



SCRUTINY BOARD (CULTURE AND LEISURE)

Meeting to be held in the Civic Hall on
Monday, 8th October, 2007 at 10.00 am

A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board
in Committee Rooms 6 and 7 at 9.30 am

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

B Atha	-	Kirkstall
A Barker	-	Horsforth
B Gettings	-	Morley North
T Hanley (Chair)	-	Bramley and Stanningley
A Hussain	-	Gipton and Harehills
B Jennings	-	Weetwood
G Kirkland	-	Otley and Yeadon
V Morgan	-	Killingbeck and Seacroft
L Mulherin	-	Ardsley and Robin Hood
L Rhodes-Clayton	-	Hyde Park and Woodhouse
G Wilkinson	-	Wetherby

Please note: Certain or all items on this agenda may be recorded on tape

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CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT ITEMS

The reason for confidentiality or exemption is stated on the agenda and on each of the reports in terms of Access to Information Procedure Rules 9.2 or 10.4(1) to (7). The number or numbers stated in the agenda and reports correspond to the reasons for exemption / confidentiality below:

9.0 Confidential information – requirement to exclude public access

9.1 The public must be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that confidential information would be disclosed. Likewise, public access to reports, background papers, and minutes will also be excluded.

9.2 Confidential information means

- (a) information given to the Council by a Government Department on terms which forbid its public disclosure or
- (b) information the disclosure of which to the public is prohibited by or under another Act or by Court Order. Generally personal information which identifies an individual, must not be disclosed under the data protection and human rights rules.

10.0 Exempt information – discretion to exclude public access

10.1 The public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that exempt information would be disclosed provided:

- (a) the meeting resolves so to exclude the public, and that resolution identifies the proceedings or part of the proceedings to which it applies, and
- (b) that resolution states by reference to the descriptions in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (paragraph 10.4 below) the description of the exempt information giving rise to the exclusion of the public.
- (c) that resolution states, by reference to reasons given in a relevant report or otherwise, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

10.2 In these circumstances, public access to reports, background papers and minutes will also be excluded.

10.3 Where the meeting will determine any person's civil rights or obligations, or adversely affect their possessions, Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 establishes a presumption that the meeting will be held in public unless a private hearing is necessary for one of the reasons specified in Article 6.

10.4 Exempt information means information falling within the following categories (subject to any condition):

- 1 Information relating to any individual
- 2 Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
- 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 4 Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or officer-holders under the authority.
- 5 Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- 6 Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
- 7 Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)</p>	
2			<p>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</p> <p>To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public.</p> <p>Item 11 - Appendix</p>	
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To declare any personal / prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Members Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>MINUTES</p> <p>To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2007.</p>	1 - 4
6			<p>EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES</p> <p>To note the minutes of the Executive Board held on 11 September 2007.</p>	5 - 12

7		WHARFEMEADOWS FENCE INQUIRY	13 - 18
		To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development regarding the Board's Wharfemeadow Fence Inquiry.	
8		CONSULTATION ON STRATEGIC OUTCOMES AND IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR THE LEEDS STRATEGIC PLAN	19 - 26
		To consider a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement) regarding consultation on Strategic Outcomes and Improvement Priorities for the Leeds Strategic Plan.	
9		MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE	27 - 32
		To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which keeps Members up to date with developments of large projects and an opportunity to monitor issues.	
10		PROGRESS UPDATE, LEEDS GRAND THEATRE AND CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL	33 - 36
		To consider a report of the Chief Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer which updates the Board on the phase 2 refurbishment works at Leeds Grand Theatre and the proposed refurbishment of the City Varieties Music Hall.	
11	10.4(1, 3)	MIDDLETON PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE INQUIRY	37 - 50
		To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development regarding the Board's Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry. An appendix to this report is designated exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (1) (3).	
12		WORK PROGRAMME	51 - 60
		To consider a report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which details the Board's current Work Programme.	

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 12 November at 10.00 a.m. (pre-meeting for all Members at 9.30 a.m.)

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SCRUTINY BOARD (CULTURE AND LEISURE)

MONDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor T Hanley in the Chair

Councillors B Atha, A Barker, B Gettings,
A Hussain, B Jennings, V Morgan and
G Wilkinson

19 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor G Kirkland, Councillor L Mulherin (Maternity) and Councillor L Rhodes-Clayton.

21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2007 be approved as a correct record.

22 Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 16th May 2007 and 4th June 2007 be received and noted.

23 Executive Board - Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Executive Board meetings held on 16th May 2007, 13th June 2007, 4th July 2007 and 22nd August 2007 be received and noted.

24 Performance Report Quarter 1 2007/08

Referring to minute 6 of the meeting held on 11th June 2007, the Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement submitted a report presenting the **key areas of under performance** at the end of Quarter 1 (**1st April to 30th June 2007**).

Appended to the report was detailed information on the performance indicators, reported quarterly which were relevant to the Board's portfolio.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure
Jean Dent, Director of City Development
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer
Catherine Blanshard, Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage
Andrew Macgill, Head of Arts and Events

Councillor B Jennings made reference to performance indicator **BV-170a 'The number of visits/enquiries/ website hits to museums per 1,000 population'** and sought clarification on whether it was possible to show the authority's position against **All England authorities** as well as **core cities**.

The Director of City Development and the Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage responded and agreed to raise this issue with the Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement.

The Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage explained to Board Members that the comparison against the **core cities** was not necessarily a helpful point of reference for some Performance Indicators, particularly relating to **museums**, as amongst the core city authorities there was a wide divergence of provision, meaning it was difficult to compare like with like.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That this Board notes the Quarter 1 performance information outlined in the report.

25 Indian International Film Academy Yorkshire - 9th -10th June 2007 - Evaluation

The Director of City Development submitted a report reviewing the Indian International Film Academy weekend held between 9th-10th June 2007 as it affected Leeds.

Appended to the report was a copy of a letter to the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council from the Chief Executive, Yorkshire Forward dated 12th June 2007 thanking the Council for their support of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards weekend.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure
Jean Dent, Director of City Development
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer
Catherine Blanshard, Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage
Andrew Macgill, Head of Arts and Events

Councillor A Hussain and Councillor V Morgan made reference to the **car parking charges** implemented at the '**Bollywood** event' at **Roundhay Park** and sought clarification of the event organisers' current charging criteria. It was noted that this was not organised by the Council and that fees collected went directly to the Mela organising committee.

The Chief Recreation Officer responded and agreed to e mail Board Members with the relevant information.

RESOLVED –

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 8th October, 2007

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That those officers who were involved with the event be congratulated on its success.

26 Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry- Terms of Reference

Referring to minute 14 of the meeting held on 16th July 2007, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report on proposed terms of reference for the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to the terms of reference for the Inquiry as now outlined.

