

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities
Date	28 August 2020
Present	Councillor Smalley

1. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member confirmed he had no personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, nor any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest, to declare in the business of the agenda.

2. **Public Participation**

There were no speakers under the Council's Public Participation Scheme. On behalf of Heworth Ward Councillors the following statement was submitted to the Executive Member by Cllr Webb:

'Firstly, on behalf of Heworth Ward Councillors I welcome the consultation that you have decided to promote. However would like you to note that as local councillors, myself, Cllr. Douglas and Cllr. Perrett have already run resident engagement activities including knocking on residents' doors in the local area, press and drop in sessions at the centre itself. We have taken the time to engage with the groups who have used the centre and spoken to people about its past.

In its current state we have found no one willing to take the 68 Centre on in the way that you have previously spoken of, involving a community asset transfer. We have found lots of residents who recognise the need for youth provision in the area, others who would welcome some form of community space and others who have suggested using the centre for adult education; and given the ongoing covid19 crisis and the sudden need for many people to retrain, this could be very timely. But the bottom line is that residents need the council to step up in this part of York.

The 68 Centre needs investment comparable to the investment in Moor Lane Youth Centre, if not more, in order make it hospitable for future users. I do hope that you as executive member are willing to do what is needed to help local Heworth residents in the same way as you have with Moor Lane Youth Centre.

Finally, this is a council owned asset. As such I hope that in the long term you will commit to keeping this asset in council hands and investing in it properly.'

3. Consultation on the Future of the 68 Centre

The Executive Member considered a report that set out the proposals for a consultation to be held with local residents on the future use of the 68 Centre after the relocation of Choose 2 Youth to Moore Lane. Officers also outlined the proposal to allow Housing Services to use the 68 Centre as a compound to support a scheme to renovate local Council houses in the short term.

Resolved:

- i. Approved the proposed public consultation as set out in the report to begin with an immediate start;
- ii. Noted the short term use the 68 Centre by Housing Services as a compound to support a scheme to renovate local Council houses.

Reason: To ensure local residents influence the future use of the 68 centre and site.

Cllr. D. Smalley, Executive Member
[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 5.35 pm].