

Report

Chair of Cabinet

Part 1

6 August 2015

Item No 1

Subject: Chartist Commission Funding

Purpose: To seek approval to transfer £50,000 funding to Newport Live in relation to Chartist Commission Project as agreed by Cabinet when considering the in the Revenue Budget Outturn Report

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Ward City Wide

Summary: In the revenue budget outturn report to Cabinet on the 8th June 2015, it was agreed that a sum of £50,000 would be allocated to a 'Chartist Commission' earmarked reserve to fund the commitment of the Administration to contribute towards the cost of the Chartist Commission Project.

The Chair of the Cabinet is to take this decision under his delegated powers in relation to financial matters as the sum of £50,000 has already been earmarked in the budget and the Chair of the Commission has written asking for progress on the transfer of money to allow progress to be made on the project.

Proposal: To formally approve the transfer of £50,000 funding to Newport Live for the purposes of the Chartist Commission Project.

Action by Head of Finance

Timetable Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Head of Law and Regulation
- Strategic Director Place
- Museums & Heritage Officer
- Chief Financial Officer

- Head of People & Business Change

Signed

1 Background

- 1.1 At the end of 2014/15, £50,000 was set aside in an earmarked reserve to fund commitment of the Administration to contribute to the cost of the Chartist Commission Project.
- 1.2 The Council have previously made the pledge of providing this £50,000 to assist in funding this work, and the Commission have now requested the release of the allocated money to enable the work to proceed.
- 1.3 Following the presentation by the Chartist Commission to Members on the 23rd July, the Chair of the Commission has requested that £50,000 be transferred to Newport Live to enable them to manage the project on behalf of the Commission. The Commission intends to obtain expressions of interest from suitably qualified artists and designers for the development and delivery of the various elements of the Project at the earliest opportunity and to conduct interviews before the end of August. Therefore, the funding needs to be committed immediately, to enable them to proceed with this work
- 1.4 The funding that the Council is providing to Newport Live is to be used for the Chartist Commission Project as per the requirement of the original earmarked reserve and in accordance with the terms of reference under which the Commission was established. It was intended that the Commission should act as an independent body and that it would decide how the available funding should best be used to commemorate Chartism in Newport. Therefore, it will be a matter for the Commission to determine how this funding should be used and to agree with Newport Live how the various elements of their project should be delivered. The Council is simply providing a financial contribution towards the costs of delivering the project as per the commitment by the current Administration.

2 Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
That sufficient funding is not made available and the project does not meet the requirements of the Chartist Commission	Medium	Low	This report is to formally approve the transfer of funding of the £50,000 to enable the Chartist Commission to deliver their Project in conjunction with Newport Live.	Museums Heritage Officer

3 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

The funding contribution is consistent with the Corporate Plan “Standing up for Newport” objectives relating to the development of a “Learning and Working City” and, in particular, the policies relating to the development and regeneration of the City Centre, the promotion of arts and culture, heritage and tourism

4 Options Considered/Available

- 4.1 Option 1 – transfer funding of £50,000 to Newport Live
- 4.2 Option 2 – delay transfer of funding and look at alternative ways of delivering
- 4.3 Not to approve transfer of funding to Newport Live

5 Preferred choice and reasons

5.1 Option 1 above.

The £50,000 earmarked reserve was set aside to assist in the Chartist Commission project and the art work required. This option fits in with these purposes and it will be the responsibility of the Commission to consult with Newport Live on the best use of this funding. This will allow the project to proceed in the timely manner required.

6 Comments of the Head of People and Business Change

- 6.1 There are no staffing implications in relation to this report.

7 Comments of the Monitoring Officer

- 7.1 There are no specific legal issues. The funding contribution towards the Chartist Commission project is in accordance with the Council's general powers of "well-being" under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Corporate Plan objectives. The payment can be made directly to Newport Live, at the request of the Commission, as the Trust will be responsible for the management and delivery of the project on behalf of the Commission. The funding is earmarked for the Chartist commemoration project, but it is the responsibility of the Commission to determine how this funding should be utilised, in accordance with the terms of reference under which they were established.

8 Comments of Chief Financial Officer

- 8.1 Aside from the £50,000 already set aside as an earmarked reserve, there are no further financial implications from this report.

9 Consultation

The Chartist Commission have undertaken significant consultation and engagement with the public and key stakeholders regarding their proposals for this project and also presented their proposals to Council members on 23rd July.

10 Comments from Non Executive Members

None received

11 Background Papers - None.

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