

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

9 DECEMBER 2022

AMENDMENT 2 TO NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by: Councillor Burke-Davies

Seconded by: Councillor Huw Thomas

Proposed additions are shown in red and deletions shown as been crossed out.

This Council notes ~~that it has been the confirmed policy of the Council since 2014 to pursue Alternative Service Delivery arrangements for St David's Hall, due to funding pressures arising from the austerity policies of the then Coalition Government.~~

~~It further notes that in 2016 the Council undertook a detailed Competitive Dialogue tender process for an alternative service delivery method for St David's Hall, and notes the process concluded unsuccessfully with no tenders received that could deliver the Classical Programme and remove the Council's liability for the building.~~

~~with alarm the speed at which the Cabinet may be moving towards a decision to change the ownership and/or management of the city's St David's Hall, regarded by many as the national concert hall of Wales, and before any such decision is taken demands that:~~

~~The Council calls on Cabinet to ensure that before making this decision it gives due consideration to:~~

- ~~1. a full business case is published by the Cabinet demonstrating why it considers the proposals would be of benefit to the community of Cardiff and the wider nation; and~~
- ~~2. the Cabinet demonstrates how any such the proposal would preserves the city's cultural heritage by providing all necessary safeguards that the Hall's current cultural and classical output would be preserved at current levels or greater, that the current provision for community events would be maintained, and that the well-recognised excellent acoustics of the Hall would be unaffected by any proposed structural alterations or proposals to remove existing seatings; noting that the proposals have been tested with the Hall's original acoustic engineers;~~

~~The Council notes that proposals will also be subject to Consultation via the Budget process, building in turn on repeated consultation exercises over the last 8 years, prior to the Cabinet taking the final decision on the matter.~~

The Council recognises that identifying alternative public avenues of funding is unlikely, with the Arts Council having withdrawn its revenue funding for St David's Hall in 2014 and Welsh Government facing severe funding pressures, but calls upon Cabinet to consider any alternative sources of public funding.

- ~~3. a full and meaningful consultation is undertaken with the public and key stakeholders on the merits of the proposals, and the outcome of this consultation is given due and proper consideration; and~~
- ~~4. all alternative avenues to secure the funding necessary to maintain the building and clear the current maintenance backlog are fully explored – including asking the Welsh Government to provide financial assistance to secure the future of our publicly owned and operated national concert hall.~~

If, after taking these steps, the Cabinet still **ultimately** determines it is minded to proceed with changing the ownership and/or management of St David's Hall, then this Council calls for that to be achieved through an open tendering process which could ensure the best available option can be considered, subject to appropriate safeguards being able to be met. **notes that Cabinet will obtain the relevant technical advice on the process to be followed, as is standard procedure for decisions of this nature.**

Finally the Council notes that Cabinet's decision will be subject to the usually scrutiny process under the Council's scrutiny procedure rules.

The Amended Motion would read:

This Council notes that it has been the confirmed policy of the Council since 2014 to pursue Alternative Service Delivery arrangements for St David's Hall, due to funding pressures arising from the austerity policies of the then Coalition Government.

It further notes that in 2016 the Council undertook a detailed Competitive Dialogue tender process for an alternative service delivery method for St David's Hall, and notes the process concluded unsuccessfully with no tenders received that could deliver the Classical Programme and remove the Council's liability for the building.

The Council calls on Cabinet to ensure that before making this decision it gives due consideration to:

1. a business case demonstrating why it considers the proposals would be of benefit to the community of Cardiff and the wider nation; and
2. how the proposal preserves the city's cultural heritage by providing safeguards that the Hall's current cultural and classical output would be preserved at current levels or greater, that the current provision for community events would be maintained, and that the well-recognised excellent acoustics of the Hall would be unaffected by any proposed structural alterations or proposals to remove existing seating, noting that the proposals have been tested with the Hall's original acoustic engineers;

The Council notes that proposals will also be subject to Consultation via the Budget process, building in turn on repeated consultation exercises over the last 8 years, prior to the Cabinet taking the final decision on the matter.

The Council recognises that identifying alternative public avenues of funding is unlikely, with the Arts Council having withdrawn its revenue funding for St David's Hall in 2014 and Welsh Government facing severe funding pressures, but calls upon Cabinet to consider any alternative sources of public funding.

If Cabinet ultimately determines it is minded to proceed with changing the ownership and/or management of St David's Hall, then this Council notes that Cabinet will obtain the relevant technical advice on the process to be followed, as is standard procedure for decisions of this nature.

Finally the Council notes that Cabinet's decision will be subject to the usual scrutiny process under the Council's scrutiny procedure rules.