

Single Member Cabinet Decision


Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference

**E3310**

**Rule 15: Bath Christmas Market 2021 Change of Dates**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	Cllr Kevin Guy, Leader
<b>The Issue</b>	The Bath Christmas Market provides an economic lift not just to the stall holders but also to retail, accommodation, hospitality and tourism sectors across Bath and North East Somerset. For 2021 the Council wishes to trial an extension for 7 days and deliver the event closer to the run up to Christmas.
<b>Decision Date</b>	Not before 10 Jul 2021
<b>The decision</b>	The Leader agrees to approve a 7-day extension to Bath Christmas Market, to run from 25 November to 19 December 2021, launching with a Residents Evening on 24 November
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<p>Bath Christmas Market is ranked in the top 10 in Europe. It attracts 400,000 visitors per year, with an estimated spend in the City of £32.5 million (2019). As well as supporting accommodation, retail and hospitality sectors the Market provides an economic uplift to visitor attractions in the winter months.</p> <p>The Bath Christmas Market provides the gateway to an annual economic uplift for multiple commercial sectors such as accommodation, retail, hospitality and tourism in the B&amp;NES region. The market gives a platform to local charities and supports community groups through a wide range of projects and local initiatives.</p> <p>Extending the Christmas Market for an additional week, as part of the Council's commitment to support stall holders, retailers, the accommodation sector and hospitality industry as they recover from the impact of Covid-19.</p> <p>This will be the first time in the Market's 20-year history it will run for 25 days, with a launch event for B&amp;NES residents on 24 November, ending on Sunday 19 December.</p> <p>This decision is taken pursuant to rule 15 General Exception at part 4B - ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES of the Council Constitution. A decision taken under this rule cannot be called in</p>
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	The financial impact of running the Market for an extra 7 days will be cost neutral and will not impact the net budget presented in the previous Report to Cabinet. Use of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to the value of £48,570 will continue to bring the budget to a breakeven position. All additional expenditure resulting

	<p>from the 7-day extension will be offset by increased income and this is reflected in a revised budgeted detailed in Appendix A.</p> <p>The Risk Profile, identified in the Financial Overview at Appendix B, demonstrates the key dates, alongside Public Health principles, and the decision-making process to limit the financial exposure of the Council. This has been updated to reflect the 7-day extension. In line with the June Cabinet decision if the event is cancelled due to COVID and outside of the Council's control the mitigations would be to access the non-ringfenced Covid Grant Funding to minimise the financial impact on the Council.</p>
<b>Issues considered</b>	Customer Focus; Sustainability; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Cabinet colleagues; Overview & Scrutiny Chair; Staff; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	Meetings and Emails
<b>Other options considered</b>	Not extending the Market for 7 days.
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:</b>	
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	

<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	<p><b>Cllr Kevin Guy</b></p> 
<b>Date of Signature</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2021

**NOT Subject to Call-in**