

Review: Future of the Colosseum
Committee/Task Group: Policy Development Scrutiny Committee
Final report published: January 2007
Cabinet/Executive response: 26 February 2007 and 18 June 2007
Scrutiny Review: Policy Development Scrutiny Committee 10 July 2007
Chair: Councillor George Derbyshire

Recommendation	Cabinet/Executive response/decision	Scrutiny follow-up	Latest update	Further review required / completed
That the restoration as soon as possible of the Colosseum venue as a fully operational public performance venue with a regular wide-ranging programme of events be adopted as a significant element of the Council's cultural policy.	That the restoration as soon as possible of the Colosseum venue as a fully operational public performance venue with a regular wide-ranging programme of events be adopted as a significant element of the Council's cultural policy. (26/02/2007)	That Cabinet's response be noted. (10/07/07)	Venue opened in August 2011 following substantial refurbishment including a new extension to accommodate proper audience facilities. It provides a wide ranging entertainment programme, conference facilities, bar, café and restaurant	

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<p>That a new name be adopted for the re-launch, with majority preference for Watford Town Hall and minority preference for something with a more modern feel.</p>	<p>That a new name be adopted for the re-launch. (26/02/2007)</p>		<p>During the development of the plans for the new facility it became clear that there was no real advantage to changing the name and in fact there was an advantage to talk about the rebirth of the Colosseum, which was a well known name</p>	
<p>That the options to be considered for the management and operation of the venue when re-launched should be the Southampton and Basingstoke models and that value for money and mitigation of risk should be significant considerations.</p>	<p>That the options to be considered for the management and operation of the venue when re-launched should be the Southampton and Basingstoke models and that value for money and mitigation of risk should be significant considerations. (26/02/2007)</p>		<p>The model arrived at results in a management fee being paid to HQ Theatres to operate the venue (Southampton model). The commercial risk sits with HQ Theatres. The management contract provides for flexibility in the programme but specifies the number of public performances required and the facility to provide community lets at a price agreed with WBC.</p>	
	<p>That officers carry out further work and report back to Cabinet at its June meeting. (26/02/2007)</p>		<p>Various reports were made to cabinet covering the key decision making points in the procurement of the operator</p>	

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	That the Council should retain ownership of the Colosseum and let a management contract operate the facility for the long term. <i>(18/06/2007)</i>		The Council has retained ownership of the Colosseum and it is leased to the operator for the duration of the management contract	
	That the approach set out in the report for appointing a suitable consultant to advise and prepare tender documentation to let a management contract for the Colosseum by May 2008 be endorsed. <i>(18/06/2007)</i>		Max Associates was the consultant appointed following a procurement process to advise WBC and prepare the tender documentation.	
	That the licence agreement with the BBC to no later than 30 April 2010 be re-negotiated, including a six month break clause to enable the contract to be terminated should the benefits of the contract with the BBC not be compatible with the future operational plans and development proposals for the Colosseum. <i>(18/06/2007)</i>		The licence agreement with the BBC has been terminated and the BBC now have an agreement directly with HQ Theatres which has been approved by WBC	