

DECISION-MAKER:	COUNCIL		
SUBJECT:	EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT		
DATE OF DECISION:	17 November 2021		
REPORT OF:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Author	Name:	Romilly Beard Policy & Strategy Manager	Tel: 023 8083 3310
	E-mail:	romilly.beard@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Mike Harris Deputy Chief Executive	Tel: 023 8083 2882
	E-mail:	mike.harris@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None.	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
This report outlines the Executive Business conducted since October 2021.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the report be noted.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	Not applicable.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	This report outlines the activity of the Executive and activities to progress the priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan since the date of the last report on 11 October 2021.
Communities, Culture and Heritage	
4.	We are investing over £6m into making the most of the amazing monuments and memorials that tell Southampton's story. The Bargate, Town Walls, Castle Vault and the Weigh House are all part of the programme, along with many other historic sites across the city. We have heritage assets to rival other cities, and this plays a big part of our bid to become UK City of Culture 2025. With the help of Prichard Architecture, we have carried out the most comprehensive condition survey of Southampton City Council's heritage assets since 1993 in line with Historic England guidance, and will be using this investment to repair and conserve many of the monuments in Southampton.
5.	In October we celebrated getting through to the next round of the UK City of Culture 2025 competition. We are up against seven other bids and will find out in March 2022 if we are shortlisted. There are so many transformative opportunities for Sotonians if we win UK City of Culture in May 2022. If we

	<p>win, we will feel the benefits Hull saw when they won in 2017, plus much more - Hull gained more than 800 jobs, a spectacular crowd-worthy events programme, over six million visitors to the city, a £300m+ boost to their visitor economy with the resulting bustling shops, restaurants, hotels and transport, over 100 schools engaged in their learning programmes, and 56,000 young people took part in City of Culture activities. In the coming months, the Southampton 2025 Trust will be developing the final bid ready for submission in January 2022. The #makeitSO campaign is being rolled out by the bid team and partner organisations, of which I am proud to say the Council is key player, to raise awareness and galvanise audiences behind the bid. In addition, engagement work continues with a wide range of private, charity and public sector stakeholders. Internally within the Council we will be undertaking a mass awareness campaign and providing managers with a toolkit of resources to raise awareness and engagement levels within their teams and also with their local audiences. This is our time - let's #makeitSO.</p>
	<p>Our Greener City</p>
6.	<p>Millbrook Roundabout Living Wall has been awarded a prestigious gold, Green Apple Award by The Green Organisation. The Southampton City Council, Balfour Beatty and Biotope collaboration is a unique feature at one of the busiest gateways to the city.</p>
7.	<p>I am incredibly pleased to announce that once again, Portswood Rec, Riverside Park and St James' Park have all been recognised as some of the best parks in the UK by the annual Green Flag Awards. During the past 18 months, especially during the lockdowns, our parks and green spaces have played a vital role for people, as a place to relax, exercise and meet friends and family safely. The news that Portswood Rec, Riverside Park, Central Parks and St James's Park have achieved the Green Flag Award is testament to the hard work and dedication of the team that make our green spaces places that everyone can enjoy.</p>
	<p>Growth</p>
8.	<p>I am pleased to say that the Council has launched a grant scheme to support event organisers in the city in the coming months, helping to boost growth, the economy, and community life as we build back better from COVID-19. Grants of between £250 and £5,000 are available to support up to 50% of the costs of events and festivals that are accessible to the general public. Applications are welcome from non-profit organisations such as voluntary and community groups, social enterprises, faith organisations, schools, PTAs and 'Friends of' groups, as well as for-profit businesses and sole traders (applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis). Priority will be given to residents and organisations/businesses based in the city.</p>
9.	<p>I am also proud to announce that our Gatehouse Apartments partners Grainger, were joined by Councillors and the Executive Director of Place, Kate Martin, to celebrate the success of the 132-home scheme - launched in March this year, the East Street apartment development was fully leased in</p>

	<p>just over three months, eight months ahead of schedule. The pet-friendly development of one and two-bedroom apartments started welcoming its first residents at Easter with the entire complex now fully occupied. Helen Gordon, Grainger's CEO, has confirmed that as a result of in-depth research, Grainger has identified Southampton as one of their 22 'targeted cities' for long-term investment based on demand and growth prospects. Grainger's investment demonstrates the incredibly exciting opportunities for investors and developers in the city.</p>
	<p>Wellbeing</p>
10.	<p>We have worked closely with educational settings, including universities, to provide guidance and communicate key messages around infection prevention. We worked with University of Southampton Students Union on a joint video featuring Dr Debbie Chase providing advice on vaccinations and safe behaviours. We have also worked with both universities in the city and produced communications assets to support a campaign at the start of the academic year to encourage safe behaviours. Other audiences have been engaged through targeted outreach activities, including a visit by our Community Champions to a supported housing scheme where they explained the importance of regular testing and handed out more than 100 kits. As a council, we have also taken positive action to ensure that as of 11 November, all staff working in a CQC-registered care home are fully vaccinated, and that from this date all new starters will have a vaccination requirement for their roles.</p>
11.	<p>The council is working towards signing up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight. The declaration consists of 16 commitments that aim to promote healthy weight across the local area. Because the declaration is a council-wide commitment to promoting the health and wellbeing of the local population, we have now convened a steering group to enable all departments to play a role and ensure that healthy weight is considered in all policy and practice. The steering group will be responsible for progressing the action plan that will achieve sign-up to the declaration and monitor progress against the 16 commitments. This work sits alongside existing projects that help tackle childhood obesity such as the Healthy Early Years Award and Healthy High Five.</p>
	<p>A Council that works with and for you</p>
12.	<p>Southampton City Council Highways Partnership, with Balfour Beatty, have made it through to the finals in the Europe, Middle East and Africa region for the Outstanding Cooperation and Collaboration category at the World Commerce & Contracting (formerly IACCM) Innovation and Excellence Awards 2021. Recognising the value of mutual and independent goals and open and trusting ways of working, this nomination is a ringing endorsement of our invaluable partnership. The finals will be held on 1 December.</p>
13.	<p>Our staff have also continued to exhibit exemplary standards of work, garnering more awards in recognition of contributions to our valuable</p>

	services. Neville Tomblin and Nigel Mullan were shortlisted in the Security and Fire Excellence Awards, four Housing staff have received recognition from the Police Head of Investigation Command for their work in bringing domestic violence cases to a satisfactory conclusion, and Potters Court has also received major national recognition as we have been nominated for Homebuilder of the Year in the prestigious UK Housing Awards.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
	As defined in the report appropriate to each section.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
	None.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
	None.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
	None.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	None
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None.