

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET 30 JULY 2024 FROM THE REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2024

RD25: CABINET REPORT – GUILDHALL RIBA STAGE 4 OPTIONS

Officers presented the Cabinet report which set out options for the delivery of the St George's Guildhall and Creative Hub project. Information was provided on the options to be considered and the recommendations as contained within the report.

The Panel had also been on a site visit to the Guildhall in advance of the meeting.

The Chair thanked officers for the presentation and invited questions and comments from the Panel, as summarised below.

Councillor Lintern commented that doing nothing was not an option and she supported the recommendations as included in the report.

Councillor Collingham commented that the project needed a more commercial approach and she was surprised that costs had increased so much, although she supported the recommendations as set out in the report.

The Portfolio Holder for Business and Culture, Councillor Ring commented that the original figures were estimates and this report included more accurate costs. He explained that there had also been an increase in ambition and he felt that the business plan was conservative. The Portfolio Holder highlighted the wider economic benefit of the project if it was done right.

The Panel agreed to move into closed session to consider the exempt sections of the report.

RD27: EXEMPT – CABINET REPORT – GUILDHALL RIBA STAGE 4 OPTIONS

Officers responded to questions from Members relating to the exempt information contained within the report.

It was highlighted that a further report relating to funding would be presented to Cabinet in February/March 2025.

RESOLVED: That the Regeneration and Development Panel support the recommendations to Cabinet as set out below.

Cabinet resolves:

1. To approve the RIBA Stage 4 (technical and detailed design) development to the 'Full Scheme' to include the renovation of the St George's Guildhall and creation of a Creative Hub as further set out in section 3 of the report, which, if delivered, would result in an estimated overall cost of this Major Project of £20.2m.
2. To approve the Funding Strategy to secure £11.3m as set out in section 4 which will realise the finance required to achieve the Full Scheme, and to endorse advancement of applications to funding bodies.
3. That a report be brought back to Cabinet in February – March 2025 with the results of the Funding Strategy for a decision to be taken in approving the continued progress of this Major Project.
4. To approve the commencement of the procurement process to appoint a main contractor to deliver the Full Scheme, to run in parallel with the Funding Strategy,

with an update of the pre-tender cost and funding position for the scheme to be brought back to Cabinet in February – March 2025.

5. Subject to the agreement by the King's Lynn Town Board and all required authorities (e.g. S151 officer agreement), submit a Project Adjustment Request (PAR) (as required under the Towns Fund programme) as soon as practically possible because of changes to the agreed outputs, timings and funding assumptions.