

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007**

Review Recommendations	Response
<p>27.11.03 – Festivals Review</p> <p>The key finding from the Festival Review Group is that festivals are valuable for their economic, cultural and social benefit. The current level of funding for all the festivals should be retained, but with the additional recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Subject</u> to scaling down of the Ross-on-Wye International Festival to ensure its long term viability, with specific concentration of its production and management costs, that an <u>appropriate</u> amount of funding should be considered for its survival. That could be combined with exploring alternative ways of managing the Festival.</b></li> <li>2. <b>Encourage Town Council involvement and support for festivals, specifically in Ross-on-Wye.</b></li> <li>3. <b>That formal, regular meetings between the festivals is facilitated by Cultural Services to address options of shared resources in areas such as marketing, box office and administration, and to exchange ideas and share good practice, including extended invitation to Hay Literature</b></li> </ol>	<p>Advance payment made to Ross-on-Wye International Festival, however the festival was unable to continue.</p> <p>Achieved.</p> <p>Initiated by only one festival interested in exploring the sharing of resources.</p>

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007**

<p><b>practice – including extended invitation to Hay Literature Festival</b></p> <p><b>4. To establish with the festivals common performance indicators and measures of success based on qualitative and quantitative data, to enabling benchmarking and ability to assess impact of the festivals.</b></p> <p><b>5. All of the festivals under review to be funded by the local authority on three year service level agreements, as opposed to annual community grant funding</b></p> <p><b>6. That advancement is made to the Cabinet Members for Economic Development and Environment to support infrastructure on which festivals depend – e.g. a direct rail link form Birmingham Airport to Hereford, increase public transports schemes to support festivals.</b></p>	<p>Achieved through the Service Level Agreement process to arts organisations.</p> <p>All festivals invited to tender for Service Level Agreements with 2 year funding. Mixed success by the festivals involved in the review.</p> <p>Support linked to existing schemes to improve public transport.</p>
<p>31.01.05 – Courtyard Review Group</p> <p><b>20.2 The Council’s financial contribution to The Courtyard should not be exempt from any efficiency savings being made within the Policy &amp; Community Directorate.</b></p>	<p>Reduction in funding to the Courtyard for 2005/6 to meet efficiency savings.</p>

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007**

<p><b>20.3 The Education Directorate are invited to assess the benefits provided by The Courtyard to their service area and consider contributing a higher level of funding which is more representative of the value of service received in order to reduce the current onus on the Policy &amp; Community Directorate.</b></p> <p><b>20.4 The suggestions for additional income generation measures and improving financial viability contained in this report are considered and actioned by The Courtyard where they are considered financially prudent.</b></p> <p><b>20.5 The Courtyard is offered an interim 1-year funding agreement from March 2005, while proposals for additional income generation and improved financial viability are progressed.</b></p> <p><b>20.6 The Courtyard be invited to report back to the Social and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee in November 2005 to provide an update on the organisation's financial position and progress on addressing the suggestions and recommendations raised in this report.</b></p> <p><b>20.7 On receipt of a satisfactory report, The Courtyard is offered a 5-year commissioning agreement in April 2006.</b></p> <p><b>20.8 At the end of the 1-year agreement if the recommendations have not been satisfactorily addressed, then a further 1-year period should be considered, to give The Courtyard further time to demonstrate its proposals for improved financial viability.</b></p>	<p>Service Level Agreement with Children and Young People's Services continued based on the budget allocation.</p> <p>Changes made to the catering arrangements to maximise income and further work continuing to improve income opportunities.</p> <p>2 year funding agreement honoured.</p> <p>The Courtyard returned to the Scrutiny Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> June to received the outcome of the second review.</p> <p>2 year agreement in place.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> year agreement still in place.</p>
--	---