27 Inquiry into Leisure Centres - Response to Recommendations

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report on a formal response from the City Development department following the Board's previous Inquiry into Leisure Centres for the period 2006/07.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Scrutiny Board (Leisure) 2006/07 Leisure Centre Inquiry Recommendations – Responses from the Department' for the information/comment of the meeting.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure
Jean Dent, Director of City Development
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer

Councillor B Atha made specific reference to **Recommendation 6** ' *That the Sports Trust has within its governance arrangements the obligation to consult with local communities when a change to the service is proposed*' and **Recommendation 7** ' *That irrespective of any other consideration the Trust shall have no power to dispose of assets, to close Centres or significantly reduce services without the approval of the authority*' and reaffirmed the importance of the **governance arrangements**, including adequate consultation procedures where changes to the service were being proposed and that the **Sports Trust** should not have authority to **dispose of assets** without the Council's approval.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That this Board notes the response provided to the recommendations following the Inquiry into Leisure Centres.
- (c) That this Board notes that details of the specification in respect of all of these matters would be included in the report to Executive Board in October 2007.

28 Wharfemeadows Fence Inquiry

Referring to minute 13 of the meeting held on 16th July 2007, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report in relation to proposed terms of reference for the Inquiry into Wharfemeadows Park Fence and the Council's Water Safety Policy.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure
Jean Dent, Director of City Development
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need for the Board to be supplied with the verbatim notes of the appropriate full Council meetings
- the need to add Counsel, a representative from RoSPA and the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council to the list of witnesses
- clarification of what written information was available regarding legal advice received by the Executive Board

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That, subject to the addition of Counsel, a RoSPA representative and the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council to the list of witnesses, approval be given to the terms of reference for this Inquiry as now outlined.
- (c) That the Board's Principal Scrutiny Adviser be requested to seek clarification of the possibility of the Board meeting with Counsel.

29 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which detailed the Board's current work programme. Also attached to the report was an extract from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions which highlighted decisions that fell within the Board's remit.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

30 Date and Time of Next Meeting

- (a) Monday 8th October 2007 at 10.00 am (pre-meeting for Board Members at 9.30 am)
- (b) That Councillors B Atha and B Gettings advanced apologies for this meeting be noted.

(The meeting concluded at 10.40 am)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

TUESDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor M Harris in the Chair

Councillors A Carter, R Brett, J L Carter,
R Finnigan, R Harker, P Harrand, J Procter,
S Smith and K Wakefield

Councillor J Blake – Non voting advisory member

61 Exclusion of Public

RESOLVED - That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:

- (a) The appendix to the report referred to in minute 68 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information as disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interest of the Council, in relation to the disposal of this property or other similar transactions about the nature and level of offers which may prove acceptable to the Council.

It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure, much of this information would be publicly available from the Land Registry following completion of this transaction and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information at this point in time.

- (b) The appendix to the report referred to in minute 83 under the terms of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) and on the grounds that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information as disclosure of the shortlisted partners may be prejudicial to the competitive process resulting in a reduced income to the Council.

62 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Brett declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Children's Services and Children's Trust arrangements update (minute 70 refers) as the Chair of the Children Leeds Partnership.

Councillor J L Carter declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Development Proposals for Elland Road (minute 66 refers) as a member of the West Yorkshire Police Authority.

Councillor Harrand declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Future Ownership and Management of the Council's Small Industrial Unit Portfolio (minute 83 refers) as an unpaid Director of a company managing a group of small industrial units.

Councillor Harris declared personal interests in the items relating to Harehills Middle School and Hillside School, Beeston – Allocation of Grant to Tiger 11 (minutes 81 and 82 refer) as a Fellow of Leeds School of Entrepreneurship. He also declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item relating to the Development Proposals for Elland Road (minute 66 refers) in relation to his business interests.

A further declaration of interest made during the meeting is referred to in minute 70 (Councillor Harker).

63 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd August 2007 be approved as a correct record.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

64 Governing Body Proposal to Close St Gregory's Catholic Primary School in August 2008 Following the Publication of Statutory Notices

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the proposal by the Governing Body of St Gregory's Catholic Primary School to close the school.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the changes to the legal requirements for the determination of proposals on school organisation be noted.
- (b) That the Governing Body proposal on the closure of St Gregory's Catholic Primary School be referred to the schools adjudicator for determination.
- (c) That a further report be produced to determine the new arrangements for the determination of proposals on school reorganisation.

65 Vacation and Occupation of Chair

Councillor M Harris having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following minute vacated the Chair and left the room.

Councillor A Carter assumed the Chair.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

66 Development Proposals for Elland Road

Further to minute 215 of the meeting held on 14th March 2007 the Director of City Development submitted a report on the outcome of public consultation on the development proposals for the Elland Road site, presenting a proposed informal planning statement as a guide to future development proposals and on initial proposals for progress.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the outcome of the public consultation process on the development proposals for the Elland Road site be noted.
- (b) That the informal planning statement presented as a guide to future development proposals for the Elland Road site be approved and note that it may be necessary to review the content of the information planning statement dependent upon the outcome of the major leisure interest shown in the site.
- (c) That the exploration of the potential and the implications for the provision of a park and ride facility on the site be approved.
- (d) That in principle the sale of the former Greyhound Stadium site at open market value to the West Yorkshire Police Authority as a site for their new Divisional HQ, subject to the final terms being agreed by the Director of City Development be approved.
- (e) That a proportion of the receipt from the Greyhound Stadium site and others arising from the Council disposals in the area covered by the informal planning statement may be required to facilitate the reconfiguration of car parking and the implementation of any infrastructure proposals required to facilitate the comprehensive redevelopment of the Elland Road site be noted.

67 Re-Occupation of the Chair

Councillor Harris re-entered the meeting and resumed the Chair

68 The Former Headingley Primary School

The Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the request made by the Headingley Development Trust to transfer the former Headingley Primary School site to the Trust for less than best consideration for development as an enterprise and arts centre.

Following consideration of the appendix to the report designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was

RESOLVED – That consideration of the request from Headingley Development Trust to transfer the former Headingley Primary School to the Trust be deferred to the November meeting of the Board.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

69 Proposal to Make a Prescribed Alteration at Harehills Primary School

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the outcome of a formal consultation undertaken to make a prescribed alteration to permanently increase the admission number at Harehills Primary School from 60 to 90 reception places.

RESOLVED – That the publication of statutory notices to make a prescribed alteration to Harehills Primary School by permanently increasing the

admission number from 60 to 90 reception places with effect from September 2009 be approved.

70 Children's Services and Children's Trust Arrangements Update

Further to minute 182 of the meeting held on 9th February 2007 the Director of Children's Services submitted a report on the development, implementation and impact of new children's trust arrangements for Leeds

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress made in the implementation and impact of the children's trust arrangements in Leeds since the February 2007 report be noted.
- (b) That the forthcoming challenges and opportunities in progressing these arrangements, particularly in relation to preparations for the forthcoming Joint Area Review in Leeds be noted.

(Councillor Harker declared a personal interest in this matter as a member of the Children Leeds Partnership)

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

71 Lease at Less Than Best Consideration - Agreement to Lease 23 Miscellaneous Properties to CANOPY on a 25 Year Lease Agreement

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on a proposal to grant a long lease at less than best consideration of 23 Council owned miscellaneous properties to Canopy, for the purpose of refurbishment and improvement for accommodation for vulnerable tenants.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the lease of the 23 properties listed in the report to Canopy Housing Project at a peppercorn rent for a 25 year period at less than best consideration be approved.
- (c) That formal negotiations commence to complete the leasing arrangements with Legal and Democratic Services and Canopy.

