popular, enlarging them in the process, and removed the elements that were loss-making. Officers evaluated the options available (including closure of the Pyramids) and concluded that the most financially advantageous option which kept the Pyramids open as a leisure facility was BH Live's proposal.
- 3.1.4 The Pyramids already had £1.5m in the capital budget for refurbishment of mechanical and electrical systems and building fabric repairs. The Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Economic Development took the decision to re-allocate capital funds from various other capital schemes that, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, would no longer go ahead, along with funds from the Pyramids maintenance reserve, to add to the existing £1.5m to allow the project to proceed. This delegated decision was reported to CLED on 16 October 2020.
- 3.1.5 This re-purposing produced Exploria, an indoor play and bounce attraction in the former pool hall and a large well-equipped gym with group exercise studios in the former Plaza events space.
- 3.1.6 Exploria opened in August 2021 and the gym, under the BH Live Active brand, opened in January 2022. Consequently in January 2023 the Pyramids had been open fully for 12 months.
- 3.1.7 When BH Live were awarded the contract to operate the newly re-purposed Pyramids it was done so via a variation to the main Leisure Facilities Management Contract (which had included provision to do so when it was tendered in 2017). BH Live were awarded an initial two years rather than a longer period as it was not known how the facility would perform. The parties agreed to review performance after a year and decide whether to extend the Pyramids contract to be co-terminus with the main contract. The report to cabinet with details of the post-Covid deal was on 22 March 2022.
- 3.1.8 This report presents performance metrics that will be used in the ensuing review and is intended to provide the Cabinet Member with early insight into the performance of the facility after 12 months of fully open trading. As the main Leisure Facilities Management Contract is classed as a Strategic Contract under the council's Contract Procedure Rules approval to extend must be sought from the Cabinet. So, following negotiation with BH Live, a report will be brought to Cabinet with appropriate recommendations.

3.2 Trading

- 3.2.1 Pyramids trading account pre-Covid-19 FY (2019/20): **£714,870 deficit.**

Pyramids trading account current FY (2022/23): projected **£74,498 deficit.**

This represents a **90% reduction in the subsidy required** to operate the Pyramids, and as data below will show this is still an improving picture.

3.3 Energy consumption

3.3.1 Energy consumption/cost in the pre-Covid-19 configuration

	Gas	Electricity	TOTAL
Annual energy consumption in the pre-Covid configuration (ie leisure pool, small gym, events space) (kWh)	4,094,277	1,883,599	5,977,876
Annual energy cost in pre-Covid configuration (ie leisure pool, small gym, events space) (£)	£95,904	£253,825	£349,729

	Gas	Electricity	TOTAL
Annual energy consumption in the current configuration (ie Exploria, large gym) (kWh)	1,149,500	826,336	1,975,836
Annual energy cost in the current configuration (ie Exploria, large gym) (£)	£46,897	£146,261	£193,158

- The re-configuration of the Pyramids has reduced energy consumption by **67%**
- Despite the high levels of inflation in energy costs over the first year of operation, the re-configuration of the Pyramids has reduced energy cost by **45%**

The 'do nothing' option

3.3.2 One of the options officers evaluated was to reject the BH Live reconfiguration proposal and re-open after the Covid-19 pandemic in the same configuration. This was rejected as being financially disadvantageous to the Exploria/gym proposal.

3.3.3 Had the Pyramids re-opened in an unchanged configuration the energy market inflation would have had a severe impact on the trading account.

There is also no evidence to suggest that the operating deficit (excluding energy costs) would have improved. Indeed general (non-energy) inflationary factors would have tended to make the situation worse. If you then add the extremely high energy inflation to this picture the estimated trading deficit of operating the Pyramids in its pre-Covid configuration in 2023 would be a **£897,952 deficit**.

3.3.4 There is no PCC budget for this level of subsidy, and the operator would certainly not have contracted to run the Pyramids in this way. The clear conclusion is that if the re-configuration into Exploria and the new large gym had not taken place the Pyramids would certainly have been forced to close.

