

**ECONOMIC REGENERATION &
LEISURE POLICY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

7 June 2022

Briefing from Executive Member for Leisure and Arts

Timetable	
Meeting	Date
Economic Regeneration & Leisure Policy Advisory Committee	7 June 2022

Will this be a Key Decision?	No
Urgency	Not Applicable
Final Decision-Maker	Not Applicable – report for noting by the Economic Regeneration & Leisure Policy Advisory Committee
Lead Head of Service	Mark Green, Director of Finance & Business Improvement
Lead Officer and Report Author	Mark Green, Director of Finance & Business Improvement
Classification	Public
Wards affected	All

Purpose of Report

This report provides brief background information to accompany the verbal briefing from the Executive Member for Leisure and Arts.

This report makes the following recommendations to the Economic Regeneration & Leisure Policy Advisory Committee:

1. That the report be noted.

Briefing from Executive Member for Leisure and Arts

1. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Impact on Corporate Priorities	The briefing accompanying this report sets out how corporate priorities in the Executive Member's portfolio will be addressed.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Cross Cutting Objectives	Cross-cutting objectives will be addressed as appropriate.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Risk Management	Risks associated with individual decisions will be addressed as part of the decisionmaking process.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Financial	No specific implications at this stage. The priorities of the Executive Member will be delivered within the Council's budget and policy framework.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Staffing	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Legal	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Information Governance	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Equalities	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Public Health	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and

		Business Improvement
Crime and Disorder	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Procurement	No specific implications.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement
Biodiversity and Climate Change	No specific implications at this stage. The implications for biodiversity and climate change of all Council decisions will be addressed.	Director of Finance and Business Improvement

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

2.1 Under the Council's new executive arrangements, the Executive Member for Leisure and Arts is responsible for the following functions:

Arts and Culture Strategy 2019-24
Festivals and Events Policy
Hazlitt Arts Centre
Museum 20 year Plan
Maidstone Leisure Centre
Lockmeadow Leisure Centre Complex and Market
Public Art Policy
Visitor Economy
Events

2.2 These responsibilities are inherited from the former Economic Regeneration and Leisure Committee. Specific work programme items of the Committee that remained outstanding at the time of its decommissioning were as follows.

2.3 Museum

A draft five year plan covering the period 2022-2027 is under development. This is intended to set out the vision and the strategic aims for Maidstone Borough Council's Museum Service over the period and explains how the museums contribute to the Council's overall strategy.

This Five Year Plan therefore sets out immediate priorities within the framework of the Museum's overall 20 Year Plan, which seeks the following outcomes:

- The delivery of a high quality service
- Creating a sustainable and resilient organisation
- Caring for and creating access to our collections for present and future generations
- Inspires, educates and challenges visitors and users
- Ensuring that the museum is accessible to all and has the power to transform lives through the use of its collections
- Developing and encouraging a forward-thinking and innovative workforce
- Working to nationally recognised standards.

The plan has been developed through a review of existing practice, a review of previous transformation plans, staff discussion and workshops, and meetings with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Economic Regeneration and Leisure Committee. The five year plan was due to be considered by the Committee.

Other specific topics under consideration were:

- Carriage Museum options
- Review of Revised Museum Opening Hours and Working Arrangements
- Governance Arrangements to deliver the Museum's 20-Year Plan.

2.4 Maidstone Leisure Centre

The leisure centre is operated via a lease and contract agreement with Maidstone Leisure Trust and Serco Leisure Ltd, which is due to expire in 2024. The Economic Regeneration and Leisure Committee considered high level options for the future at its meeting in December 2021, including repeating the current contract cycle, refurbishing the leisure centre and tendering a new operations contract for the refurbished building, and redeveloping the leisure centre.

In parallel, a stakeholder review of leisure provision in the borough is under way entitled 'Making Maidstone More Active'.

Options for the leisure centre and the outcomes of the review of leisure provision were due to be reported back to the Committee.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 There are no matters for decision in this report.