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007**

<p>22.03.05 – Courtyard Response to the Courtyard Review Group</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>That (a) a written response be provided to the Courtyard regarding a number of points made in their response</b></p> <p><b>(d) the Review Group be reconvened later in the year to undertake a follow up review.</b></p>	<p>Achieved</p>
<p>06.06.06 – Second Report of the Courtyard Review Group</p> <p><b>The turnover of the Courtyard Trading Company should be higher than the income for admissions at the arts centre. (Para 5.15)</b></p> <p><b>Tenders should be sought for franchisees to operate a retail shop within the current Courtyard Complex. (Para 6.8)</b></p> <p><b>That the Courtyard should investigate the possibility of operating a separate commercial gallery in addition to the current gallery sponsored by the Arts Council. (Para 6.12)</b></p> <p><b>That the Courtyard seeks to develop a dedicated cinema space within the centre even if the venue does not extend. (6.19)</b></p> <p><b>That the leaks in the office space be repaired as soon as possible. (Para. 6.26)</b></p> <p><b>That the outside arts organisations housed at the Courtyard pay a fair market rental value for the space in line with other City Centre Office space including the real costs of utilities and services or be relocated to another premises in order to release</b></p>	<p>These recommendations considered as part of a detailed Review of the operation of the Courtyard. That report to be presented to Scrutiny in Summer 2007.</p>

Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007

**much needed space at the Courtyard. (Para. 6.27)**

**That the Alloy Jewellers housed at the Courtyard pay a fair market rental value for the space in line with other City Centre workshop space including the real costs of utilities and services or be relocated to another premises in order to release much needed space at the Courtyard. (Para. 6.29)**

**The Courtyard should proceed with a more mainstream programme in order to generate more income to address the budget deficit. (Para 6.52)**

**That strict financial monitoring systems and maintained and reviewed on a monthly basis. (Para 6.53)**

**The feasibility of sharing certain core costs with another charitable organisation be investigated. (Para 6.54)**

**That tenders be invited from commercial catering operators with regard to taking up the operation of the facilities provided by the Courtyard Trading Company. (Para 6.66)**

**The Friends of the Courtyard be asked about the possibility of them staffing the bar area. (Para 6.68)**

**That methods be investigated on how to attract customers back to the Courtyard Trading Company during the day including the possibility of refunding car parking tickets. (Para 6.73)**

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007**

<p>06.06.06 – Additional Committee Recommendations Concerning the Courtyard Review Group</p> <p><b>THAT:</b></p> <p><b>(b) a copy of the Courtyard's Response to the report of the Courtyard Review Group presented to Cabinet be forwarded to all Members of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee;</b></p> <p><b>and;</b></p> <p><b>(c) the Cabinet Member (Community Services) report back to the Committee at later date on any taken as a result of the Review Group's report;</b></p>	<p>The Courtyard's Response to be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in Summer 2007.</p>
<p>20.12.06 – Museum Review Group</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED:</b></p> <p><b>That:</b></p> <p><b>(a) consideration should be given to reverting to the title 'Museum Services' to identify the service currently known as Heritage Services;</b></p> <p><b>(b) as Museums, Libraries and Archives are grouped together nationally, it should be considered that the three services should be grouped in the same Herefordshire Council division to enable easier cross discipline partnership;</b></p> <p><b>(c) all Herefordshire Council Museums and those</b></p>	<p>Recommendations being considered as by the Cabinet Member Community Services.</p>

Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007

independent Museums with the capacity to do so in the County should be encouraged to complete the Museum Associations Accreditation process;

(d) Hereford Heritage Services should research and consider the possibility of converting to single entity trust status;

(e) if Hereford Heritage Services does convert to a single entity trust then any funding agreement with Herefordshire Council should be long-term;

(f) it is to be hoped that the Museum Development Officer project will continue through the support of the West Midlands Hub and Museums, Libraries and Archives;

(g) independent museums in the County should be reminded that they can apply for Community Grant Funding;

(h) it should be made possible for Museums to apply for longer term Community Grant Funding than the one year agreements currently available;

(i) the possibility of a partnership insurance scheme for the Herefordshire Museums Forum members should be explored. This could be pursued by the Museum Development Officer on the Forum's behalf;

(j) a small hiring collection should be established to loan objects along the lines of the Reading Corporate Loans scheme;

(k) a formula should be developed to measure Heritage's

Community Services Scrutiny Committee (formerly Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee) Review Group  
Recommendations 2003-2007

**impact on both tourism and also to demonstrate its social and economic impact;**

**(l) preventative measures should be taken to protect Kington Museum from being struck by reversing lorries to a nearby store;**

**(m) the Executives response to the Review including an action plan be reported to the first available meeting of the Committee after the Executive has approved its response;**

**and;**

**(n) a further report on progress in response to the Review then be made after six months with consideration then being given to the need for any further reports to be made.**