72 Update on the Regeneration of the Beverleys Area of Beeston

Further to the minute 182 of the meeting held on 19th January 2005 the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the progress made on the Beverleys acquisition and demolition scheme.

RESOLVED – That the expenditure of £5,960,000 of Regional Housing Board grant funding be authorised in order to continue the regeneration of the Beverleys area as planned.

73 Gipton Home Buy Scheme

Further to minute 212 of the meeting held on 17th February 2006 the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on a proposed private equity model to fund an equity stake of up to 50% of the purchase price of a

property, dependent upon the applicant being able to fund a conventional mortgage of at least 50% of the market price to purchase a home on the new development on the former Amberton Road/Lower Gipton Crescent site.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That an injection of £1,308,014 fully funded by the sale of the land at Amberton Road/Lower Gipton Crescent to Gladesdale Homes be approved.
- (b) That expenditure of £1,308,014 be authorised.

LEISURE

74 Deputation to Council - Action Against Ragwort Group Regarding the Control of Ragwort

The Chief Recreation Officer submitted a report in response to the above deputation to Council on 18th July 2007.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted and the action taken to date to manage Ragwort and other invasive weeds on Leeds City Council land be approved.

75 The London 2012 Olympics - Opportunities for Leeds

The Director of City Development and Director of Leeds Initiative submitted a joint report outlining how Leeds can benefit from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and detailing the structure and resource implications of developing and implementing the proposals.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Council's role in maximising the benefits for Leeds that the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games present be supported and approved.
- (b) That the additional financial requirements included in the report be noted, and that a source of funding will need to be identified from 2008/09 be noted.
- (c) That the future arrangements detailed in the report to take forward this project be supported and approved.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

76 Waste Strategy

Further to minute 96 of the meeting held on 18th October 2006 the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the Waste Strategy with particular reference to service developments proposed to enable Leeds to meet the combined recycling and composting rate of 50% by 2020.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That increasing the recycling target included in the Waste Strategy to 'greater than 50% by 2020' be approved.
- (b) That the proposed recycling service developments, in particular the commitment to weekly collections of food waste be supported.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 17th October, 2007

- (c) That the projected financial implications of the strategy be noted and that provision be included within the City Council's future financial plans, commencing in 2008/09 financial year, subject to regular review.
- (d) That the Outline Business Case for a residual waste treatment facility currently being developed be noted and that the approval for its submission to DEFRA will be sought from Members at their next meeting on 17th October.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

77 WykeBECC (Built Environment and Catalyst Centre) - Seacroft

The Director of City Development and Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a joint report on a proposal to establish a Wyke Built Environment and Catalyst Centre on the site of the East Leeds Family Learning Centre and seeking to inject £1,295,000 into the City Development capital programme from the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative programme to cover the expenditure.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That an injection of an additional £1,295,000 into the City Development capital programme from the existing £15,600,000 LEGI programme be approved.
- (b) That the scheme as detailed in the report, at an estimated total cost of £1,295,000 be approved.
- (c) That the incurring of expenditure of £1,295,000 towards the purchase of the modular building, site preparation, fit out costs and associated fees to be met from the LEGI be authorised.

LEISURE

78 The Potential of Leeds Town Hall to become a First Class Concert Hall: Outcomes of feasibility study

The Chief Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer submitted a report outlining the findings of the study into the feasibility of developing Leeds Town Hall into a first class concert hall and to identify next steps.

RESOLVED – That officers investigate the potential of putting together a mixed funding package to upgrade Leeds Town Hall to a first class concert hall and report back to Executive Board with the outcome of the investigations.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

79 Aire Valley Action Plan preferred options

The Director of City Development submitted a report on plans to consult on the Preferred Options for the Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan Preferred Options for publication along with its Sustainability Appraisal and other supporting documents be approved.
- (b) That representations between 5th October and 16th November 2007 be formally invited.

80 Proposed Refurbishment of City Centre Public Realm

The Director of City Development submitted a report on the need for major investment in the city centre pedestrian area and adjacent streets on proposals for a co-ordinated strategy of refurbishment and maintenance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the principle of a co-ordinated programme of maintenance and improvements for street and public space refurbishment in the city centre pedestrian area as indicated in the report be agreed.
- (c) That officers work up a detailed programme of works, and progress funding proposals in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules
- (d) That officers ascertain the costs and possible sources of funding of an enhanced maintenance and cleansing regime and an increased city centre patrol of uniformed Liaison Officers and report back to Executive Board on the outcome of these investigations.

81 Harehills Middle School

The Director of City Development submitted a report on a proposal to spend an additional £500,000 of the £4,700,000 of Local Enterprise Grown Initiative funding already included in the approved capital programme for a grant to allow Harehills Community Interest Company to refurbish Harehills Middle School.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the scheme, as detailed in the report, at a revised estimated total cost of £900,000 (£400,000 previously approved) be approved.
- (b) That the incurring of expenditure of £500,000 towards refurbishment of Harehills Middle School to be met from LEGI scheme 13303 in the approved capital programme be authorised.

82 Hillside School, Beeston - Allocation of Grant to Tiger 11

The Director of City Development submitted a report on a proposal to release an additional £400,000 of Local Enterprise Growth Initiative funding already included in the approved capital programme for a grant to allow Tiger 11 (Together in Growth and Economic Regeneration in Leeds 11) to purchase and refurbish Hillside School to provide workspace and meeting rooms in Beeston.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the scheme as detailed in the report, at a revised estimated total cost of £600,000 (£200,000 previously approved) be approved.

- (b) That the incurring of expenditure of £400,000 towards purchase and refurbishment of Hillside school to be met from the LEGI scheme number 13303 in the approved capital programme be authorised.

83 The Future Ownership and Management of the Council's Small Industrial Unit Portfolio

Further to minute 57 of the meeting held on 21st September 2005, the Director of City Development submitted a report on the outcome of the marketing exercise that was undertaken to establish the level of interest in the Council's small industrial unit portfolio with a view to forming a partnership with the public, private or voluntary sectors, for the future ownership and management of the portfolio.

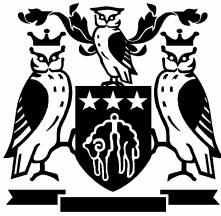
Following consideration of the appendix to the report designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That officers report back to Executive Board with a recommendation for a preferred and reserve bidder.
- (b) That the outcome of the marketing exercise be noted and the three short listed organisations detailed in the confidential Appendix II be approved.
- (c) That the list of properties for inclusion in the portfolio as detailed in Appendix III be agreed and that the Council will reserve the right to remove or add further properties to the list where appropriate.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 13TH SEPTEMBER 2007
LAST DATE FOR CALL IN: 21ST SEPTEMBER 2007

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items called in by 12 noon on Monday 24th September 2007)



Originator: Sharon Winfield

Tel: 24 74707

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8th October 2007

Subject: Wharfemeadows Fence Inquiry

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the July meeting of the Board, Members agreed to undertake an inquiry into the decision to erect a fence at Wharfemeadows Park in Otley and the more general Water Safety Policy of the Council.
- 1.2 A working group was established to draw up terms of reference for the inquiry and to begin to collate evidence. The terms of reference were submitted to the full Board at its September meeting. The working group has met a number of times and discussed various aspects of the inquiry, including undertaking a site visit to Wharfemeadows Park in Otley.

