

## RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 7 February 2023

**Decision No:** (CAB 22/23 35801)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Leader of the Council
SUBJECT:	Southampton Festivals and Events Strategy
AUTHOR:	Carolyn Abel

### THE DECISION

- (i) That Cabinet adopts the proposed Festivals and Events Strategy 2022-2032
- (ii) That Cabinet supports the development of a prioritised action plan following the formation of a new Festival and Events Working Group
- (iii) That the Head of Culture & Tourism has delegated authority to:
  - make minor and consequential amendments to the strategy
  - any other ancillary decisions in order to give effect to the recommendations in this report and the strategy, including the working group formation and action plan prioritisation

### REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Festivals and Events strategy supports and is an outcome of the adopted Cultural Strategy 2021-2031, Destination Management Plan 2021-2031, Economic Strategy 2021-2031 and the UK City of Culture 2025 consultation, and supports the Council's Corporate Plan. It contributes to supporting the delivery of ambitious economic, social and environmental benefits for communities, visitors and businesses through collaboration, attracting inward investment and raising the profile of Southampton locally, nationally and internationally.

The strategy seeks to capitalise on the benefits arising from Southampton's UK City of Culture 2025 bid and the formation of the new Southampton Culture Trust. This collaborative place-based partnership will focus on Culture, Destination and Festivals and Events, and the strategy and action plan will guide and underpin that work with and on behalf of the city.

**DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

Not adopting the strategy is rejected given the strategic and wide-ranging benefits it will bring to the city for multiple stakeholders, and the ambition to develop a sustainable and high-quality festival and events programme and sector that puts Southampton and the region on the map.

**OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION**

None

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD**

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Decision Maker:  
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:  
Claire Heather

**SCRUTINY**

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council’s Scrutiny “Call-In” provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by <i>(if applicable)</i>
Results of Call-in <i>(if applicable)</i>