

## **Call-in – Decision made by Cabinet into the future of Marine Hall and Thornton Little Theatre**

### **Additional documents requested**

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#### **Any provisional zoning plans for Marine Hall**

There are no zoning plans for Marine Hall. Development of proposals and regeneration opportunities for Fleetwood waterfront which incorporates the Marine Hall and YMCA site is ongoing. One of the outputs will be a masterplan identifying the key opportunities for future project development, funding bids and investment. It is anticipated that the masterplan will make suggestions as to how Marine Hall might be redeveloped and whether facilities such as a restaurant could be added. It should be noted that this masterplan work is not looking at the management operating model for Marine Hall and any investment / development opportunities for Marine Hall will be dependent on the future operator whether that be the council or a commercial operator.

To help inform the development of the masterplan, the public consultation has fed into this. Attached at Appendix 5a is the consultation boards and some ideas for Marine Hall were included in this.

#### **Bids for Thornton Little Theatre (TLT)**

There were initially six expressions of interest received for TLT. A formal process was initiated in December 2023, which offered the opportunity for those interested to put forward a bid to take on TLT by way of a five year, internally repairing lease. Following this, five bids have been received. Quality criteria has been established to assess the bids. A key criteria is around the level of community use which would be available. Bidders were also asked how much rent they would be prepared to pay each year. This ensures the council is meeting its best value duty. The bids are not being shared as requested as these documents are commercially sensitive and were also not within the possession or control of the Cabinet at the time of their consideration of the Cabinet report.

#### **Definitive statement as to the impact on staff at both theatres**

There is no impact on the staff at the Marine Hall caused by the cabinet decision. The act of going to tender does not impact on the staff at this stage of the process.

In relation to Thornton Little Theatre (TLT), there is one member of staff who works predominantly at TLT. Discussions are ongoing with that staff member regarding what they may want to do in respect of a potential transfer although this is still dependent on the organisation that takes on the lease. Formal consultation has not yet started and will only commence if the decision is implemented.