

COUNCIL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Civic Review Implementation Plan – Progress Report 18th September 2008

Report of Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on progress to implement the decisions of Council made in December 2006.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That progress and the action taken to date be noted and Members consider which of the items in the Civic Review Implementation Plan attached to this report are complete and can be removed from the list.**
- (2) That, it be noted that further progress reports on the remaining items in the Implementation Plan will be submitted to this Committee in due course.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Council, at its meeting on 06 December 2006 made a number of recommendations designed to review and update the civic function of the City Council. Council Business Committee were last updated on progress on the plan at its meeting in September 2007 where 53 recommendations were considered.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 With the agreement of the Council Business Committee in September 2007, a number of recommendations (22) were considered complete and removed from the list. This left a balance of 31 recommendations to be progressed further.
- 2.2 The remaining items have been re-numbered and re-grouped for ease of reference. Work has continued to be undertaken to progress the remaining items further, and updates are shown alongside the relevant recommendations in the plan attached at Appendix A. Members will note that a number of items appear separately on this agenda for decision which may result in the view that further items are complete.

3.0 Details of Consultation

3.1 Services of the City Council continue to be consulted as matters progress and their views taken into consideration. Relevant external bodies, such as the Universities, have also been consulted in order to progress particular items.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

4.1 As previously, the options available to Members are to note the actions taken to date, to accept the progress made or to suggest modifications in relation to each of the proposals.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 The review of the civic function within the City Council continues to provide an opportunity to update and review the many practices and events taking place throughout the year. Some of the proposals have proved to be very popular, whilst others have struggled to take off. Work still remains in order to complete all proposals agreed by Council in 2006 but so far there have been more successes than failures.

5.2 Members should note that the implementation of proposals included in the Civic Review does not mean that no further changes are considered for the future. Feedback is continually sought on every event in the Civic Programme with a view to making year on year improvements both in the quality of the event and in obtaining value for money.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total budget available to the Mayoralty for all aspects of expenditure during the year is £15,400. This budget is allocated to events as required with the agreement of the Mayor in office who effectively provides the decision on how that budget will be spent. Quotes continue to be obtained to ensure that value for money is received.

Costs associated with any decisions made as a result of this report must be contained within this existing budget and if additional expenditure is proposed it may be necessary to identify matching savings.

A number of the decisions may therefore require further reports into the feasibility of their implementation and the financial implications of such proposals would be included in any subsequent reports prior to implementation. Should any additional costs be identified Members will need to consider these as potential growth items in considering future budgets, potentially for the 2009/2010 financial year.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The S151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no direct legal implications. Where specific actions have legal implications these were highlighted in the original report to Council in December 2006 and will be considered as part of subsequent implementation reports where appropriate.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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