
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2010

EX.170/10 TULLIE HOUSE TRUST GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS (Key Decision)

Portfolio Performance and Development

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) submitted joint report with the Assistant Director (Governance) GD.43/10 concerning the project currently in place to externalise Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery to a Trust which emanated from a decision taken by the Executive on 14 April 2009 (EX.068/09). The City Council had, on 14 July 2009, approved a budget of £150,000 to support the work programme.

He outlined the background to the Council's deliberations regarding the establishment of a Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust, informing Members that a Project Group had been established; various work streams initiated; and a 'critical friend' appointed with relevant experience to offer advice and assistance to the Council in relation to the project. One of the work streams was the preparation of a Business Case to support the Trust proposal and, following a recruitment process, Armstrong Watson were engaged to produce the document. In addition, a Shadow Trust Board had been established and, after a rigorous recruitment process, Mr Roger Cooke was appointed as the Chair. He had subsequently gone on to appoint Mr Alan Niekirk (Charities Lawyer and ex-Chair of the Friends of Tullie House) and Mr Andrew Smith (background in Accountancy) as fellow Shadow Board Members.

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery was a very important part of the cultural offer available in the Carlisle City Region and the Tullie House Trust would play a vital role in safeguarding and enhancing the Museum's status. To that end, it was felt important that, in establishing a Trust, the Council identified its vision for the future of the institution as it became established and moved forward. The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) had worked with the Shadow Board to produce the draft Vision Statement, the final version of which would be incorporated within the Business Case.

As regards the way forward, the Assistant Director (Community Engagement) informed Members that there would be a briefing for all Councillors at an informal meeting of the City Council on 26 October 2010. Thereafter the decision making process on the Trust initiative would follow the timetable set out below:

- the Business Case would be reported to a special meeting of the Executive on 8 November 2010;

- it would be reviewed by the Community and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels on 25 November and 7 December 2010 respectively;
- comments would be fed back to the Executive at its meeting on 13 December 2010 in order that a recommendation could be made to Council on 14 December 2010.

In moving the recommendation set out in the report, the Performance and Development Portfolio Holder said that the timetable made good his commitment that Overview and Scrutiny would be fully involved and the decision taken by full Council.

The Leader reminded Members that the matter would be considered again at the special meeting of the Executive on 8 November 2010.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive approved the timetable for the decision making process on the Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust initiative as set out in Report GD.43/10.

Reasons for Decision

So that the Executive and Council had the opportunity to consider and evaluate the proposed Vision Statement and Business Case for the externalisation of Tullie House to a Trust.