

York Museums Trust Funding

Summary

1. The attached report will be considered by the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism on 29 July. It proposes changes to charging for York residents at the city's museums and gallery.
2. The scrutiny committee is asked to give its views on the proposals set out in Annex A attached. The views of this committee will be forwarded to the Executive Member so that he is able to take full account of them in his deliberations on the paper.

Background & Context

3. A key priority of the new council leadership is to ensure there is greater cross-party involvement in the decision making process and that decisions are taken in a more open and transparent way. To support this, the new leadership want policy and scrutiny committees to have the opportunity to debate and make recommendations on matters requiring an executive decision, before a final decision is taken.
4. On 30 July 2015 the Executive will be considering a report proposing options to be consulted on for implementing this new system. The proposals will allow Policy and Scrutiny Committees to see reports prior to executive decisions being made. In the case of an Executive Member decision, it is suggested that the policy and scrutiny committee within whose remit the issue lies, will have responsibility for scrutiny oversight.
5. Whilst it has always been possible for a Scrutiny Committee to identify issues which in due course will require an Executive decision, and for the Committee to review those issues, what these new proposals seek to achieve is to give Scrutiny and Policy Committees the opportunity to see a report in its final (or close to final) form and to debate recommendations on the report prior to the final decision being made.

6. In light of the proposals outlined above, the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism has requested that this Scrutiny Committee give its views on the proposals outlined in the attached report, prior to his consideration of the report at his Executive Member decision session on 29 July 2015.

Recommendations

7. The scrutiny committee is particularly asked to comment on:
- York Museums Trust's charging plans designed to ensure their long-term sustainability (see paragraphs 7-11 in Annex A)
 - The options set out in the paper:
 - a) To agree to YMT's request with respect to charging York residents at the city's museums and gallery (see paragraph 13 in Annex A)
 - b) To agree to the request but with conditions (see paragraphs 14-16 in Annex A)
 - c) To continue to insist on free access for YorkCard holders (see paragraphs 17-20 in Annex A)

Reason: To ensure a vibrant and sustainable museums service over the long-term.

Contact Details

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Report Approved ✓	Date: 21 July 2015	
Specialist Implications Officer:		
Wards Affected:	All	✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex A - York Museums Trust Funding: Report to the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism 29 July 2015