

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 MARCH 2020		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
This report outlines the Executive Business conducted since the last Executive Business Report to Full Council on 18 September 2019.			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the report be noted.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	Not applicable.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	<p>It has been a very busy few months since my last Executive Business report in November 2019. This is my first report of 2020 and I have chosen to align my report to the five strategic programme themes agreed with Council in July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities, culture and homes</li> <li>• Green City</li> <li>• Place Shaping</li> <li>• Wellbeing</li> <li>• Successful, sustainable business</li> </ul>		
	<b>Communities, culture and homes</b>		
4.	<p>Following my last report, we have hosted some great events in the city over the winter months. In November we saw parts of the city centre decorated with street art as part of a collaborative project with Southampton City Council's Highways and Cultural Services Team and the John Hansard Gallery. The art was created by pupils from Southampton schools that took part in a competition run by John Hansard Gallery and the city council during 2019. Six winning designs were selected from a shortlist of hundreds of</p>		

	submitted entries from talented young artists in Southampton and the designs now decorate Above Bar Street in front of John Hansard Gallery, City Eye and NST City on Guildhall Square.
5.	The festive season started with around 2,000 visitors watching Southampton's Christmas Light Switch On. The council worked in partnership with GO! Southampton on the delivery of the event, and we were joined by the Mayor of Southampton, stars from Southampton City Football Club along with East 17 to switch on the Christmas lights in the City Centre.
6.	It was great to see that the Christmas Market on Above Bar Street attracted over 46,000 visitors. The markets consisted of the Flying Santa Show, the Ice Rink outside West Quay South and the German Markets.
7.	For the second year in a row, the council partnered with community based groups, businesses, education bodies to come together to enjoy the celebrations of the Chinese New Year across the city. Alongside the Shaolin Temple, we arranged a day of activities on 25 January to celebrate the Year of the Rat. The event was held in both the Guildhall 02 and Guildhall Square and offered a wide range of activities including an interactive workshop, Chinese food stalls and a Chinese Lantern Festival Parade.
8.	Alongside these festivities, Southampton primary schools took part in a Chinese Lantern Competition organised by the UK Shaolin Temple in collaboration with Southampton City Council, the NST and the Confucius Institute to celebrate Chinese New Year.
9.	It was also fantastic to see the city's community spirit demonstrated over the festive period. I was pleased to hear that the Festive Toy Appeal that launched in November of 2019 brought in a record number of 10,600 toys. All the donated toys went to children under 18 who are supported by our Children's Services Team.
10.	Southampton City Council employees selected Yellow Door and SCRATCH as the two charities to receive over £550 each which was raised by employees taking part in Christmas Jumper Day. I was delighted to see the amount of people that took part in this and congratulations to the Integrated Commissioning Unit who made £74 from a bake sale on the day in addition to the money donated by those wearing their Christmas Jumpers, which exceeded the money raised last year.
11.	In this festive spirit, some of CitizEn Energy's most vulnerable customers were given a £10 voucher to use on Gas and Electricity over the winter months. This was part of a scheme to ensure people did not struggle to heat up their homes over Christmas as in Southampton alone there is around 12,000 households who struggle to keep their house warm.
12.	I was delighted to attend the London Art Fair 2020 which featured Southampton's City Art Gallery as the museum partner and received considerable media coverage. This is a prestigious international show and the Art Gallery's presence follows in the footsteps of other important cultural institutions including Pallant House in Chichester and The Hepworth Wakefield.
13.	I am delighted to see that new three exhibitions/ display have opened in our museums and gallery. Southampton's City Art Gallery opened Hospital Rooms, which has received fantastic media coverage. The exhibition features