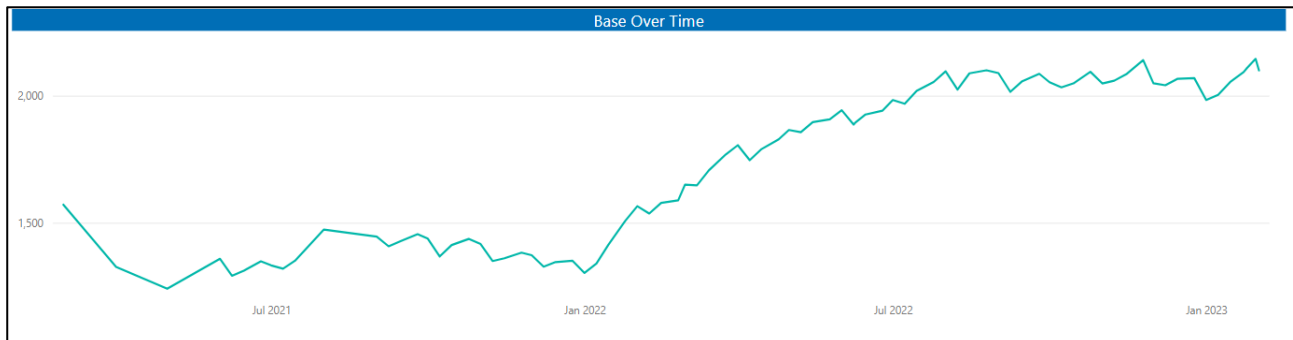
3.4 Participation

3.4.1 Financial factors are not the only ones worth considering in this context. The Pyramids provides a place for people to participate in physical exercise, indoor leisure and recreation, and social interaction. Declining participation levels for leisure pools, and the limitations of the small gym meant that the pre-Covid configuration was not maximising participation.

Since re-opening in its new configuration the Pyramids has seen growth in participation which exceeds pre-Covid levels in Exploria and is approaching pre-Covid levels in the gym.



