

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 14 April 2009	Update on Recommendations as of December 2009
Cultural Quarter Ad-hoc Scrutiny Review Gill Cooper	1	<p>That City of York Council takes the lead in the comprehensive business plan and design masterplan for this area, especially in terms of implementing any changes to the public realm works, pedestrian links etc between the various investment areas. The Executive agreed that the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee report is to be input to the Local Development Framework Team for inclusion with the final submission document which is scheduled for public examination in 2010.</p>	<p>The findings of the Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Committee report were sent to the LDF Framework team and as a result the Cultural Quarter area has been identified as a key area of interest within the LDF and the City Centre Area Action Plan. Work on the City Centre Area Action Plan is being taken forward by the establishment of a new York Renaissance Team.</p>
	2	<p>That, with the backing of partner organisations*, the Chief Executive of City of York Council opens negotiations with Yorkshire Forward and other appropriate public bodies with regard to funding the proposed cultural master plan for the city and seeking major investment for realising the opportunities available for improvements to the public realm and civic spaces.</p> <p><i>(*Yorkshire Museums Trust, Rushbond PLC, York Theatre Royal, York Minster, National Railway Museum, Kings Manor (University of York), Visit York, York @ Large and appropriate departments within the local authority).</i> Also,</p> <p>that the Chief Executive and Leader include reference to the Cultural Quarter' in discussions with Yorkshire Forward and the Development of the Geographic Programme for York, and that there is a clear reference document on plans for a Cultural Quarter.</p>	<p>Through the discussions with Yorkshire Forward on the Geographic Programme for York support has been identified for specific projects within the Cultural Quarter but also for the production of a economic masterplan for the city. This work is being progressed through the Renaissance Team (with funding from English Heritage and Yorkshire Forward) and the Cultural Quarter area has been included as a focus within their brief. They will also be producing a design masterplan for the city centre.</p>

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Cultural Quarter Ad-hoc Scrutiny Review Gill Cooper	3	<p>In view of the fact that development of the York North West site will create more traffic both vehicular and pedestrian:</p> <p>i. The Committee recommends that substantial improvements be made to the area known as 'Marble Arch' (both road and pedestrian tunnels).</p> <p>ii. The Committee recommends that City of York Council should seek to agree a new pedestrian/cycle river crossing (linking the National Railway Museum and Museum Gardens) as part of the York North West development plans. Also, that the scrutiny report is included in the consultation process for the the York North West Area Action Plan as part of the LDF work in this area.</p>	<p>Progress on finding a developer for York North West Area Action plan has been affected by the current economic climate. Within the current brief out to developers the Cultural Quarter concept is clearly indicated and the need for a new crossing of the river and improvements to Marble Arch detailed.</p>
	4	<p>That the Head of Arts & Culture prepares the relevant documentation to propose York as a British City of Culture, should this proposed government initiative go ahead. Also that a further report comes to Executive in the next 4 months, or after details have been published by DCMS, to detail the funding and officer time resource in proposing York as a British City of Culture. That this report details to the Executive the financial cost, and financial and job creation opportunities.</p>	<p>Over the summer the bid criteria emerging from the DCMS were reviewed. The DCMS criteria clearly required that any city applying for the funding should be delivering its regeneration activity through Arts and Culture. York's regeneration activity has largely been progressed through Science City York. We also failed to meet the criteria on continued improvement of funding to Arts and Culture and the ability to promise that this area would receive continued improvement in funding through until 2013. Therefore we did not meet the criteria for making a bid to UK City of Culture.</p>

	5	That a wider strategy for 'Cultural Development Areas' within the city as a whole, be pursued by York @ Large to engage other cultural attractions and leisure providers e.g. a Castle Area. Also that the York@Large board receives the report with a request that it responds to the Executive in the next four months.	A review of the LDF has been undertaken by York @ Large with responses made via the consultation process. York @ Large has considered the outcomes of the scrutiny and through is Cultural Quarter Sub group has taken the recommendations forward. In respect of the wider strategy for cultural development areas within the city this has been included in its workplan and the council is being urged to adopt the new Culture and Sports Planning toolkit developed by CBE, MLA, Sports Council and Arts Council.
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Cultural Quarter Ad-hoc Scrutiny Review Gill Cooper	6	That the boundary of the proposed 'Cultural Quarter' be used for investment purposes only. That a fixed boundary is not the most appropriate for a 'Cultural Quarter' in the long term and the position of a permeable boundary should, therefore, be revisited by York @ Large at a future date. Also that the York@Large board receives the report with a request that it responds to the Executive in the next four months.	York @ Large has agreed that the boundary of the Cultural Quarter should be permeable and to this end has invited York St John's University to send representatives to the Cultural Quarter sub group.
	7	That York @ Large be requested to revisit the name 'Cultural Quarter' as part of the work on the comprehensive business plan and the group should consider either a geographical or historical name for the area. Also that the York@Large board receives the report with a request that it responds to the Executive in the next four months.	York @ Large has agreed that the naming of the area needs more consideration, but without funding to undertake this exercise currently available recommends it that we continue to use the Cultural Quarter title as an effective working title. However any future business planning or feasibility consultation would need to consider appropriate branding.

	<p>8 That the recommendations of the report commissioned by City of York Council to look at the future of York City Archives be fully implemented to ensure that the Archives are suitably funded and are presented as a key part of the 'Cultural Quarter' area. Also, that officers to establish a group to look at application for funding sources for the relocation of the Archives from the Art Gallery to the Central Library to involve the Chief Executive of the York Museums Trust.</p>	<p>Recommendations on the Archives have been agreed by Executive. There will be an initial move of the Archives, to increase accessibility, to the new York Explore by Spring 2010. Second phase of the relocation of the Archives will be dependant on a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. The outline bid to HLF will be submitted by early 2010.</p>
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