	<p>the work of arts and mental health charity, Hospital Rooms, who commission artworks for NHS mental health inpatient units across the UK. Their latest project has taken place at Bluebird House, on the edge of the New Forest, a secure child and adolescent mental health hospital for 12-18 year olds. New sections have been added to the 'Southampton Stories' exhibition at SeaCity Museum, which includes a display on trams in Southampton and Medieval trade through the Bargate. A display on 'Commemorations in Southampton' has also been added, which looks at how Southampton has commemorated the sailing of the Mayflower in 1620, together with objects, images and archival material relating to other commemorations of local and national significance. This exhibition forms one small part of the Mayflower 400 programme which is due to be announced shortly and has secured over £400,000 of external funding.</p>
14.	<p>I am happy to announce that Southampton City Council has organised a Renters Roadshow. The Renters Roadshow went live in February with the aim to help people learn and navigate the renters marking by holding a series of free events. The events provide specialist advice and support to help those in need.</p>
	<p><b>Green City</b></p>
15.	<p>I was pleased to approve the adoption of the Green City delivery plan at Cabinet in February. The 10-year plan sets out how we will achieve our bold and ambitious Green City plans.</p>
16.	<p>I am pleased to confirm that Southampton City Council and Hampshire County Council have secured £760,000 from the Department of Transport's Access Fund to continue the My Journey sustainable travel programme of cycling and walking projects, such as Let's Ride, school and business engagement, and promotional activities for a further 12 months.</p>
17.	<p>In November, I was delighted to see over 60 local families come together to plant 200 native trees at Green Park, Millbrook, as part of our 25<sup>th</sup> year of Trees for Life. Our annual event creates a wooded area for parents, grandparents and guardians to leave a lasting legacy for the new family and has provided thousands of native trees across the city.</p>
18.	<p>I was pleased to hear that earlier this year the council re-opened the boardwalk footpath and cycle route between Horse Shoe Bridge and Mount Pleasant Industrial Estate with a newly installed guard railing to protect the path in the most severely eroded areas, and that work that aims to link Southampton City Council's cycle network to Nursling Industrial Estate started in February.</p>
19.	<p>It was great to see that following a decision from Southampton City Council, the Millbrook Household Waste and Recycling Centre will be excluded from a charging scheme that will be introduced by Hampshire County Council and will apply to all of their recycling centres. The decision ensures all Southampton residents can continue to use the Millbrook facilities free of charge, maximising recycling rates in the city of Southampton.</p>
20.	<p>I am happy to say that Southampton City Council has renewed its contract with Meachers Global Logistics which means the continuation of the city's Sustainable Distribution Centre. The initiative allows goods transported by a range of different logistics operators to be consolidated at the edge of the city and then transported the last part of the journey to key destinations. This has</p>

	reduced the number of vehicle movements into and out of the city centre for existing Sustainable Distribution Centre users by up to 75% as well as the associated CO2 savings.
21.	It was good to hear that Southampton Football Club, an organisation that has signed up to our Green City Charter, has welcomed One Water as its official bottled water partner. One Water will help the club support the fight against water poverty and aiming to have a neutral environmental impact by 2030.
22.	In February, it was great to see that Cabinet approved a policy to embed community wealth-building, social value and sustainability within its procurement and contract management processes. The Social Value and Green City Procurement Policy, approved at a Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday 11 February, is part of the Southampton Wealth-Building initiative, which will enhance the local economy, as well as bringing social and environmental benefits.
	<b>Place Shaping</b>
23.	I am delighted to announce that the Council's 'Southampton City Vision' consultation is now live with a response deadline of 19 April 2020. This consultation will influence the new Local Plan for Southampton with the aim of covering the next 30 years and beyond. The consultation is open to members of the public in order to share views on homes, places, infrastructure and facilities that the city will need.
24.	I was also very pleased to see the completion of the major project to improve journey times on Stoneham Way. The scheme was delivered by Balfour Beatty and has been funded by central government by via the Tranche 1 of the Transforming Cities Fund and the National Productivity Fund, with additional contributions from local developers. Not only did this scheme improve the signal technology around the city centre, it also provided links for walking and cycling. The scheme's cycle improvements include a new shared-use cycle path along Stoneham Way between Stoneham Lane and Bassett Green Road and on Wide Lane between Swaythling Arch and Mansbridge Road.
25.	It is fantastic to hear that the Mayflower Quarter has taken its first steps on its journey to become a vibrant, new mixed-use area of the city with the announcement of the appointment of specialist masterplanners, AR Urbanism. This project involves working with the Local Authority, key business groups and other key stakeholders to develop a plan that will be drawn up over the next twelve months.
26.	The inaugural meeting of the Future of Work (FoW) Advisory Group took place in January at Solent University. Leading experts in the realm of technology, learning, research, business development and management have been assembled to give strategic support and challenge to the FoW programme that Southampton City Council is embarking on. The FoW programme is designed to ensure citizens, learners and employers across the city benefit from and can contribute to increased digitalisation and propel Southampton to the forefront of a new Industrial Age.
27.	The Solent Apprenticeship Hub team, based at Southampton City Council, had a successful series of events during National Apprenticeship Week in February that saw them engage with over 400 young people, 60 employees and 50 employers. This included a high-level business networking event for