3.4.2 Pyramids Health and fitness memberships

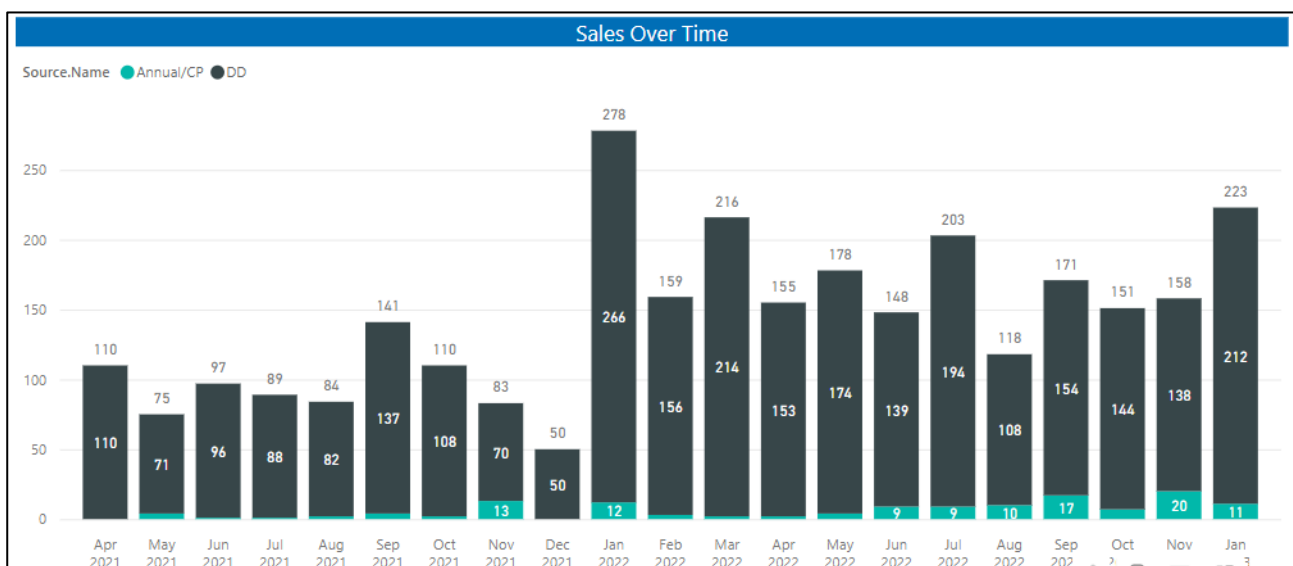


Gym membership before the Covid-19 pandemic was around 2,400. The graph above picks up membership levels early-pandemic and shows that while the temporary gym was open in the Glasshouse membership was between 1,200 and 1,400 (just before the new gym re-opened).

Once the new gym re-opened memberships have steadily grown over the following 12 months. Membership now is 2,164. This is projected to continue to grow towards pre-pandemic levels and beyond. Whilst growth in membership is continuing, the cost-of-living crisis is a constraint.

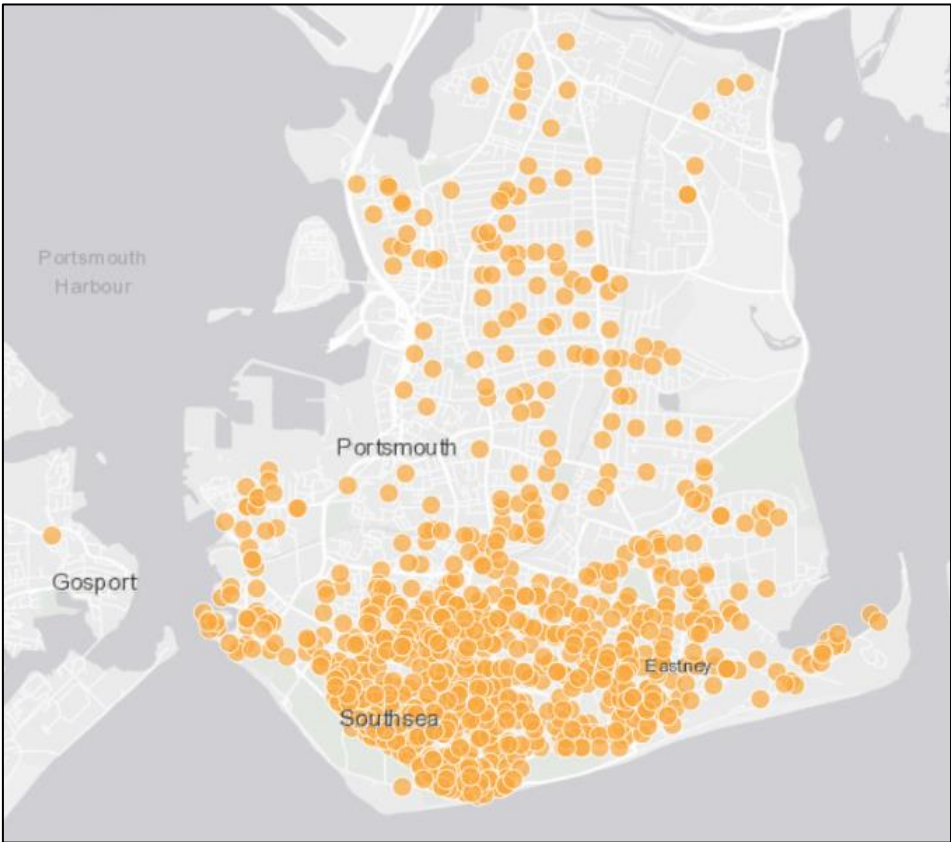
For comparison membership at the Mountbatten Centre is around 3,800.

