

Cabinet

Tuesday, 18th January, 2011
6.00 - 6.27 pm

Attendees	
Councillors:	Steve Jordan (Leader of the Council), John Rawson (Cabinet Member Built Environment), Klara Sudbury (Cabinet Member Housing and Safety), Andrew McKinlay (Cabinet Member Sport and Culture), John Webster (Cabinet Member Finance and Community Development), Roger Whyborn (Cabinet Member Sustainability) and Colin Hay (Cabinet Member Corporate Services)

Minutes

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 December 2010 be approved as a correct record subject to a clarification in the third paragraph of agenda item 5 that "car park income would fall by about £50,000 to £70,000 as a result."

4. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CULTURAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

In the absence of any member of the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Community Investment Grant Review Group, the Cabinet Member for Sport and Culture introduced the report. He explained that the council's three-year funded community investment grants were now in their final year of funding arrangement. A final review had been undertaken by this working group on behalf of the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee who had endorsed their findings and approved that the recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet.

The Cabinet Member considered that the report contained a fair summary of the key points and issues in section 2 and their conclusions were set out in section 3. He advised members that a three year programme had been agreed with the Everyman Theatre in 2010 which included decreasing the grant by £5,000 each

year. The Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Cheltenham Festivals was due to come to an end on 30 March 2011. The current SLA included financial arrangements but the draft budget currently out for consultation, did not include any financial contributions to the Festivals in 2011/2012. Negotiations regarding the new SLA were ongoing. Regarding MAD Young Peoples Council, no budget was being proposed for 2011/12. He concluded by commending overview and scrutiny for their work and felt confident in their conclusions.

The Cabinet Member Finance and Community Development provided some additional financial background to the three organisations. The Everyman Theatre had received a £250,000 cash investment from the council last year and the council had also facilitated a £1 million loan for the theatre's refurbishment programme subject to Heritage Lottery Funding which had since been agreed. The grant to the Everyman had already been reduced by £5,000 in 2010. The negotiations with the Cheltenham Festivals were more complicated as the organisation begins to separate itself from the council and also has to take account the support in kind which has been provided by the council for such things as legal and ICT support. Regarding MAD he confirmed that a full-time post within Cheltenham Borough Council to support the Young Peoples Council had been deleted two years ago. Since then the borough council had been funding a part time role through the county youth service but this contribution is now being cut as it is felt that the Youth Service could no longer support such a role in their reorganisation. However the council was working with the county council to reach agreement on the allocation of youth services funding to Cheltenham and there would be matched funding by Cheltenham Borough Council.

The Cabinet Member Corporate Services felt that the moves to make the Everyman Theatre and Cheltenham Festivals more independent had been successful and acknowledged that it was a challenge for both organisations. However he had every confidence that they would continue to be successful and in future would not have to depend on the vagaries of local government funding.

Resolved that the funding to each of the named three organisations (Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham Festivals and MAD Young People's Council (GCC)) be as set out in the draft budget for 2011/12 which is currently subject to consultation.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

None.

**6. CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING SESSION
Cabinet Member Corporate Services**

He reported that he had had a very positive meeting with the management group of the four councils making up the GO programme. All councils were very keen to move the project forward and drive out savings whilst maintaining their levels of service. This was all very encouraging.

Leader

He advised that he had attended the inaugural meeting of the new county leadership group. This replaced the Gloucestershire Strategic Partnership, the Accountable Bodies Group and the Chief Executives' group. All County and district leaders were represented as well as the chair of the PCT and the Police Authority. The Leader had been selected to lead a group on the countywide management of assets and the Leader from Stroud was leading a group looking at the links with the voluntary sector.

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXEMPT BUSINESS

Resolved that in accordance with Section 100A(4) Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining items of business as it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public are present there will be disclosed to them exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 and 7A, Part 1, Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, namely:

Paragraph 3; Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Paragraph 7A; Information which is subject to any obligation of confidentiality

8. CONTRACT AUTHORISATION

After excluding the press and public the Leader explained that this item was the subject of a confidentiality agreement which had been signed by the council. Any officers and members present who stayed for this item would also be covered by this confidentiality agreement.

The Cabinet Member for Sport and Culture introduced the report which had been circulated with the exempt papers for the meeting. Supporting information was provided by the Chief Executive. Cabinet considered the report and agreed the recommendations in it.

Chairman