	the region's largest employers including Zurich, B&Q, Eaton, Airbus and Carnival as well as employee briefing sessions at City Depot and the Civic Centre.
28.	I was very pleased to learn that Southampton City Council has been announced as a local authority that will receive part of a £4m government fund to help crackdown on rogue landlords. The money will be used on a project to raise awareness amongst landlords and tenants about energy efficiency standards and responsibilities when renting.
	<b>Wellbeing (Children)</b>
29.	It was fantastic to hear that in December Southampton City Council joined forces with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to launch free books to children living in the city of Southampton. This will result in around 100 children in Southampton will be supported by the council's Virtual School, and will get a free book every month until their fifth birthday. A special thanks to the book-gifting programme for children aged 0-5 which is operated by the Dollywood Foundation, Dolly Parton's charity.
30.	Congratulations to our Junior Neighbourhood Wardens (JNWs) who were rewarded for their community work. They were awarded with tickets to go and see Peter Pan at the Mayflower Theatre just before Christmas. The children who range from 7 to 12 years old have dedicated their spare time to work alongside some of the Councils services to help improve their local areas. Southampton City Council has also been working in collaboration with CLC group to implement a program to improve residential blocks across the city.
31.	I was pleased to see the completion of a 23-week refurbishment of the Design Hub in Regents Park Community College, funded by the council. The Mayor of Southampton, Cllr Peter Ballie opened the new state of the Art Hub in January. The Design Hub consists of new tools, revamped facilities such as 3D printers as well as a dedicated room for food technology, this development cost £1.2M and will have a positive impact on the students of Regents Park Community College.
32.	In addition to this the Reading Agency launched Reading Well for children a new scheme that supports the mental health and wellbeing of children, providing children, their families and carers with information, advice and support for coping with feelings and worries, daily life and getting through a tough time. A booklist covering topics relevant to children today has been compiled by the Reading Agency, health professionals and children. The booklist and copies of all the books (currently in print) are available in Southampton libraries across the City and they are already very popular.'
33.	In February I was very pleased to attend and speak on behalf of Southampton City Council at the Serious Violence Summit held at Southampton City Football Club. The event was chaired by Southampton City Council and planned in partnership with GO! Southampton, and the Violence Reduction Unit. I really enjoyed speaking at the event alongside Chief Constable Olivia Pinkney and others who all played a vital part in the development of the city's Serious Violence delivery plan. The day consisted of sharing high level insight and identifying the community's networks and the activity that is already happening within the city of Southampton.
34.	It was great to hear that the Youth Offending Services received a rating of 'Good' from the recent HMIP inspection. The inspection found that YOS had

	some areas of strength that can form the basis of a swift progress. The report presents a number of recommendations that will enable the YOS and the council to make important improvements in its service for children and young people.
35.	As part of the early launch events of the administration's Year of the Child, Cllr Paffey and I were pleased to attend a session at Sure Start in Clovelly Road. Their visit underlined the importance of Sure Start Centres in Southampton, all of which have been kept open and which will this year be celebrating 20 years of providing great support to families and children in the city.
	<b>Wellbeing (Adults and Health)</b>
36.	It was good to hear that Southampton Educational Psychology Service held their annual Emotional Literacy Conference on 20 November 2019, and the theme was "Relationships: Everybody's Business". This was attended by 86 delegates from schools in Southampton and beyond, and was a very successful day.
37.	I was proud to hear that over the winter months, Southampton City Council and partner organisations helped to provide extra emergency accommodation for rough sleepers located in the city. I am also delighted to confirm that the council will be receiving £932,120 from the £112m national Rough Sleeping Initiative fund, which will enable us to sustain our coordinated outreach and support work for street homelessness developed over the last couple of years funded by the MHCLG.
38.	It was fantastic to hear that In January Southampton City Councils Employment Support Team partnered up with the PATH project, an international project focusing on raising awareness around Perinatal Mental Health. This is a newly developed project with European partners, and in Southampton will focus on supporting new mums back into work and training when they are ready
39.	I was also pleased to hear that jobseekers in Southampton who suffer from serious mental health needs can now have extra support to ensure they find work. Southampton City Council have recently partnered up with Job Centre Plus to deliver support, advice and access to increase the number of jobseekers retaining their jobs or re-entering the labour market. The program was launched at the Civic Centre on Thursday 13th February.
40.	I was happy to hear that in order to celebrate its 'Time to Talk' day Southampton City Council arranged a short walk in the park followed by a free hot chocolate for council staff. As well as the free hot chocolate, Southampton City Council teamed up with local independent coffee shops to offer a 2 for 1 deal on coffee and tea to encourage staff to take a break when needed.
41.	I am also pleased to say that Southampton City Council also partnered up with Portsmouth Council, Solent Mind and Time to Change to deliver free breakfasts from food vans and cafes to mark the importance of 'Time to Talk' day. This happened in both Southampton and Portsmouth with the aim of encouraging men to open up about mental health.
	<b>Successful, sustainable business</b>
42.	I would like to congratulate Neville Tomblin, Programme Manager for Fire Safety, who has won the Association for Specialist Fire Protection award for

