



Quad Development Director Appointment And Architectural Competition Result

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To agree to the appointment of a Development Director for the Quad project as outlined
- 1.2 To consider the recommendation of the Quad judging panel on the choice of architect for the building

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The appointment of a Development Director will signal a new phase in Quad. For the first time there will be a full-time officer in charge. This will enable intensive work on funding, partnership development and design
- 2.2 A judging panel has been at work analysing the merits of the alternative designs put forward by six architectural practices. Two weeks of consultation have taken place with members of the public at a mobile exhibition on Derby's Cornmarket. As a result of the technical scoring and the public reaction, a recommendation will be made at the Cabinet meeting, and the winning design concepts will be on display.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Quad is the result of a collaboration between the Metro Cinema, Q Arts, the Media Archive of Central England and the City Council. It is designed to create a new centre for activity in the visual arts in the heart of Derby, next to the Market Place.
- 3.2 The Arts Council recently granted £2.5 million to the development of the project.
- 3.3 A number of external organisations have expressed interest in supporting the project, including the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership, the East Midlands Development Agency, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the European Union.
- 3.4 The work on completing a funding package will continue until April 2005, alongside the detailed design work.

- 3.5 The role of Development Director will act as the focus for both streams of work, and the intention is to support that role with a project team and control mechanisms using best practice as outlined by the Prince 2 standard.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 At this stage, the whole of the cost of appointing the Development Director and engaging an architect on the detailed design are covered by the grant from Arts Council England. For this reason, the option of cancelling has not been recommended. The Development Director will be developing a funding package and a business plan for the project. It is therefore considered that a final decision should only be taken when this information is available.
- 4.2 The option of scaling back the size of the project has been examined as part of development planning, and rejected, as it is essential for the project to have the critical mass in order to become a major force in the future economy and cultural life of the city.

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Background papers:	Quad Development Plan; Quad Architectural Competition Brief
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 - Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The costs of the Development Director post and the work of the chosen Architect will be funded from the £2.5 million grant from Arts Council England. Bids are also in preparation for the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership, the European Union and the East Midlands Development Agency.

Legal

2. The only contractual obligations at this stage will be to a one-year appointment of Development Director and Architect.

Personnel

3. The appointment of Development Director is being made using City Council standards and procedures. It will be a one-year appointment initially.

Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change

4. The Quad project contributes to these aspects of the City Council's objectives:
 - job opportunities
 - education
 - leisure activities

It contributes to these priorities for change:

- promoting the city as a centre for industry, commerce culture and tourism
- develop the partnership role of the Council.

