

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Inclusive Growth, Culture and Sport)

Date: 26th July 2017

Subject: Leeds 2023 European Capital of Culture Bid

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. Following the success of Glasgow 1990 and Liverpool 2008, a UK city will host the European Capital of Culture for the third time in 2023 alongside a city from Hungary.
2. Following a city-wide consultation in March 2015 the recommendation for Leeds to bid for the title in 2023 was approved by Executive Board, with a mandate for the bid to be made on behalf of the whole city.
3. During its meeting on 28th June 2017, the Inclusive Growth, Culture and Sport Scrutiny Board requested a detailed overview of the work undertaken to-date in developing the Leeds bid. The Chief Officer (Culture and Sport) will therefore be attending today's meeting to provide a presentation to the Scrutiny Board.
4. At that stage it was also acknowledged that the Executive Board would be considering an interim report on the Leeds bid at its meeting on 17th July 2017 and approval was also being sought surrounding the governance and budgetary arrangements for delivering the European Culture Capital year in the event of Leeds winning the competition.
5. A copy of the published Executive Board report has therefore been attached for information. The exempt Appendix 1 to the Executive Board's report has not been provided to Board Members at this stage as the Executive Board will not have passed a formal resolution in relation to this matter.

6. Whilst the details of the agreed budget to be included in the Council's application will be available to Members of the Scrutiny Board, it is certain that the public interest in maintaining this information when it becomes available as exempt will outweigh the public interest test in disclosing this information as this relates to the budget included in the Council's application to a competitive bidding process and as such, the release of information at this time would prejudice the city's and the Council's position.
7. The Scrutiny Board will therefore be recommended to pass a resolution to consider such information exempt in accordance with Access to Information Rule 10.4 (3) as it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Recommendation

8. That the Scrutiny Board notes and provides comment on the attached Executive Board report and the presentation of the Chief Officer (Culture and Sport).

Background documents¹

9. None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.