	<p>Passive Fire Safety Advocate of the Year. A presentation was made to Southampton City Council for the work that we have done in not just making our residents homes safer places to live, but also sharing our best practice with other Social Landlords.</p>
43.	<p>I was pleased to see that in December, Southampton City Council became one of the first 10 organisations to sign up to become a Wellbeing @ Work employer. Wellbeing @ Work is a collaborative project co funded by Southampton City Council, Southampton Connect and Public Health England with the aim to support employers at risk of losing staff due to mental health. The 10 organisations signed up to this during a celebratory lunch held in the Civic Centre on 10th December.</p>
44.	<p>I am also excited about the launch in December of a major recruitment drive by the council. This is aimed at social work recruitment and will enable people to understand the council's vision for children's services and hear from existing social workers about their own experiences of what it's like to work for the council. This also present the benefits of working for the council, such as the flexible working hours, training and development opportunities as well as employee benefits.</p>
45.	<p>I was pleased to see progress in the council's Smart Ways of Working Project. In December we started piloting the new flexible working hours policy for the council which will enable people to work even more flexibly. This aims to improve the wellbeing of council staff. Those who have been part of the pilot will be able to feedback on their experiences to help shape long term plans. The intention is to roll this out to all staff from 1 April. In the meantime the programme will be rolling out to other teams at the council and relevant working locations.</p>
46.	<p>In January the council completed new break-out areas in the Civic Centre, in another key milestone in the Smart Ways of Working Project. This is key to enable flexible working for council staff and provide a more open, drop-in environment to work in.</p>
47.	<p>I am pleased to announce that Southampton City Council has signed up to become a Cornerstone Employer. A Cornerstone Employer is a business that is invested in the successful and sustainable delivery of careers education for young people and commits to join a leadership group of local businesses to support the schools, colleges and young people in their area to ensure all young people have the opportunities they need to be prepared and inspired for the world of work.</p>
48.	<p>It was good to hear that TheJobCrowd report showed Southampton City Council has been voted by apprentices as the number one company to work for, in the Charity, Education and Public Sectors area.</p>
49.	<p>It was also good to hear that Southampton City Council has joined 'The 5% Club'. This is an industry-led initiative that's focussed on driving momentum into the recruitment of apprentices, graduates and sponsored students.</p>
50.	<p>From the 3rd to the 7th February Southampton City Council celebrated National Apprenticeship Week. The week consisted of a wide range of different activates to celebrate apprentices and inform staff of these options. There was an apprenticeship lunch set up for all current apprentices at the council to meet and network as well as understand their own Social Styles and how to effective work with others. There was also a drop in session for all</p>

	Council staff to see what opportunities are out there for personal development and managing apprentices.	
51.	In addition to celebrating our apprentices, four of the council's apprentices have been featured in case studies on the TES website. They explain their experiences with doing an apprenticeship as well as how they've developed at Southampton City Council. I would like to congratulate Tom Anders, Camran Khan, Lucy Cooper and India Cookson on their articles.	
52.	I am happy to announce that in February we appointed a Bid Director to take forward the UK City of Culture 2025 bid. The role was given to Claire Whitaker OBE, who is a Director of Serious, an international live music and cultural events organisation and has considerable experience and skills in diversity, inclusion and partnership working. On behalf of Southampton City Council I would like to welcome Claire to the team.	
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>		
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>		
53.	None	
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>		
54.	None	
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>		
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>		
55.	As defined in the report appropriate to each section.	
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>		
56.	None	
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>		
57.	None	
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>		
58.	None	
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>		All
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>		
<b>Appendices</b>		
1.	None	

#### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>		<b>No</b>



<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>		
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>	
1.	None	