



Cabinet

23 October 2013

Report Title	Reduction in Funding for the City Events Programme
Classification	Open
Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility	Elias Mattu Leisure and Communities
Accountable Strategic Director	Tim Johnson
Originating service	Education & Enterprise
Accountable officer(s)	Mark . Blackstock/Heather 01902 556245 Ernstons Mark.Blackstock@wolverhampton.gov.uk Tel Email

1.0 Description of Savings Proposal

This budget has already been significantly reduced to just £176,000 and this proposal makes a further reduction of 40%. Under this new proposal there would be a significantly different approach to the Council's Events programme. There would be an integrated business/partnership/civic events programme, with a view to maximising earned income and sponsorship. The programme would also directly contribute to the economic regeneration of the city, by increasing footfall and spend. Advice to local groups and organisations on staging their own events and support in attracting external funding would also offered.

What will be cut: Subsidy to all events that were unable to generate earned income or sponsorship.

Service Impact: Some well loved events may be lost to the city if alternative funding cannot be achieved.

What would be retained: A more focused events programme that more directly contributed to the economic regeneration of the city. This proposal is part of the Portfolio of both Councillor Mattu and Councillor Bilson.

2.0 Table Setting out Financial Proposal

2.1 Total base budget savings

	Year 2014-2015 £000	Year 2015-2016 £000	Year 2016-2017 £000	Year 2017-2018 £000	Year 2018-2019 £000	5 year total £000's
Total base budget savings	20	10	20	10	20	80

2.2 Staffing Implication

	Year 2014-2015 £000	Year 2015-2016 £000	Year 2016-2017 £000	Year 2017-2018 £000	Year 2018-2019 £000	5 year total £000's
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	0	0	0	0	0	0

3.0 Communications Strategy Implications

3.1 The Communications strategy Implications of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below. The potential loss of key community events will require sensitive communications

4.0 Corporate Landlord Implication

4.1 The Corporate Landlord Implications of this proposal are none or minimal.

5.0 Customer Implications

5.1 The implications for customers of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below. If external income and sponsorship do not bring in sufficient income to sustain a culturally diverse programme of civic events there is a risk that some much loved events e.g., City Show, Bonfire Nights, Christmas Lights switch on can no longer be sustained. This means that the quality of life, particularly for the most vulnerable is likely to be adversely affected.

6.0 Economic Implications

6.1 The loss of events is difficult to quantify but will impact on local businesses and SMEs who benefit from visitors to events and their associated spend. The cultural offer in the city will also be reduced impacting on wider visitor numbers.

7.0 Environmental Implications

7.1 The Environmental Implications of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below. If external income and sponsorship do not bring in sufficient income to sustain the type of events that meet corporate priorities then the programme will be reduced. There is a significant risk that the local environment becomes less vibrant and more prone to vandalism and decay. In turn the city is then perceived to be unattractive as a business location or a place to invest. A good cultural and leisure offer can be a key factor in securing inward investment.

8.0 Equality Implications

8.1 An equalities analysis screening has been completed, some equality implications have been identified, a full equality analysis has begun.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 The Financial Implications in terms of savings and investments are as described in the proposal above.

10.0 Health Implications

10.1 The Health Implications of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below: Participation in cultural and civic events have been proven to contribute to health and wellbeing. They also provide opportunities to promote health and well-being messages. If external income and sponsorship do not bring in sufficient income to sustain a rounded and culturally diverse programme of civic events there is a risk that the current contribution to health and wellbeing will be lost.

11.0 Legal Implications

11.1 The Legal Implications of this proposal are minimal

12.0 Policy Implications

12.1 The Policy Implications on agreed Council policy represent some risk as detailed below: The programme contributes to all three externally facing corporate plan objectives (encouraging business and enterprise, empowering people and communities, re-invigorating the city). The main risk is that external income and sponsorship do not bring in sufficient income to sustain the type of events that meet corporate priorities. Another risk is that with an increasing reliance on ticketing of events, the less well-off will have less opportunity to participate in the cultural life of the city,

13.0 Procurement Implications

13.1 The Procurement Implications of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below : There is a risk that there will fewer local supply contacts If external income and sponsorship do not bring in sufficient income to sustain a rounded and culturally diverse programme of civic events. This in turn will have an impact on the local, economy, particularly small micro-business.

14.0 Staffing Implications

14.1 The HR Implications of this proposal are minimal. Some zero hours contract staff will be affected. These employees may have accrued employment rights, therefore any reductions in employee numbers will require fair and due process to be followed regarding consultation, selection and implementation of any compulsory redundancies.

15.0 Trade Union Implications

15.1 **No Implications Recorded.**