

Newington Community Centre project

Overview and Scrutiny Panel	12 March, 2024
Report Author	Louise Askew, Head of Regeneration and Growth
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Everitt, Leader of the Council
Status	For Information
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Ward:	Newington

Executive Summary:

This report invites members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel to review the Cabinet report for 14 March 2024 seeking approval to create a new project at the Newington Community Centre as part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The Community Centre is located within a housing estate and is part of the HRA portfolio. The works to upgrade the existing building to an appropriate standard will be delivered alongside the Levelling Up Fund project that is delivering an extension to the building in order to house further training space in the building.

Recommendation(s):

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to review and scrutinise the report on the inclusion of a new capital project for Newington Community Centre being considered by Cabinet on 14 March 2024 (Annex 1), making any agreed recommendations for consideration at a future meeting of Cabinet.

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

There are no financial or value for money implications arising specifically from this report. The report to Cabinet on 25 January 2024 sets out the relevant financial and value for money implications.

Legal

This report is for information and as such there are no legal implications arising. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Panel may make recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.

Risk Management

There are no risk management implications arising specifically from this report. The report to Cabinet on 14 March 2024 considers risk management.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no equalities implications arising specifically from this report. The report to Cabinet on 14 March 2024 considers the Equality Duty.

Corporate Priorities

The Cabinet report on 14 March 2024 relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Priority four: To create a thriving place

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Newington Community Centre (NCC) is located in the Newington Estate in Ramsgate and is one of the most deprived areas in the District. The NCC is run by the Newington Community Association (NCA), who are in turn supported by Starlings Support as part of the Big Local programme.
- 1.2 The Community Centre building is located within a housing estate and is part of the HRA portfolio. The building is currently leased to the Newington Community Association until 2027.
- 1.3 Recent surveys of the building and the development of the designs for the Levelling Up Fund project a number of challenges and issues with the existing building have been identified, this report will outline them and seek for a new project to be added to the HRA programme, with funding from the Major Repairs Reserve, to be used for the refurbishment works.

2.0 New Project for Newington Community Centre

- 2.1 A Stage 2 Cost Plan has been produced that demonstrates the works to upgrade the existing building to an appropriate standard require a further c£300,000 over the existing LUF project budget. Within the Cabinet report, in Annex 1 an outline of the individual costs for the building have been identified.

3.0 Next Steps

- 3.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to review and scrutinise the Cabinet report in Annex 1 to be received by Cabinet on 14 March 2024, making any agreed recommendations for consideration at a future meeting of Cabinet.

Contact Officer: *Louise Askew, Head of Regeneration and Growth*
Reporting to: *Bob Porter, Director of Place*

Annex List

Annex 1: Newington Community Centre project - Cabinet report for meeting on 14 March, 2024

Background Papers

none

Corporate Consultation

Finance: Chris Blundell (Director of Corporate Services - Section 151)

Legal: Ingrid Brown (Head of Legal and Democracy & Monitoring Officer)