2.0 Report of the Working Group

- 2.1 Attached to this report is a summary of the working group's discussions to date. This is currently a draft summary for the full Board to approve. Members will be aware that further meetings of the working group are likely to be arranged.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are requested to approve the attached summary and make comments and recommendations as appropriate.

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Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Inquiry into Wharfemeadows Park Fence and the Council's Water Safety Policy

Summary of Working Group Meetings

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At its July meeting, Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) agreed to undertake an inquiry into the proposed fence at Wharfemeadows Park in Otley and the wider water safety policy of the Council.
- 1.2 In order to pursue this inquiry swiftly, it was agreed that the initial work be carried out in a working group, consisting of all the board members. Two meetings have been held during August, and a site visit has taken place.

2.0 Working Group meeting 15th August 2007

- 2.1 In attendance were Cllrs Hanley, Barker, Atha, Gettings, Wilkinson, Kirkland and Jennings.
- 2.2 Following an informal visit to Wharfemeadows Park in Otley, Cllr Hanley wished to pass on to the department his congratulations on the appearance of the park, which was well maintained and attractive.
- 2.3 It was noted that there was an area of concern to the Chair along the bank of the river which he felt should be noted by the working group during the forthcoming proposed site visit.
- 2.4 Members discussed the terms of reference for the inquiry. It was noted that an important issue was the legal advice that had been given to assist the decision making process. Members requested further details of this.
- 2.5 The question of other sites was raised during the discussion and it was noted that the Council has a number of publicly accessible sites with stretches of water. Members asked whether other sites would be risk assessed in the same way. It was agreed that this would be raised during the inquiry, along with a description of the role of RoSPA in this particular case.
- 2.6 Information was requested around the numbers of incidents specifically recorded in Wharfemeadows Park along with further details of the consultation that took place prior to the original decision to erect a fence was taken.
- 2.7 It was agreed that a site visit would take place and that a further meeting of the working group be arranged.

3.0 Working Group site visit Wharfemeadows Park 22nd August 2007

- 3.1 In attendance were Cllrs Hanley, Gettings, Barker, Kirkland and Wilkinson and Sean Flesher.
- 3.2 The Working Group were shown the locations for the proposed water safety measures, how the risk assessment was conducted and the rationale behind the recommended actions.
- 3.3 The Group was shown in particular the risk areas around the low wall, the subsequent drop ranging from approximately 4 feet to 12 feet in places and the rocks just below the water surface.
- 3.4 The initial proposals were explained to the group, the alternative proposals and why these were not adopted and the final recommendations following consultation.
- 3.5 During the site visit the group witnessed young children standing, walking and leaning over the low wall.

4.0 Working Group meeting 29th August 2007

- 4.1 In attendance were Cllrs Hanley, Gettings, Barker, Kirkland, Atha and Wilkinson. Officers in attendance were Denise Preston and Sean Flesher.
- 4.2 Members received a chronology of events from the incident in Roundhay Park in June 2005 to the latest report to Executive Board on August 22nd 2007. Events listed included meetings with RoSPA and briefings with Councillors.
- 4.3 The site visit that took place on 22nd August 2007 and this was discussed by the working group. Members concurred that the gardens were extremely well kept and attractive and this was passed on to the department.
- 4.4 It was agreed that this was a useful visit that enabled Members to be clear about where the fence would be and its relationship to other features of the park, such as the children's playground. Members had received a plan of the proposals during the visit and discussed the dimensions of the fence and its positioning.
- 4.5 Members discussed the number of reported incidents relating to the river in the park over recent years and learned that three major incidents had taken place that were reported in the local press. It was noted that staff working in the park have expressed fears about safety in the past.
- 4.6 Members wished to also emphasise that it was impossible to eliminate all risk and that care needed to be taken in general not to 'over protect'

people. It was acknowledged that the fence would protect against accidents but not against deliberate acts.

- 4.7 It was noted that the river levels fluctuated quickly and often without warning. When in flood, Members recognised that the river would have a strong and dangerous current. Suggestions had been made that the department could close the park during these times of flood, however, it was noted that not only was it difficult to predict when this would occur but that it would involve closing off a well used thoroughfare.
- 4.8 Members discussed the Council's position in needing to make a judgement about minimising public risk on sites that were for public use. Other sites that contained stretches of water, but have a different topology, visitor profile or where the Council were not inviting public use needed to be seen differently.
- 4.9 Members were interested in the difference between the original proposals made to fence off the bank and the amended proposals. Members learned that the original proposals included using a taller fence, fencing off the steps leading down to the river and fencing the river from the playground right down to the white bridge. The amended proposals include a lower fence with the steps left open and the river bank down to the white bridge will now have a vegetative margin instead of fencing. The steps will be repaired as part of the work.
- 4.10 It was noted that any hiatus in the work being planned ran the risk of the fencing not being erected until next year and that now is the seasonal window of opportunity to access areas of the bank. Members also learned that work is progressing and will be completed by late autumn. It was noted that the proposed signage requires planning permission, though smaller 'nag signs' can be erected without planning permission.
- 4.11 Members concluded that the draft terms of reference be taken to the September meeting of the full board for approval and that copies of the relevant Executive Board reports and press cuttings be circulated to Members.

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Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement)

Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8 October 2007

Subject: Consultation on Strategic Outcomes and Improvement Priorities for the Leeds Strategic Plan

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

At its meeting on 11 September 2007 Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that relevant Scrutiny Committees should be invited to provide feedback on the draft strategic outcomes and improvement priorities proposed for the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008 -11 with particular reference to their portfolio area. These views will then be considered collectively by Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a detailed response agreed at its 6 November meeting.

