

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF MEMBER DELEGATED DECISION

Severn Arts (Worcestershire Youth Music) - potential establishment as a Charitable Company Limited by guarantee

Date Of Decision	<i>8th September 2017</i>
Decision Maker	<i>Lucy Hodgson</i>
Brief Description Of Decision	<p>The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities has agree to:</p> <p>(a) support the proposal for Severn Arts to operate as a separate legal entity entirely independent of the Council, as set out in the report with key points outlined in paragraph 7;</p> <p>(b) approve the transfer of Severn Arts (previously known as Worcestershire Youth Music) to a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status on or after 1 January 2018 and delegates authority to the Director of Children, Families and Communities to take the final decision on such a transfer and to approve the final development of the terms on which Severn Arts will leave the Council, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities;</p> <p>(c) authorise the Director of Children, Families and Communities to manage the transfer arrangements as outlined in paragraph 9 should she decide the transfer is to take place;</p> <p>(d) authorise the Director of Children, Finance and Communities to appoint an ex-officio director from time to time to sit on the Board of Severn Arts should it be established as an independent entity.</p>
Reason(s) For Decision	<p><i>Full details are in the report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As shown in the options appraisal which accompanied the 2015 Cabinet Report, redundancy would be more

	<p>likely in the future if the service stays within WCC. If Severn Arts does not become independent it is more likely that the service would be commercially and educationally outpaced by competitors and become devalued and even lost in the future, with decommissioning more expensive than externalising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the redundancy liabilities to be met by WCC. Long term financial savings relating to future pension contributions. • Reducing the headcount for the Council and the need to provide centralised services support to Severn Arts (IT, Finance, HR, management and admin etc.) • The benefits of 'spinning out' to Severn Arts will directly impact on the support that it can provide for its stakeholders.
<p>Alternative Options Considered And Rejected</p>	<p>(a) Retain in house (b) Tender or transfer Business to an alternative provider (c) Creation of an independent music service, Company Limited by Guarantee, with charitable status (d) Creation of an independent music service through joining up with Music Service, Company Limited by Guarantee, with charitable status (via the Cabinet Recommendations report in 2015 – options appraisal)</p>
<p>Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Signature of Decision Maker</p>	<p>Mrs L C Hodgson</p>