

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2086
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Department:	Communities
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Subject: Replacement of the Royal Concert Hall acoustic banners

Total Value: Exempt (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

1. To replace the 33 year old acoustic banners at the Royal Concert Hall.
2. To delegate authority to the Technical Director, Royal concert Hall, to award the contract to the successful company following the tender process.

Reasons for the Decision(s)

These banners serve to change the acoustic properties of the Royal Concert Hall auditorium. When retracted the space is a world class classical space, and when the banners are deployed the effect should be to make the space usable for amplified music.

The current banners have been in place for over 30 years and they are in a visibly poor state. They are at the end of their projected lifespan, are at risk of failing and do not provide the level of acoustic dampening that current performances require.

Increased use of amplified music in events has given rise for a need to improve the acoustic properties for this type of event beyond that the Concert Hall can currently provide. This calls for an option to be included to install two additional banners to improve the acoustic performance of the space. It appears there was an allowance for this in the original build but that this was removed due to value engineering.

For the Royal Concert Hall to continue to compete and maintain its very positive revenue stream it must have an auditorium that looks and works to a world-class standard. The current acoustic banner arrangement neither looks nor works to this standard and is at risk of failing.

Other Options Considered: To continue without replacement would result in an ever deteriorating image for the public, the risk of failure (and possible show stoppage/closure) and would reduce the competitiveness of the Concert Hall and its ability to attract world class events

Cleaning has been ruled out as the cost of removal and refitting would be prohibitive and would not rectify any of the issues with reliability nor would it increase coverage.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: None

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Exempt Information:

Description of what is exempt: The budget for the project is exempt to ensure best value is obtained.

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the project budget has to be exempt to ensure best value is obtained.

Documents exempt from publication: EXEMPT FINANCIAL INFORMATION.docx

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

None

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: Not relevant as the decision involves replacement of equipment.

Social Value Considerations:

None

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

31/07/2015

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice:

Provided that the replacement acoustic banners are procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and that the cost includes installation as well as supply then the proposals set out in the report raise no significant legal issues and are supported.

Advice provided by Malcolm Townroe (Legal Services Manager) on 03/07/2015.

Finance Advice:

1. The project budget is exempt to ensure best value is obtained.

2. This scheme is needed as the Concert Hall has to maintain the venue to a high standard enabling it to continue to attract top level performers, provide a good acoustic experience for the public and achieve the income targets as set out in the MTFP.

3. Contractors for the works will be selected in accordance with financial regulations via competitive tendering processes to ensure Best Value is achieved.

Advice provided by Steve Ross (Finance Analyst) on 22/06/2015.

Procurement Advice:

There are no significant concerns with the recommendations set out in the report. The procurement team will carry out a formal tender on behalf of the client, in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 29/06/2015.

Signatures

David Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture)

SIGNED and Dated: 23/07/2015

John Kelly (Corporate Director Community Services)

SIGNED and Dated: 22/07/2015