This report provides the background to the development of the Leeds Strategic Plan and the planned consultation process. The accompanying presentation at the Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) and the appendix to the report outline the draft strategic outcomes and improvement priorities proposed for the Leeds Strategic Plan. It is recommended that the Board considers and comments on the draft improvement priorities from the perspective of fulfilling the city's ambitions in terms of culture and leisure.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 This report provides Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) with background to the Leeds Strategic Plan and the planned consultation process. It invites the Board to consider and comment on the draft strategic outcomes and improvement priorities to be included in the Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11. It will be accompanied by a short presentation.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1. On July 4th 2007, the Executive Board agreed to adopt a new corporate planning framework for the Council. At the heart of the new planning framework will be a Leeds Strategic Plan which will set out the strategic outcomes and improvement priorities for Leeds for the next three years with regard to what the Council will deliver by itself or in partnership with others.
- 2.2. The Leeds Strategic Plan is based on the themes established in the existing Vision for Leeds. It streamlines the Council's Corporate Plan, the Local Area Agreement and the Leeds Regeneration Plan into one plan. This will provide an integrated framework geared to tackling neighbourhood needs and priorities, one of the recommendations of the Council's Scrutiny Inquiry into Narrowing the Gap.
- 2.3 The Leeds Strategic Plan 2008 – 11 will incorporate the requirements of the Council's duty to consult with named partners to draw up improvement priorities for the Local Area Agreement as outlined in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill due to gain Royal Assent in autumn 2007.
- 2.4. The development of the Leeds Strategic Plan builds on the extensive consultation undertaken to develop the eight themes of the Vision for Leeds and also incorporates more recent evidence to help the Council determine its improvement priorities to achieve the Council's Mission 'to bring the benefits of a prosperous, vibrant, and attractive city to all the people of Leeds'. Generally, these have included:
- Performance reported from existing city-wide plans including the Leeds Regeneration Plan, the Council's Corporate Plan and the Local Area Agreement
 - Citizens views from the Annual Survey and surveys carried out in particular areas of the city or on particular services
 - Demographic and economic trends in the city
 - Service knowledge and experience
 - Area knowledge and experience

3.0. Main Issues

- 3.1. The Leeds Strategic Plan will shape the Council's priorities for the city. With their local knowledge and experience Members will have a key role in deciding the contents of the Leeds Strategic Plan thereby speaking up for their communities and shaping the future of the city as a whole.
- 3.2. The consultation process will provide the opportunity to 'check' with key partners

and stakeholders whether the right improvement priorities are covered, identify any gaps and explore views on how delivery can best be achieved over the next three years.

3.3. Other stakeholders to be engaged in the consultation are:

- Elected Members
 - Leeds Strategic Plan Member Reference Group
 - Scrutiny Committees
 - Area Committees
- Statutory Partners (designated by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act)
- Leeds Initiative
 - Going Up a League and Narrowing the Gap Executives
 - All Strategy and Development GroupsDistrict Partnerships
- Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector
 - Strategy Group
 - Theme Forums
- Representatives of the business community
- Representatives of Trade Unions
- Council Staff
 - Chief Officers
 - Employee Focus Groups
 - Team Talk
- Equality strands
 - Citizen Focus Groups (as appropriate)

3.4. Consultation on the draft improvement priorities is taking place between September and November 2007. From November 2007 the Council and its partners will negotiate with Government Office the improvement priorities to be included in the Local Area Agreement which will form part of the Leeds Strategic Plan. The final version of the Leeds Strategic Plan is due to be presented to the Executive Board of the Council and to the Leeds Initiative at their February meetings and to the full Council meeting in April 2008.

4.0. Consideration by Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

4.1. The draft strategic outcomes and improvement priorities are contained in Appendix 1 of this report and will be presented to the Board this meeting where there will be opportunity to comment on these at the meeting in relation to fulfilling the city's ambitions in meeting the needs of children and young people.

4.2. The views of Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) will be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee who will draw up a detailed response to the proposed strategic outcomes and improvement priorities to be included in the Leeds Strategic Plan based on the considerations of all scrutiny boards.

4.3. The Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) will have a further opportunity to comment on the indicators and targets to support the improvement priorities to be included in the Leeds Strategic Plan at its meeting in the January cycle.

5.0. Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 5.1. The Budget and Policy Framework forms Article 4 of the Constitution which is a key part of Leeds City Council's governance arrangements. Leeds Strategic Plan must be formulated and approved in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules that require consultation, prior to consideration by Members of the Executive Board and final approval by Members of full Council.

6.0. Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1. The Leeds Strategic Plan will contain the Council's strategic outcomes and improvement priorities for Leeds for the next three years. This will set the policy framework for setting the Council's budget in future years.

7.0. Recommendations

- 7.1. The Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) is requested to:
- i) consider and comment on the proposed strategic outcomes and improvement priorities to be included in the Leeds Strategic Plan from the perspective of meeting the fulfilling the city's ambitions in terms of culture and leisure.

APPENDIX 1

Draft Strategic Outcomes and Improvement Priorities for the Leeds Strategic Plan

Vision Themes	Draft Strategic Outcomes - what we want to see by 2011	Draft Improvement Priorities - our focus during 2008-11
<p>Cultural Life: A city with a vibrant and distinct cultural life Leeds will be a city with a vibrant and distinctive cultural life – a welcoming city which is internationally recognised as a centre of cultural excellence and provides cultural opportunities for everyone</p>	<p>Enhanced cultural opportunities through encouraging investment and development of high quality facilities of national and international standing.</p> <p>Increased participation in cultural opportunities through engaging with all our communities.</p>	<p>Deliver three major cultural schemes of regional and international significance.</p> <p>Increase the number of facilities receiving accreditation for quality of service.</p> <p>Increase participation in culture by providing a range of activities which can be used by all our communities and visitors.</p>
<p>Enterprise and the Economy: Promoting Leeds as the regional capital Leeds will be a competitive international city. It will contribute to the national economy and will support and be supported by an increasingly competitive region</p>	<p>Increased international competitiveness through marketing and investment in high quality infrastructure and physical assets, particularly in the city centre.</p> <p>Increased entrepreneurship and innovation through effective support to achieve the full potential of people, business and the economy.</p>	<p>Increase international communications, marketing and support activities to promote the city and attract investment.</p> <p>Deliver three major projects to improve the city centre.</p> <p>Increase entrepreneurial activity in deprived areas.</p> <p>Enhance the skills of the current workforce.</p> <p>Increase our reputation as a centre for knowledge and innovation.</p>
<p>Learning: A leading centre of learning, knowledge and research Leeds will become a learning city. Businesses and individuals will benefit from accessible world class learning, creating a wealthier city and personal and social satisfaction. We will inspire young people to see learning as their route to success</p>	<p>Enhance skills of the current and future workforce through fulfilling individual and economic potential and investing in learning facilities.</p>	<p>Improve learning outcomes for 16 year olds.</p> <p>Narrow the gap in learning outcomes for 16 year olds.</p> <p>Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for 19 year olds.</p> <p>Reduce the proportion of vulnerable groups not in education, training or employment.</p> <p>Improve participation and early learning outcomes for children from the most deprived areas.</p> <p>Develop extended services, using learning sites across the city, to improve support to children, families and communities.</p>
<p>A Modern Transport System Safe, sustainable and effective transport – meeting people’s need to get about while affecting the environment as little as possible</p>	<p>Increased accessibility and connectivity through investment in high quality, integrated transport influencing others and changing behaviours.</p>	<p>Develop proposals for an enhanced transport system aimed at securing funds for delivery.</p> <p>Improve the condition of the streets</p>