3.4.3 Pyramids membership sales

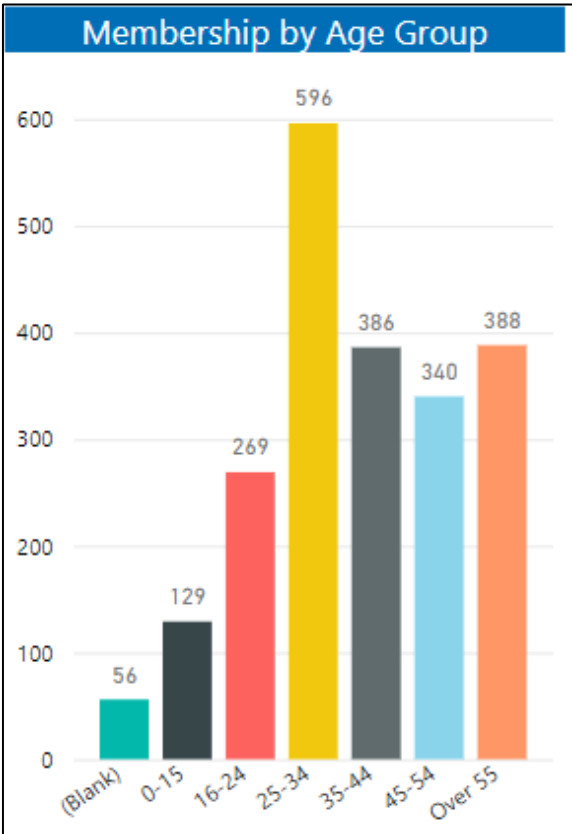


This graph shows the impact on the opening of the new gym on membership sales (ie new members) and that interest in membership has been sustained throughout the first year of opening.

