



Rochford District
Council

REPORT TITLE:	Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre Working Group
REPORT OF:	Phoebe Barnes, Director Assets & Investments

1 REPORT SUMMARY

- 1.1 To establish a working group for the Mill Hall Arts and Events Centre that will report to the Economic Development, Regeneration and Tourism Committee.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is proposed that Council agrees to form a Working Group for the Mill Hall Arts and Events Centre.
- 2.2 That the Mill Hall working group (MHWG) refers to the Economic Development, Regeneration and Tourism Committee, and that this committee agrees the terms of reference and membership of this working group.

3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 At it's meeting held in March 2024, the overview and scrutiny committee resolved the following recommendations:
1. That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee review the updated information presented within the report.
 2. To recommend that a cross-party working group is appointed by the Council at its annual meeting in May 2024 to act as a steering group for matters relating to the Mill Hall Arts and Events Centre, and that officers prepare a proposed terms of reference for this working group to be presented to the annual Council meeting, and that the first meeting of the working group should be held in June 2024.
 3. To propose to the Lead Member for Assets that market research on the Mill Hall is concluded by September 2024 and the results reported to the next possible meeting of the working group after September 2024 should such a group be established by Council.

3.2 The purpose of this report is for Council to agree to establish a working group for the Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre. A draft terms of reference for this working group is attached in Appendix 1 for reference. The terms of reference and appointment of councillors onto the working group will be determined by the Economic Development, Regeneration and Tourism committee on 13th June 2024.

3.3 Officers will arrange for the working group to meet following resolution on 13th June 2024. Depending on availability of councillors it is expected the first working group will be able to meet by the end of June 2024 as recommended.

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 No other options have been considered.

5 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 None.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The working group will consider and review any consultations regarding the Mill Hall Arts and Events Centre.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There would be no additional resource implications should the Council agree to establishing a working group.

8 LEGAL & GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As per 6.03 Working Groups within the constitution, a Committee can form a working group to consider a topic informally and at pace. The membership of the working group will be decided by the Committee, which may include non-committee members and people from outside the Council. Working groups will not be subject to the political balance rules nor will substitutions be allowed as continuity of membership is important. Meetings of the working group will not be held in public and all agendas and minutes will not be publicly available. The working group will report back to the parent Committee with its findings.

8.2 The Economic Development, regeneration and tourism committee will be the parent committee of the working group as this committee under it' term of