		<p>and transport infrastructure by carrying out a major programme of maintenance and improvements.</p> <p>Improve road safety for all our users, especially motor cyclists and pedal cyclists.</p> <p>Improve the quality, use and accessibility of public transport services in Leeds.</p>
<p>Environment City: A reputation for environmental excellence Leeds will have a reputation for environmental excellence through the quality of our built environment, the use of our green space, the effective use of natural resources, clean air quality and waste management. It will be a place that joins economic, social and environmental objectives so that the action we take today does not limit the choices of future generations or others elsewhere in the world</p>	<p>Reduced ecological footprint through leading the response, influencing, mitigating and adapting to environmental and climate change.</p> <p>Cleaner, greener city and more attractive city through effective environmental management and changed behaviours.</p>	<p>Increase recycling rates and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.</p> <p>Reduce emissions from public sector buildings, operations and service delivery.</p> <p>Undertake actions to improve our resilience to current and future climate change.</p> <p>Address neighbourhood problem sites and improve cleanliness of publicly owned land.</p>
<p>Health and Wellbeing: Creating a healthy city Leeds will be a healthy city for everyone who lives, visits or works here, promoting fulfilling and productive lives for all. We will reduce inequalities in health between different parts of the city between different groups of people and between Leeds and the rest of the country</p>	<p>Reduced health inequalities through the promotion of healthy life choices and improved access to services.</p> <p>Improved quality of life through maximizing the potential of vulnerable people by promoting independence, dignity and respect.</p> <p>Enhanced safety and support for vulnerable people through preventative and protective action to minimize risks and maximize wellbeing.</p>	<p>Reduce coronary heart disease.</p> <p>Reduce the number of people who smoke.</p> <p>Embed a safeguarding culture for all.</p> <p>Reduce bullying and harassment.</p> <p>Reduce obesity and raise physical activity for all.</p> <p>Reduce teenage conception and improve sexual health for all.</p> <p>Promote emotional well-being for all.</p> <p>Improve the assessment and care management of children, families and vulnerable adults.</p> <p>Improve psychological and mental health services for children, young people and families.</p> <p>Increase the proportion of vulnerable adults helped to live at home.</p> <p>Increase the proportion of people in receipt of community services enjoying choice and control over their daily lives.</p>

<p>Thriving Places: A place of many parts Leeds will be a unique city with a strong identity and varied, stable neighbourhoods where people live out of choice not necessity, enjoying the high quality of life and range of opportunities that Leeds can offer</p>	<p>Reduced crime and fear of crime through prevention, detection, offender management and changing behaviours.</p> <p>Improved quality of life through mixed neighbourhoods offering good housing options and better access to services and activities.</p> <p>Increased economic activity through targeted support to reduce worklessness and poverty.</p>	<p>Increase the supply of homes meeting the decency standard.</p> <p>Increase the number of affordable homes.</p> <p>Reduce the number of homeless people.</p> <p>Reduce the number of people who are not able to adequately heat their homes.</p> <p>Reduce crime and fear of crime.</p> <p>Reduce offending.</p> <p>Reduce the harm from drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Increase positive opportunities for children and young people.</p> <p>Reduce anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Reduce worklessness in deprived areas.</p> <p>Reduce financial exclusion in deprived areas.</p>
<p>Harmonious Communities: A rich mix of cultures and communities Leeds will be a city of equal opportunity where everyone has a fair chance and people from all backgrounds take part in community life creating a society that is varied, vibrant and proud</p>	<p>Improved community cohesion and respect through meaningful involvement and promoting equality and diversity.</p> <p>More inclusive, varied and vibrant neighbourhoods through empowering people to contribute to decision making and delivering local services.</p>	<p>Support local people to become active members of their local communities to meet local needs.</p> <p>Strengthen the role of elected members as community champions.</p> <p>Support a robust and vibrant voluntary, community and faith sector.</p> <p>Promote community pride, integration and a sense of belonging.</p>

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Originator: S Winfield

Tel: 24 74707

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8th October 2007

Subject: Major Projects Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 During the previous municipal year, the Leisure Scrutiny Board established a regular report on the major projects being undertaken within the Leisure portfolio. This was intended to keep Members up to date with developments of the larger projects and to give an opportunity to monitor issues as they arose.

1.2 Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure) agreed to continue this practice this year.

2.0 Report to the Scrutiny Board

2.1 Attached to this report is the updated spreadsheet highlighting milestones for each major project. The City Varieties and Grand Theatres are excluded from this report as these are being reported on separately.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Members are requested to note the information attached and to comment and make recommendations as appropriate.

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Leisure Scrutiny Board

Cultural Infrastructure Progress Spreadsheet

Scheme no.	Swimming and Diving Centre	City Museum	Discovery Centre	Carriageworks	Art Gallery Phase 1
02794/000/000					
Opening date					
Aspirational date at start of the project	Apr-06	2007	2007	Apr-04	Early Summer 2007
Proposed opening date when Tender let	Feb 2007	2008	2007	Feb-05	Early Summer 2007
Working Opening date	Summer 2007	Autumn 2008	Summer 2007	9th Sept 2005	23rd May 2007
Actual Opening date	29th Oct 2007	tbc	25th Jul 2007	11th Nov 2005	21st Jun 2007
Start on site	Apr-05	Sep-05			July - Dec

Approved Expenditure

First Executive Board date	Jan-05	15th Oct 2003	26th Sept 2001	Capital Prog 06
Amount approved	16,230,700	26,949,800	2,720,000	1,600,000
LCC	11,469,700	5,737,500		200,000
HLF		19,477,500		
YF		1,598,300		1,300,000
ACE				
Private				
Other		514,500		100,000
sport England	4761000			

Unforeseen costs current £ 665,000 absorbing

Dry and wet rot in roof and floor timbers, instability of structural walls, unsound brickwork to support proposed new roof, English Heritage related changes, unstable subfloor

Piling and statutory services, additional steelwork, gas membrane, fireboarding, contaminated land removal

Unforeseen costs description
Additional injection
Date approved

665,000
13-Dec-06

1,980,500
24-Jan-07 nil

1,498,000
21-Jul-04

Security hit by lightning in August storms.

Scheme costs were the subject of a confidential report to Board on 13/06/07 for which conditions still apply.

Scheme costs were the subject of a confidential report to Exec Board on 24/01/07 for which conditions still apply.

Final Costs

10 lane 50m pool inc 10m diving, dryland gym, seating for 800, dance studio, changing rooms, café and meeting rooms	Create a Museum of Leeds in the old Leeds Institute building on Millennium Square	Create an interactive store for Leeds Museums resources when not on display - includes learning spaces	Create a theatre and second performance space for community arts and to support Arts Guild	New Front doors, refloor entrance, restore tiled hall, strip Art Library turn into Gallery, strip out café create Family learning space
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Brief summary of project

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Report of the Chief Libraries, Arts and Heritage Officer

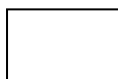
Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8th October 2007

Subject: Progress Update, Leeds Grand Theatre and City Varieties Music Hall

Electoral Wards Affected:

City and Hunslet



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members of Scrutiny Board on the phase 2 refurbishment works at Leeds Grand Theatre and the proposed refurbishment of the City Varieties Music Hall.

2.0 LEEDS GRAND THEATRE

(i) Background

2.1 Phase 1 of the refurbishment of Leeds Grand Theatre commenced in August 2005 and was completed on 17 September 2006, approximately five (5) weeks later than originally programmed, with the theatre reopening to the public in October 2006.

