



Meeting Date: 28th February 2023

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Place Panel Chairman's Report – Councillor James Bainbridge**

Whilst the meeting was light on formal agenda items, due to circumstances beyond the control of the Panel. Officers were able to outline the impact of events held over the past year, and verbally update the Panel on the intentions they have going into the new Council arrangement to maintain, develop and build on the events portfolio. It is clear in the Report that many of the events have been aimed at attracting footfall into the city centre, to compliment the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions; the reopening of the high street and to assist in high street trading during a difficult and ongoing transition many businesses face in the present retail environment.

The second report was on a similar theme of High Street sustainability. As Members will be aware, the Council has as part of our successful Future High Street Fund bid, received funding to improve the Greenmarket area, an underutilised area of the high street, which has attracted much public comment throughout the years. Members of the Panel considered the concepts within the report, offering suggestions. The process will now move forward to a more detailed concept incorporating the responses from the public consultation on the design brief held in late 2022.

The final item being a Part B Report on the completion of the Junction 44 retail site, I am limited in the information I put into this report.

Full details of the discussions are to be found within the Minute Book

Cllr James Bainbridge
Chairman