

Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny
Date:	20 November 2007
Subject:	Cultural services review Beacon Centre case study – scope
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	No
Responsible Officer:	Tom Whiting, Interim Divisional Director, Strategy and Improvement
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Paul Osborn, Strategy and Business Support
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Case study scope

SECTION 1 – SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report sets out the scope for the completion of the case study on the Beacon Centre, as part of the cultural services review.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is requested to:

- 1) Agree the attached scope.
- 2) Agree that the review group will report back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 14 February.

SECTION 2 - REPORT

Background

The Cultural Services Review was commissioned by O&S in November 2006 and the main report was published in June / July 2007.

It was agreed that the review would consider three case studies – the renovation of the cowsheds at Bernays Gardens, the Gayton Road redevelopment and the opening of the Beacon Centre.

It was decided that the Beacon Centre had not been open long enough, in April/May, for the review group to be able to look at it and examine the impact it was having on the local community. As a result, it was decided that consideration of this case study would be postponed for about six months.

It is suggested that work on scoping the remaining case study be carried out between now and late October. Evidence can be gathered over November and the final report can go to committee in February.

Current situation

In strategic terms, the position will have changed over the last six months. The council's Improvement Plan has been published and a new set of corporate priorities have been set. The service will have to be examined in this context.

With this in mind, this additional work may provide a useful opportunity to look at the rest of the cultural services review six months on and to make a broad judgment on how matters are progressing.

This will have to be linked in to a discussion of the aims and objectives of the Beacon Centre itself.

The case study reflects the broad aims and objectives of the cultural services review, as agreed last November.

Why a change is needed

Not applicable.

Main options

Members are being asked to agree the scope as attached, although the committee may make amendments.

Other options considered

None.

Recommendation: - that the scope be agreed as attached, and that the review group submit their report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for endorsement in February 2008.

Considerations

Resources, costs and risks: none

Staffing/workforce: none

Equalities impact: none specific

Legal comments: none

Community safety: none

Financial Implications

None specific.

Performance Issues

None specific to this report.

Legal and financial implications

There are no legal or financial implications to this report.

SECTION 3 - STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE

Name: Sheela Thakrar	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 8 November 2007.		
Name: Stephne Dorrian	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 6 November 2007.		

SECTION 4 - CONTACT DETAILS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact: Ed Hammond, Scrutiny Officer
020 8420 9205: ed.hammond@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers:

List scorecards considered

IF APPROPRIATE, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	YES/ NO
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES / NO
3.	Manifesto Pledge Reference Number	