



Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
16 February 2023

ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

Worthing Theatres and Museum Annual review

Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability and Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) with the details of the annual review of the Worthing Theatres and Museum (WTM) which was reported to the Worthing Joint Strategic Sub-Committee on 5 December 2022.
- 1.2 This report will assist JOSC in questioning the Director for Economy who will present the annual review.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That JOSC review the performance of the WTM and question the Director for Economy; and
- 2.2 That the Committee consider if it would like to make any recommendations or comments to the Director for Economy for his consideration.

3. Context

- 3.1 As part of the Work Programme for 2022/23, JOSC has agreed to review the performance on the WTM and interview the Director for Economy.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 JOSC is asked to consider the performance of the WTM, further details of which are included in the report presented to the Worthing Joint Strategic Sub-Committee on 5 December 2022 which is attached as an appendix to this report. At that meeting, the Joint Strategic Sub-Committee acknowledged and welcomed the achievements of Worthing Theatres and Museum over the Year and agreed to refer the report and the accompanying Annual Report to JOSC for noting.
- 4.2 The Council entered into a Management and Operation Agreement with WTM on 19 September 2019. WTM is obliged to provide an annual report to update Members under the terms of that Agreement. The Director for the Economy has a delegated authority to manage the relationship between Worthing Borough Council and the WTM.

5. Engagement and Communication

- 5.1 The JOSC Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons and relevant Officers have been consulted on the proposals contained in this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications connected to this report, however, financial implications for the Council connected with the agreement with WTM are set out in the report presented to the Worthing Joint Strategic Sub-Committee.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA 1999) contains a general duty on a best value authority to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 7.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 empowers the Council to do anything an individual can do apart from that which is specifically prohibited by

pre-existing legislation.

Background Papers

Worthing Theatres and Museum Annual Review 2021/22

Officer Contact Details:-

Mark Lowe

Scrutiny & Risk Officer

Tel: 01903 221009

mark.lowe@adur-worthing.gov.uk

Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Economic Culture is of vital significance to our local economy, employing a growing number of people across a range of skilled activities. A vibrant cultural offer is a significant consideration for businesses seeking to attract new employees and helps to support our visitor economy.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

The contractual relationship with the Trust is predicated on a formal expectation of extending the scope and range of work with our local communities. This includes working with our schools and colleges to support the development of new skills valued by the creative sector.

2.2 Equality Issues

Equality Issues The Council's contract with WTM includes a formal commitment to inclusive programming which includes youth theatre; signed and audio described screenings and autism and dementia friendly screenings.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

As is the case with any venue offering public performance and participative programming, careful attention is paid to ensuring that safeguarding remains a priority and that the safety of customers/participants is paramount.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and none identified.

3. Environmental

The Trust is expected to embody a commitment to sustainable procurement and to pay close attention to minimising waste and its use of resources.

4. Governance

WTM is a charitable company limited by guarantee. JOSOC has agreed to review the performance and work of the WTM as part of its Work Programme for 2022/23. In accordance with the procedures outlined within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Councils constitution JOSOC can ask questions of Officers as part of this process.