

Report of the AD Governance & ICT

## **Night-Time Economy Scrutiny Review – Interim Report**

### **Summary**

1. This report presents a number of reports in support of the corporate scrutiny review of York's Night Time Economy (NTE). These include the findings from a 'Yorkafter5' survey carried out in support of this review, a report from Safer York Partnership on the work of their multi-agency task group AVANTE, information on the proposals for a new city marketing organisation, and three scrutiny review final reports from the following Overview & Scrutiny Committees:
  - Health
  - Economic & City Development
  - Community Safety

### **Background**

2. At a meeting on 24 June 2013, this committee considered a number of possible topics for review in this municipal year, including two topics which cut across the remits of all the scrutiny committees (Improving York's Night time Economy, and Impacts of Mental Health). It was recognised that both topics would support the Council's current key priorities in its Council Plan 2011-2015.
3. In July 2013, this Committee received a briefing report on the suggested night time economy theme and having acknowledged its suitability for corporate scrutiny review, instructed each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to carry out a NTE related review in line with their individual terms of reference. The review remit agreed by each Overview & Scrutiny Committee is shown at paragraph 6 below.

## **Consultation**

4. To support the Night-Time Economy Corporate theme it was agreed that an online survey “Yorkafter5” be undertaken. This ran between 14 October 2013 and 29 November 2013. The survey included questions in support of all the reviews, except the health related review for which separate surveys were agreed. A report on the findings from the Yorkafter5 Survey is shown at Appendix 1.
5. Subsequently, in order to further explore some of those survey findings, the Policy, Performance & Innovation Team held a number of focus group meetings and gathered the views of City of York Council staff – see paragraph 10 below.

## **Committee Reviews**

6. The standing Overview and Scrutiny Committees agreed to investigate the following topics related to their specific terms of reference:
  - Economic & City Development – to encourage longer retail opening hours and enhance evening access in and out of the city centre;
  - Health – to identify the impact of the night-time economy on the Emergency Department at York Hospital at peak times;
  - Community Safety – to examine ways to improve the attractiveness and cleanliness of the city centre in the evening
  - Learning & Culture – to identify an improved cultural offer up to 8pm in order to extend the tourist day and encourage more tourists to stay for longer or overnight, with a particular emphasis on families.
7. The findings from Economic & City Development, Health and Community Safety and their recommendations, are contained within their final reports at Appendices 2 - 4. The Safer York Partnership’s report on the work of the AVANTE task group is contained in Appendix 5.
8. To support the Committee’s consideration of the recommendations arising from all of the reviews, information has been provided regarding the proposals for a new city marketing organisation (NewCo) being developed to build on the way York is promoted as a visitor destination and business location. A report setting out the specific productivity challenges the city faces went to Cabinet in November 2013, recommending the development of a number of new approaches to attracting investment. One of which was a new approach to delivering

marketing, culture, tourism and business development for the city. The detailed aim and outcomes for this new approach are shown at Appendix 6.

## **Analysis**

9. Each of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees who have now completed their review were keen to identify where their review findings might overlap with the findings arising from one or more of the other reviews. Likewise they were keen to identify those issues not addressed within their final report (as they were outside of their agreed remit) but which they agreed should be considered as part of the whole corporate scrutiny review.

## **Progressing the Review**

10. At the next meeting of this Committee scheduled for 7 April 2014, the Committee will receive the final report arising from the Learning & Culture review, together with a report from the Policy, Performance & Innovation Team on their findings, and suggestions for the Council's future policy to improve the city's night time economy, addressing the issues identified as part of this corporate scrutiny review.
11. An additional meeting date (17 April 2014) has also been agreed for this Committee, so that it may consider its draft final report containing the consolidated findings and recommendations arising from this corporate scrutiny review. The above date was set in order to enable the final report to be presented to Cabinet in early May 2014 as previously agreed by this Committee.

## **Options**

12. In light of the limited time available to conclude the work on this review (in line with the meeting dates set out above), the Committee may like to consider identifying a small group of its members to work with the Scrutiny Team to start consolidating the findings and recommendations arising from the reviews completed so far.

## **Council Plan**

13. The corporate review would contribute actively to the following priorities identified by the Council in its Plan for 2011-15:
  - Create jobs and grow the economy;
  - Build strong communities;

- Get York Moving;
- Protect vulnerable people.

## **Implications & Risk Management**

14. There are no known implications or risks associated with the recommendations in this report.
15. The implications and risks associated with the recommendations arising from the scrutiny reviews are identified in the final reports attached at Appendices 2-4.
16. Any implications and risks associated with the final recommendations agreed by this Committee on completion of this corporate scrutiny review will be identified once this Committee has agreed the package of recommendations it wishes to make. These will be included in the 'Improving Night Time Economy' Corporate Scrutiny Review final report prior to its presentation to Cabinet in May 2014.

## **Recommendations**

17. After taking into consideration all of the information contained within the Final Reports attached, and the other supporting papers, the Committee is recommended to:
  - i. Note the findings from the three scrutiny reviews completed to date
  - ii. Note the update report from AVANTE and the proposals for a new city marketing organisation (NewCo)
  - iii. Agree whether or not any additional information is required in support of the recommendations contained within the three final reports presented at Appendices 2-4.
  - iv. Start to consider how best to consolidate the findings and recommendations arising from the completed reviews, ahead of receiving the final report from Learning & Culture and the report from Policy & Performance

Reason: To progress the Scrutiny Review in line with CYC Scrutiny procedures and protocols

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**Report Approved****Date** 28 February 2014**Wards Affected:****All**

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

**Background Papers:** None

## Appendices

**Appendix 1** – ‘Yorkafter5’ Survey Report

**Appendix 2** – ECDOSC Final Report

**Appendix 3** – Health OSC Final Report

**Appendix 4** – Community Safety OSC Final Report

**Appendix 5** – Safer York Partnership’s Report on the work of AVANTE

**Appendix 6** – Information on Proposals for New Marketing Company  
(NewCo)

## Abbreviations:

AVANTE - Alcohol & Violence in the Night Time Economy

ECDOSC – Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

NTE – Night Time Economy

OSC – Overview & Scrutiny Committee