

<b>CULTURE, RECREATION &amp; TOURISM CABINET MEMBER MEETING</b>	<b>Agenda Item 67</b>  Brighton & Hove City Council
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**Subject:** Change of Opening Days – Hove Museum & Art Gallery  
**Date of Meeting:** 23 March 2010  
**Report of:** Director of Housing, Culture & Enterprise  
**Contact Officer:** Janita Bagshawe Tel: 292840  
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**Key Decision:** No  
**Wards Affected:** All

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1 SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Cabinet Member for Culture, Tourism and Enterprise to agree to a change of opening days to the public at Hove Museum & Art Gallery.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 For the Cabinet Member to agree to a change in opening days at Hove Museum & Art Gallery from Tuesday-Sunday, closed on Monday, to Thursday-Tuesday, closed on Wednesday.

**3 RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS**

3.1 Currently, Hove Museum & Art Gallery (HMAG) and Brighton Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG) are open Tuesday- Sunday and closed on Monday.

3.2 By changing the opening days at HMAG from Tuesday–Sunday to Thursday–Tuesday, it will mean that two out of the three museums are open on a daily basis throughout the week, rather than the current situation where on a Monday two museums are closed.

3.3 Visitor attendance at the museums across different days of the week (Monday-Friday) shows little variance. It is therefore not anticipated the changes would result in a drop in attendance.

3.4 If agreed, the change would be implemented at the beginning of May 2010, which will coincide with Brighton Festival. The change in opening hours will be publicised through:

- ◆ The Division's regular 'What's On' mailing – 25,000 distributed throughout Brighton & Hove and Sussex.
  - ◆ BHCC website and Royal Pavilion & Museums website.
  - ◆ Local press releases.
  - ◆ Will be publicised to regular visitors via signage on site.
  - ◆ In addition, notices will be put up at Brighton Museum on Mondays to indicate that customers could visit Hove Museum – information regarding opening times and travel directions would also be given.
- 3.5 In addition, it should be noted that Hove Library is only open on Monday afternoons. If Hove Museum were open on Mondays it would therefore represent a service addition in that part of the City.

#### **4 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Internal consultation has been carried out with internal colleagues responsible for various activities at Hove Museum & Art Gallery to ensure continued efficiency and cost effectiveness of the service.

#### **5 FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### **5.1 Financial Implications:**

There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations in the report.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Peter Francis                      Date: 18 February 2010*

##### **5.2 Legal Implications:**

None.

*Lawyer Consulted: Carl Hearsum                                      Date: 23 February 2010*

##### **5.3 Equalities Implications:**

None.

*Equalities Officer Consulted: Maureen Pasmore                                      Date: 17 February 2010*

##### **5.4 Sustainability Implications:**

None.

##### **5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:**

None.

**5.6 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:**

None.

**5.7 Corporate/Citywide Implications:**

None.

**6 EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 None has been considered.

**7 REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

7.1 To ensure there are two museums open on each day of the week, unlike the current situation with two museums closed on a Monday.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. None.

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1. None

**Background Documents**

1. None

