

MTRP Budget Proposal – 2021/22 to 2023/24

Service Area	Regeneration, Investment and Housing		
Proposal Title	Information Station move to Central Museum and Library		
Summary Description, Delivery Arrangements and Timescales	<p>The saving will be achieved by moving the Information Station call centre and face to face facilities to the Central Museum and Library (CML) building. The overall budget saving will be offset by the cost of borrowing, facilities management of the CML and transferring of utilities budgets.</p> <p>The relocation of the face- to-face service has previously been approved by Cabinet and will enable the use of the Information Station as a business incubator/co-working hub. The occupier has been secured (Tramshed Tech) and will not only bring this successful concept to Newport, but it will also provide much needed flexible working space for start-ups and knowledge intensive small and medium enterprises (SMEs). There is currently a lack of such facilities in Newport and will provide us with the opportunity to retain and support some of the new start-ups and talent emanating from the likes of the National Software Academy, the Cyber Academy and the Alacrity foundation, all of which are based very close to (or within) the Information Station building.</p> <p>This decision also allowed the council to conform to the approach outlined in the Strategic Asset Management Plan for rationalising our estate reducing our risk and liability. The Central Museum and Library was chosen as a suitable new venue for the provision of the Information Station service due to it providing the opportunity to maximise use of an existing council building and also being located in an accessible and central part of the city centre.</p> <p>This saving should be fully realised by April 2021, with the CML site becoming fully operational in September 2021.</p>		
Decision Point (Please tick appropriate box)	Head of Service		Cabinet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Public Consultation Required (Please tick appropriate box)	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PART ONE

Net Savings (£000's)	2021/22 (£'000)	2022/23 (£'000)	2023/24 (£'000)
	117		
One-Off Implementation Costs (£000's)			
	2021/22 (£'000)	2022/23 (£'000)	2023/24 (£'000)
Revenue – Redundancy/Pension			
Revenue – Other	250		
Capital – Building related			
Capital – Other	265		
Implementation Cost - Total	515		

Impact on FTE Count	
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Does this proposal require an FEIA and/or WFG Act assessment? (Please tick appropriate box)	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PART TWO

Options Considered
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To proceed with opportunities to commercialise the Information Station building, on the basis that officers can secure new occupiers and external finance required to deliver the project. Also relocate existing staff and services from the Information Station to the Central Museum and Library.2. To not proceed with opportunities to commercialise the Information Station building, continue to operate the building in the current format, including no change to the services provided in the Central Museum and Library building.
Recommended Option
Option 1
Specific Links with Wellbeing of Future Generations (WFG) Act
<p>The project accords well with the five ways of working as set forth in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act:</p> <p>Long Term – This offer provides a sustainable future for a key city centre building and provides a different and important offer within Newport. Diversification of the economy, and support for knowledge intensive business trading is identified as a key factor driving the economic sustainability of town and city centres across the UK.</p> <p>Prevention – The project will secure an enhanced provision of the current Information Station offer in the city centre and ensure the services accessed remain able to carry out key preventative services, such as housing options and migrant support.</p> <p>Integrated – The City Centre Masterplan denotes the ‘Northern Gateway’ areas adjacent to the train station as a key economic anchor for the urban core. This potential use of the Information Station building will integrate positively with sustainable public transport and wider regeneration proposals.</p> <p>Involvement – The project has engaged with staff and the private business community to date to ensure the project is a long-term, viable option. Targeted consultation will be carried out with service users of the Museum and Library along with the current Information Station.</p> <p>Collaboration – Newport City Council has worked in partnership with a number of organisations to develop this potential offer, particularly private sector operators as well as both the Homes and Places and Economy and Transport divisions of the Welsh Government.</p> <p>The project is compliant with the well-being goals through improvements to economic, social and environmental aspects of both the immediate property and surrounding area as follows:</p>

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Goal 1 – A Prosperous Wales

By providing much needed, collaborative working space for start-up businesses, particularly those in the economically resilient knowledge-based tech and digital sector.

Goal 2 - A Resilient Wales

By providing a base for hosting existing and new businesses in the City Centre, these businesses will contribute to a sustainable and diverse economic base.

Goal 3 - A Healthier Wales

By enabling and encouraging access to each facility by sustainable transport – either rail, bus or active travel.

Goal 5 - A Wales of Cohesive Communities

By embedding a culture of collaboration within the local the business community.

Goal 6 - A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

By encouraging access to the current Museum and Library offer by co-locating this provision alongside other key services.

Goal 7 - A Globally Responsible Wales

By securing investment for south east Wales and the local supply chain and businesses. Applying sustainable regeneration principles based around this engagement of local businesses will ensure that the objectives contribute fully to a globally responsible Wales.

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment

In partnership with the Corporate Policy Team, a Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and the key points from this are:

1. The impacts on users of the Information Station service are likely to be positive (refurbishment and upgrade) and with no significant detriment to protected groups.

The information station service will remain in the city centre with improved accessibility and co-location of public services.

For internal use:

<i>Unique reference number</i>	RIH2122/04
<i>Activity Code</i>	RIH8