

APPENDIX B

Scrutiny request (and Review of PAPER Criteria)

Request for a full review of the maintenance programme for Worthing Pier, structural surveys findings, recommended work, budget allocations, budget deferral and the detailed circumstances that led to it being closed in October 2024 and how this could have been avoided.

Request from - Councillor Kevin Jenkins

Public interest

Worthing's iconic Grade II listed, award winning pier is a major heritage asset.

Score = 5

Ability to change -

Improve maintenance and budget allocation

Score = 4

Performance -

Yes

Score = N/A

Extent -

This affects the whole town.

Score = 4/5

Replication -

None.

Score = 5

Expected Outcomes of the review -

- What is the expected outcome of the review?
- Who will the Committee submit advice, observations, comments or recommendations to?
- What does the Committee need to know, or gain a clearer understanding of, in order to achieve the outcome?
- What is the Committee trying to achieve from the review (i.e develop policy, investigate shortcomings or gaps, investigate the effects of policy etc)?

If this request is agreed, JOSC will need to be made aware of the current maintenance programme for Worthing Pier, structural surveys findings, recommended work, budget allocations and the detailed circumstances that led to it being closed in October 2024. This will enable JOSC to review the issues connected with this request and consider if any recommendations need to be referred to the Joint Strategic Committee/Worthing Cabinet/Officers for improvements in the processes to improve maintenance or increase budgets for the Pier maintenance.

What is the methodology for the review?

- Is the review so in depth that a Working Group review is recommended
- An Officer Report to the Committee
- Themed Meeting / inquiry for review, discussion, recommendations

JOSC could ask for an Officer report to be presented to a future JOSC meeting to review these issues or could ask for a small Working Group to be set up to undertake a review.

What time should be allocated for the review?

- How much time should be allocated to the item review?
- How long would a working group need to conclude a review?
- If there is a Themed meeting will this be for all or part of the meeting?

If this matter is reviewed at a JOSC meeting then it could be included as a stand alone item on the JOSC agenda or by a JOSC Working Group meeting to review the issues and report back to JOSC.

Guests/Speakers/Resources required

- Who will need to be involved with the review - guests (cabinet members, officers, community representatives, experts), consultees and in what capacity
- Might there be a requirement for training and or external advice?

JOSC will need to receive information from relevant Officers involved in this issue and the option to ask for the relevant Cabinet Members covering this work to attend (Worthing Cabinet Member for Regeneration/Worthing Leader).

Committee time/date required

- When does the review need to be carried out by?
- Are there critical dates that the committee must meet?
- When will the working group present its findings to the Committee?

If supported, JOSC will need to consider this item in due course as part of the Work Programme. There are no critical dates for a review to take place but it is suggested that any review should take place after the Pier has re-opened.

Communications

- What communications are required for the review (i.e will there be a requirement for public engagement, will there be opportunities for promotion of the work of the Committee)

JOSC could highlight this review work as part of regular communications from the Committee.

Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?

This proposed review relates to the Pier and links with the strategic objectives and the success of the Pier impacts on the local economy. The Pier will also help in making a 'Thriving Place' designed for people and nature. A clean and safe Pier will help provide a sense of belonging to places and communities. The Pier also provides a facility which people can enjoy, providing cultural and leisure experiences.

Recommendation from JOSC Chairs/Vice-Chairs:-

That the Scrutiny request be supported and added to the JOSC Work Programme.