2.2 The Phase 1 works primarily addressed improvements in the auditorium and technical/operational improvements in the backstage areas, along with the provision of two new rehearsal rooms for use by Opera North. The works undertaken in phase 1 included improvements to make the theatre more accessible under the DDA requirements, Health and Safety works; new seating in the theatre stalls and refurbished seating elsewhere in the auditorium, two new rehearsal rooms, scenery bridge and get in lift, extended fly tower and new automated flying system, reconfigured orchestra pit and provision of air cooling and improved ventilation throughout the auditorium.

2.3 The cost of the phase 1 works is estimated to be £22.365m inclusive of construction costs, closure costs, property transactions and the cost of upgrading/ replacing much of the building's mechanical and electrical services.

(II) Current Position

- 2.4 Members of Scrutiny Board should note, that whilst the phase 1 works detailed above conserved the theatre and improved the operational efficiency of the building, the works did not include for the full refurbishment of the theatre. The phase 2 works seek to deliver visible improvements to the buildings, particularly, in the public areas of the theatre, by renovating the Grand Hall and Assembly Room, further improvements to the theatre's front of house areas, undertaking repairs/ restoration works to the exterior of the building and undertaking improvements to the backstage areas and dressing rooms.
- 2.5 Budget provision of £10.644m has been secured for the phase 2 works comprising, Arts Council England (£2.2m), HLF (£0.995m), Opera North and Leeds Grand Theatre Development Trust (£3.2m), Opera North (£0.5m), Leeds Grand Theatre and Opera House Ltd (£2m) and Leeds City Council (£1.77m).
- 2.6 The phase 2 works started on site on 17 September, with works envisaged to be complete by 15 September 2008. Members of Scrutiny should note that subject to the precise nature of the backstage works being determined, it is envisaged that the theatre will remain open throughout the duration of the phase 2 works. However, if the backstage works were to include the replacement of the theatre's safety curtain, then closure of the theatre would be required for around five (5) weeks on health & safety grounds.

3.0 CITY VARIETIES MUSIC HALL

(i) Background

- 3.1 The City Council's Executive Board at its meeting in February 2007 approved a proposed refurbishment scheme for the City Varieties costing an estimated £9.2m and comprising:-
- * Improved and extended front of house facilities, including additional foyer space, relocated box office and lift access to all levels.
 - * Refurbished auditorium including redecoration, replacement seating and improved lighting.
 - * Renewed/improved ventilation/cooling to the auditorium.
 - * Improved backstage areas.
 - * Improved accessibility and circulation.
 - * Improved fire safety measures.
 - * Improved public facilities.
- 3.2 The assumed funding provision for the proposed refurbishment works is
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| * Leeds City Council | £5.2m |
| * Heritage Lottery Fund | £3.0m |

* Leeds Grand Theatre £1.0m

- 3.3 Executive Board has also agreed that the acquisition of adjacent third party property interests should be pursued, which would provide a number of technical and operational benefits to the Music Hall in terms of the proposed refurbishment works. The cost of acquiring the third party property interest will be an additional cost to the £9.2m estimated cost of the refurbishment works.

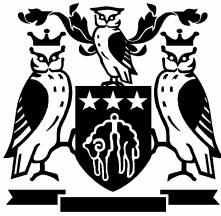
(ii) Current Position

- 3.4 The HLF has confirmed a stage 1 pass for a grant award of £3m towards the cost of refurbishing the City Varieties.
- 3.5 A report will be presented to the Council's Executive Board in October 2007 to authorise the ongoing design development work required to submit a stage 2 bid to the HLF in May 2008.
- 3.6 Members of the Scrutiny Board should note that securing a stage 1 grant award from the HLF is a key decision for the success of the project. A stage 1 pass means that money has been earmarked by the HLF for the City Varieties project. Competition for HLF funds does, however, remain tough and while a stage 1 pass does not guarantee funding, it is a clear indication of positive support and money for the scheme is set aside for the particular project. The Council and its partner can now progress the submission of a stage 2 application to secure the full grant. It is envisaged that the stage 2 application will be confirmed in September 2008.
- 3.7 On the assumption that the HLF confirm the stage 2 award in September 2008, the development programme envisages that works would start on site in late spring 2009, with works complete by July 2010 and the Music Hall reopening in September 2010.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Scrutiny Board is requested to note the report.

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Originator: S Winfield

Tel: 24 74707

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8th October 2007

Subject: Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting in June, the Board agreed to undertake an inquiry into the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre. The terms of reference were agreed at the Board's September meeting.

2.0 Report submitted to the Board

- 2.1 Attached is the report that was received by the Executive Board on 14th March, which outlines the issues relating to the governance and status of the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre.
- 2.2 The Chief Financial Officer, Head of Property and Finance, Legal Services and Principal Legal Officer will be in attendance to answer questions on this report.
- 2.3 Further information from the Middleton Park Equestrian Center Trustees will be provided.
- 2.4 It should be noted that the appendix for the attached report is confidential and therefore not available to the public. This is in line with Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(1)(3).

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are requested to consider the information provided and make comments and recommendations as appropriate.

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Not for Publication: Appendix 1 under Corporate Procedure Rule 10.4 (1) (3)

Report of the Director of Learning and Leisure Services and the Director of Corporate Services

Executive Board

Date: 14th March 2007

Subject: MIDDLETON PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council provides significant financial and other support to the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre, which is run by an independent trust. A number of governance issues have been encountered in the Council's relationship with the trust. Various options have been considered to resolve these problems and these are set out in exempt Appendix 1 with a recommendation as to the way forward.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

- 1.1 The City Council provides significant financial and other support to the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre. The purpose of this report is to set out the background to a number of governance issues affecting the centre. The report identifies the efforts which have been made to resolve these difficulties and sets out options as to the way forward.
- 1.2. The Appendix to this report is exempt under Access to information Rules 10.4 (1) (3) because it deals with the financial and business affairs of another body and also publication could prejudice the Council's interest in terms of any on going negotiations. In the opinion of the Director of Corporate Services, the public interest