3.4.4 Pyramids health and fitness postcode analysis

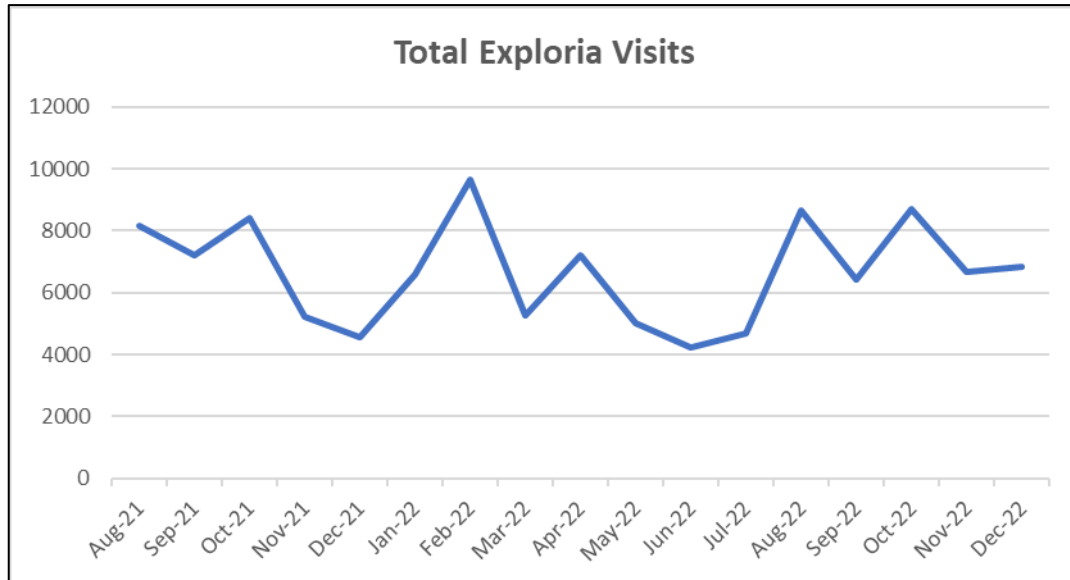


3.4.5 Pyramids health and fitness membership by age group



3.4.6 Exploria participation levels

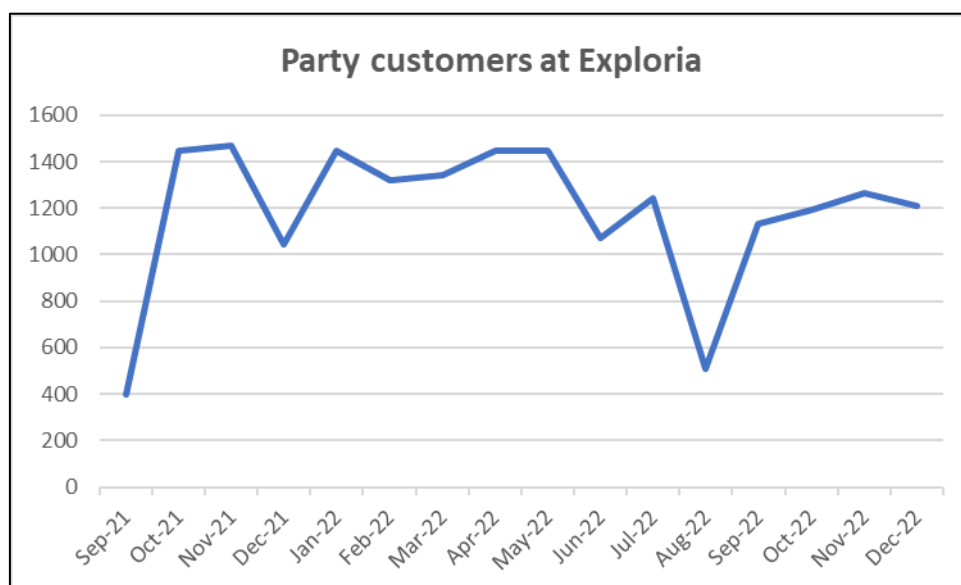
In its first 12 months since opening in August 2021 Exploria participation was higher by 27% than the pre-Covid-10 participation levels for the leisure pools.



This graph shows that periods of high ticket sales correspond to school holidays and half terms, and that interest has generally been maintained since opening.

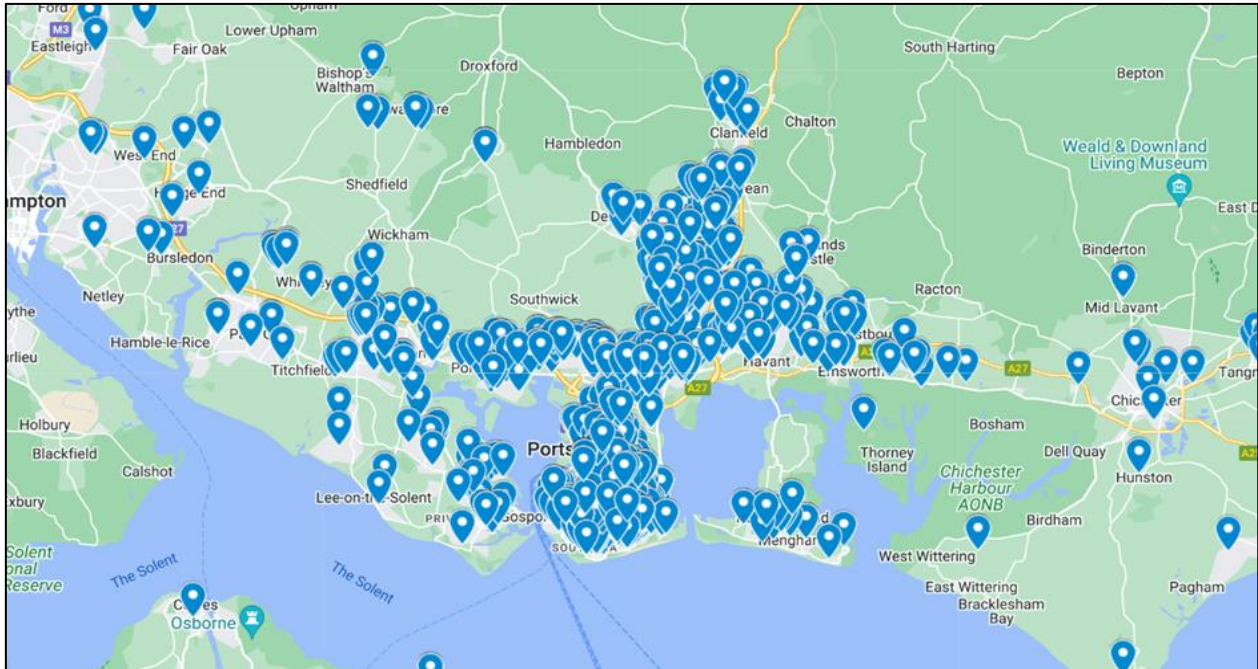
3.4.7 Exploria children's parties

An important element of ticket sales is children's parties, which were introduced in September 2021 (Exploria has four themed party rooms). These provide a consistent year-round income stream which has held up well since opening. Parties bring an average of 14 children per party, and Exploria hosts around 85 parties a month. Note the dips in December and particularly August.



