

SCOPING STATEMENT FOR FOLLOW UP REVIEW OF THE COURTYARD CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Report By: Director of Adult & Community Services

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To agree a scoping statement for a follow review of The Courtyard Centre for the Arts as requested by Cabinet following the report of the Courtyard Review Group in February 2005.

Financial Implications

2. None.

Background

3. The review into The Courtyard Centre for the Arts was undertaken during Autumn 2004. Its aim was to examine Herefordshire Council's funding contribution to The Courtyard and to consider how best to strike a balance between sustaining a key arts facility and the benefits to the wider community. The Review Group consisted of Councillors J. Stone (Chair), H. Bramer, Mrs. S.P.A. Daniels and J.G.S. Guthrie.
4. A report was produced by the Review Group summarising the key findings of the Review and containing recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Community Services. This highlighted the wide variety and high standard of work undertaken by The Courtyard and the valuable contribution it makes to the local community and to arts provision within the County. The recommendations included suggestions for the Council's future funding arrangements with The Courtyard and for additional means of income generation. The report was approved by the former Social & Economic Development Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 31st January 2005.
5. The Review Group's report was subsequently considered by Cabinet on 17th February 2005, and Cabinet requested that the Review Group be reconvened at an appropriate time to monitor the situation at The Courtyard and provide a follow up report.
6. Following the Review Group's report to Cabinet, Councillor J. Stone, Chairman of the Courtyard Review Group, was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council. Following this appointment there is a vacancy on the Courtyard Review Group for a new Member. The Committee also needs to appoint a new Chairman for the Review Group.
7. A scoping statement for the follow up to The Courtyard Review is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- THAT (a) the Committee appoint a new Member to the Review Group;
- (b) the Committee appoint a new Chairman of the Review Group;
- and
- (c) subject to any comments or amendments proposed, the scoping statement for the follow up review of the The Courtyard Centre for the Arts be approved.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Review of The Courtyard Centre for the Arts: Report by The Courtyard Review Group, January 2005.