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## **Meeting of Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services and Advisory Panel**

**5 June 2008**

Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services

### **City Walls repairs and maintenance**

#### **Summary**

1. This report updates members of Neighbourhood Services EMAP on the decision taken by Executive on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March to agree a partnership arrangement between City Strategy and Neighbourhood Services for the future repair and maintenance of the City Walls.

#### **Background**

2. The Neighbourhood Services Ancient Monuments Team is virtually unique in this country as a team of skilled stone masons mainly occupied in the restoration and maintenance of the City Walls.
3. Over the last 20 years, during the Compulsory Competitive Tendering (CCT) era, the team have been very successful in winning work and maintaining a team of highly skilled stone masons who have continued year on year to produce an extremely high quality of work whilst remaining competitive with private sector companies.
4. In agreeing the partnership the Council have secured the future arrangements for the maintenance of the City Walls. This will also allow longer term planning, including the employment and training of apprentices to ensure the skills within the team are not lost. The department currently employs one supervisor, five stone masons and one apprentice.
5. The team will now develop a Service Level Agreement which will guide the performance and value for money issues arising from the partnership.
6. The full report to executive is attached as Annex 1 and the minute of the meeting is attached as Annex 2.

#### **Analysis**

7. No options are available, the report is for NS EMAP information only, the decision was taken at Executive

## Corporate priorities

8. The proposal relates to the following corporate priorities
- Improve the actual and perceived appearance of the city's streets, housing estates and publicly accessible areas
  - Increase people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects

## Implications

9. All the implications are contained within the original report

## Risk Management

10. Risk management issues are within original report

## Recommendations

11. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to comment on and note the contents of the report contained as Annex 1 and the minute contained in Annex 2.

Reason. To ensure the City Walls are maintained to a consistently high standard

## Contact Details

### Author:

#### Author's name:

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### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

**Chief Officer's name** Terry Collins

**Title** Director Neighbourhood Services

**Report Approved**

**Date** 20/5/08

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None

**Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:** None

### Annexes:

**Annex 1.** Executive Report 11<sup>th</sup> March 2008

**Annex 2.** Minutes from Executive Meeting