3.4.8 Exploria customer post code analysis

Unlike the Pyramids health and fitness offer, which predominantly attracts memberships from Southsea (and slightly beyond), Exploria is more of a regional attraction.



3.5 Maintenance

- 3.5.1** Throughout the council's sports and leisure estate, buildings maintenance is considered separately and has a separate budget. Generally speaking the operator has responsibility for day-to-day repairs and maintenance, testing and servicing; the council has responsibility for building fabric repairs and maintenance and lifecycle replacement.
- 3.5.2** The removal of the leisure pool eliminated a great deal of ongoing running costs (staff, energy etc, see above) but also meant that a great deal of the buildings mechanical and electrical systems capacity could be taken away (boilers, pumps, filtration units etc). This has the potential to reduce the need for buildings maintenance budgets.
- 3.5.3** Initial estimates suggest that the building maintenance and lifecycle replacement requirements could be reduced by 40% or more. It is too soon to consider these as budget savings while the building is fully open, and while the long-term viability of the Pyramids is still being considered. Further work is needed on the future of the Pyramids building, and the site in general.

3.6 Conclusion

- 3.6.1** The investment in the Pyramids in 2021 has met its primary aims - to keep the Pyramids open as a leisure facility while eliminating any ongoing subsidy required from the council (please note that this protection from subsidy runs from April 2022 for 12 months - continuing it beyond April 2023 is subject to negotiation with BH Live).

- 3.6.2** Given the substantial positive change to the Pyramids trading account and the likelihood of further movement towards a break-even position, officers will negotiate the extension of the Pyramids management arrangements to align with the expiry of the leisure facilities management contract. Assuming a positive outcome from negotiations, a report will be brought for Cabinet to approve any ensuing deal.
- 3.6.3** The evidence of the first 12 months trading in its new configuration suggests that the decision in 2020 to re-purpose the Pyramids was the right one. This re-purposing has likely secured its ongoing operation for the 'medium term'. It is probable that (in the absence of any catastrophic event requiring major expenditure) this means up to 2030 or so.
- 3.6.4** The Cabinet Member is asked to consider at this stage that:
- Indoor play environments need regularly to be refreshed to maintain customer demand and address wear and tear (a good comparator to Exploria is Oxygen Free Jumping Trampoline Park in Southampton which opened in 2015. It was refurbished into Ninja Warrior in 2021 - probably a little earlier than planned to take advantage of the window of opportunity afforded by the Covid-19 pandemic).
 - Cardio gym equipment (spin-bikes, treadmills, cross trainers) normally have a lifespan of 6-8 years until they need to be replaced;
 - There are some systems in the Pyramids (like the air handling unit) that are original from 1988. The chances of these systems being fully operational in 2030 are low.
 - The Pyramids roof is in generally poor condition. The current management plan is to patch repair where possible and to tolerate water ingress in non-customer facing areas. This is clearly not a suitable approach for the long-term viability of the roof.

It is likely then, that by 2030 without significant capital expenditure the Pyramids will need to close due to exhausted mechanical and electrical systems, a failing roof and the need for new play equipment and gym equipment.

- 3.6.5** Consequently the Sports and Leisure service has begun work looking into the future of the Pyramids building (and the site in general) to ensure that the council is in as good a position as it can be, as the end of the decade approaches, to have a strategic vision for this important location on Southsea Seafront. Papers will follow in due course to keep the Cabinet Member informed of developments.

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Signed by
Stephen Baily
Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services

Appendices:

none

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

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