in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1. Middleton Park Equestrian Centre is a registered charity and is affiliated to the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). It is located near to South Leeds Stadium. The premises consist of an indoor riding school and stabling, two staff bungalows and an outdoor riding arena and are owned by Leeds City Council. The premises are leased to the charity by the City Council. The facilities and activities at the equestrian centre include stabling for 20 horses, an indoor equestrian arena and spectator gallery, tack and facilities for disabled riders, a classroom for equestrian management courses and administration offices.
- 2.2. Further background information is contained in the exempt appendix.
- 2.3. The charity originates from a proposal to the then Leisure Services and Policy & Resources Committees in November 1988 for disabled riding facilities at Middleton Park. The proposal included:
- Riding for the Disabled Association providing the horses and tack
 - Leeds City Council being responsible for keeping, grooming, feeding and stabling of the horses, veterinary and other bills including insurance for both
 - A management committee of Council and RDA nominees running the equestrian centre and operating as a sub-committee of the old Leisure Services Committee.
- 2.4. When Leeds City Council and the RDA decided to extend the equestrian centre, the Council applied for a Lottery grant to the English Sports Council on behalf of the two parties. The grant was £677,800 towards a total cost of £816,600. Fundraising initiatives by RDA raised the balance. It was a condition of the Lottery Grant that the Council would grant the RDA a 25 year lease of the centre at a peppercorn rent. Amongst other things, the lease granted in 1999 provides that the trust will:
- (1) pay all outgoings;
 - (2) keep the centre clean and tidy, and in good and tenantable repair (including making good any malicious damage);
 - (3) redecorate the centre every five years;
 - (4) insure the centre against loss, damage or destruction by the usual insured risks;
 - (5) take out and maintain public liability insurance of at least £5,000,000;
 - (6) make proper and suitable arrangements for the disposal of refuse;
 - (7) comply with all statutory requirements as regards the centre and its use; and
 - (8) ensure that the centre is staffed by appropriately qualified people.
- 2.5 In order to safeguard the Council's VAT "partial exemption" position, it was decided in 1999 to re-establish the equestrian centre as a registered charity with any newly created posts having non-Council contracts of employment. Current staff retained Council contracts of employment. The Council managed the development project and the new facilities were opened by Princess Anne on 3rd November 2000. An important concept for trustees of all charities is that of unlimited liability. The move from a City Council operation to an independent charity exposed the equestrian centre's trustees to this liability. Despite concerns over this new liability, the Management Committee were keen to secure the equestrian centre's proposed future and they agreed to the changes in status being made, and to them becoming the charity's new trustees.

- 2.6. The Council has been providing grant support to the trust since 1999/2000, and the Council's grant for 2006/07 is £130,680. In addition, the Council also provides financial and legal support for which no charge is made to the trust.

3.0 Main Issues

Governance issues

- 3.1. When the riding centre was constituted as a charity, a situation of some administrative confusion developed. Trustees of both the RDA and newly formed Middleton Park Equestrian Centre were of the view that the Council (via the then Leisure Services Department) would continue to operate largely as if the centre remained part of the Council, both in terms of the provision of certain services to the centre and in respect to the financial management and running of the centre. The alternative view was that the Trust was responsible for their financial management and that they should be treated in the same way as any other voluntary body that is supported by the Council. This fundamental issue is at the heart of the many of the problems described in the Appendix in more detail.

Financial administration issues

- 3.2. A number of problems have been encountered since the establishment of the Trust, and which have caused problems for the completion and the audit of the Trust's accounts. These problems have resulted in the late submission of accounts for a number of years. Further details of these matters are set out in the Appendix.

4.0. Recommendations

- 4.1. Executive Board is asked to
- a) note the contents of this report,
 - b) confirm its support to maintaining a riding for the disabled facility at the centre, and
 - c) consider the matters contained in the confidential appendix.

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Report of the Head of Scrutiny Support and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Culture and Leisure)

Date: 8th October 2007

Subject: Work Programme

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The attached appendix provides Members with a copy of the Board's current Work Programme (Appendix 1).

1.2 At appendix 2 is the Forward Plan for September to December 2007.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 The Board is requested to:

- (i) Determine any additional items for the Work Programme.
- (ii) Receive and make any changes to the attached Work Programme following decisions made at today's meeting.

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SCRUTINY BOARD (CULTURE AND LEISURE) WORK PROGRAMME (OCT) 2007

Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – November 2007			
Inquiry into Middleton Park Equestrian Centre inquiry	To discuss and agree the Board's final report		
Presentation on Parks Budget			
Wharfmeadows Inquiry	To receive further information and updates on the working group		
Meeting date – December 2007			
Performance Management Information	To receive performance information relating to culture and leisure.		PM
Meeting date – January 2008			
Meeting date – February 2008			
Performance Management Information	To receive performance information relating to culture and leisure.		PM

Key:

CCFA / RFS – Community call for action / request for scrutiny

RP – Review of existing policy

DP – Development of new policy

MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations

PM – Performance management

B – Briefings (Including potential areas for scrutiny)

SC – Statutory consultation

CI – Call in

Meeting date – March 2008			
Meeting date – April 2008			
Board's Annual Report	To agree the Board's contribution to the Scrutiny Annual Report		
Unscheduled Items			
Working Groups			
Working group	Membership	Progress update	Dates of meetings
Wharfmeadows Inquiry	All Board Members	The working group has met three times and undertaken a site visit. A summary of two meetings has been received by the board.	15 th August 22 nd August 29 th August 1 st October

Key:
 CCFA / RFS – Community call for action / request for scrutiny
 RP – Review of existing policy
 DP – Development of new policy
 MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations
 PM – Performance management
 B – Briefings (Including potential areas for scrutiny)
 SC – Statutory consultation
 CI – Call in

SCRUTINY BOARD (CULTURE AND LEISURE) WORK PROGRAMME (OCT) 2007

			The meeting on 1 st October will be reported back to the November board meeting.	

- Key:
- CCFA / RFS – Community call for action / request for scrutiny
 - RP – Review of existing policy
 - DP – Development of new policy
 - MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations
 - PM – Performance management
 - B – Briefings (Including potential areas for scrutiny)
 - SC – Statutory consultation
 - CI – Call in

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LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

For the period 1 October 2007 to 31 January 2008

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
Leeds Sports Trust Approval to proceed with the Leeds Sports Trust project and the transfer of the current Sport and Active Recreation Service.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Leisure)	17/10/07	Considerable consultation already undertaken and ongoing with key stakeholder groups including - Service staff; Service users; the Unions; the general public; various LCC Members/ officers.	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development
Mansion House, Roundhay - Third Party Operator To consider the nine options outlined in the report and to agree which option should be progressed further.	Executive Board (Portfolio : Leisure)	17/10/07		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of City Development

NOTES

Key decisions are those executive decisions:

- which result in the authority incurring expenditure or making savings over £500,000 per annum, or
- are likely to have a significant effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards

<u>Executive Board Portfolios</u>	<u>Executive Member</u>
Central and Corporate	Councillor Mark Harris
Development and Regeneration	Councillor Andrew Carter
Environmental Services	Councillor Steve Smith
Neighbourhoods and Housing	Councillor John Leslie Carter
Leisure	Councillor John Procter
Children's Services	Councillor Richard Brett
Learning	Councillor Richard Harker
Adult Health and Social Care	Councillor Peter Harrand
Leader of the Labour Group	Councillor Keith Wakefield
Leader of the Morley Borough Independent Group	Councillor Robert Finnigan
Advisory Member	Councillor Judith Blake

In cases where Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive Board are not included in the Plan, 5 days notice of the intention to take such decisions will be given by way of the agenda for the Executive Board meeting.

LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DECISIONS

Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer

NOTES:

The Council's Constitution, in Article 4, defines those plans and strategies which make up the Budget and Policy Framework. Details of the consultation process are published in the Council's Forward Plan as required under the Budget and Policy Framework.

Full Council (a meeting of all Members of Council) are responsible for the adoption of the Budget and Policy Framework.

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