

REPORT TO CABINET

25 July 2018

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| Subject: | Action Taken on a Matter of Urgency – Extension of Discount Period for Indoor Market Stall Fees |
| Presenting Cabinet Member: | Councillor David Hossell- Cabinet Member for Highways and Environment |
| Director: | Director- Regeneration and Growth- Neighbourhoods- Amy Harhoff |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Key Decision: | No |
| Forward Plan (28-day notice) Reference: | Not applicable |
| Cabinet Member Approval and Date: | Councillor David Hossell – 28 June 2018 |
| Director Approval: | 20 June 2018 |
| Reason for Urgency: | Discount period has ceased and market traders are invoiced for stall fees monthly. |
| Exempt Information Ref: | Exemption provisions do not apply |
| Ward Councillor (s) Consulted (if applicable): | Ward councillors have not been consulted |
| Scrutiny Consultation Considered? | The Chair of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board |
| Contact Officer(s): | Amarjit Sahota – Governance Lead amarjit_sahota@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Receives the details of the urgent action taken by Director - Regeneration and Growth to extend the 25% discount on stall fees for the Indoor Market in West Bromwich until 30th September 2018, to be reviewed thereafter.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of a matter of urgency taken by the Director - Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Environment in relation to the discount period for Indoor Market Stall Fees.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 Ambition 8 - The Council's ambition to create environments in the six towns where people choose to live will be directly supported by the preservation and development of a thriving indoor market.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Indoor Market in West Bromwich has been suffering a decline in market traders over the last few years. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Environment supported a 25% discount on stall fees for the Indoor Market in West Bromwich for a six-month period to provide an incentive to attract more market traders and to prevent the loss of existing traders, whilst a strategic review was conducted to seek a sustainable solution. This period has now ceased.
- 3.2 The Council has now undertaken a strategic review of the Indoor Market and the findings are being analysed to explore redevelopment proposals to provide a long -term and sustainable solution to the decline in stall lettings. This analysis is scheduled to be reported to Cabinet in November 2018 so that a decision can be taken on the future development of the Indoor Market.
- 3.3 To retain existing market traders whilst the development proposals are analysed, it was recommended that the 25% discount on stall fees is extended until 30th September 2018 when it can be reviewed. This extension would result in a potential cost of up to £60,000 based on current stall letting levels. However, removing the discount may result in the loss of market traders which may amount to a similar or greater loss in market rents.
- 3.3 The matter was urgent and could not be delayed until the next Cabinet meeting as the discount period had ended and market traders are invoiced for stall fees monthly.

4 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 4.1 Consultation will be carried out in relation to the considerations of the wider strategic review of the Indoor Market, due to be presented to Cabinet, in November 2018.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The alternative was the potential loss of market traders, which may have resulted in a loss of £60,000 or more in rents.

6 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 There is no requirement to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment.

7 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 There are no specific data protection implications arising from the contents of this report.

8 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from the contents of this report.

9 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 9.1 There are no sustainability issues arising from the contents of this report.

10 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

- 10.1 There are no specific health and wellbeing implications arising from the contents of this report.

11 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

- 11.1 There will be a loss of revenue for council managed land from discounted market stall fees.

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1 Report to Cabinet of 20th September 2017; 'Indoor Market Temporary Fee Reduction'.

13 APPENDICES:

None

Amy Harhoff
Director- Regeneration and Growth- Neighbourhoods