



Subject:	Request to Present – Grand Opera House
Date:	9th January 2019
Reporting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Development, ext. 3470
	Lisa Toland, Head of Economic Initiatives and International
Contact Officer:	Development, ext.

Restricted Reports					
Is this report restricted?	Yes No	X			
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?					
After Committee Decision					
After Council Decision					
Some time in the future					
Never					

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes X No

Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
To consider a request from the Chief Executive of the Grand Opera House to present details
of the Grand Opera House's restoration and development project to the City Growth and
Regeneration Committee.
Recommendation
The Committee is requested to agree to receive a presentation on the Grand Opera House's
restoration and development project at a future meeting.

3.0	Main Report
	Key Issues
3.1	The Grand Opera House is one of the city's key cultural and heritage assets located in the Central Business District of the city. It continues to deliver a wide range of productions and presents a varied programme of musicals, drama, ballet, opera and family shows. The Grand Opera House has also increased its delivery of creative learning activity throughout the year, working with a greater number of schools and other organisations than before. In 2017-2018, it attracted an audience in the region of 285,700.
3.2	The Grand Opera House is currently in receipt of £35,000 per annum through the Council's Core Multi Annual Funding (CMAF) programme 2016 to 2020.
3.3	In January 2020, the Grand Opera House Trust will begin a once-in-a-generation £11million restoration project. This coincides with its 125 <sup>th</sup> year and aims to return the heritage and cultural asset to its former glory, enhancing the public areas of the theatre and showcasing the history of the Grand Opera House through a new and vibrant exhibition.
3.4	Heritage Lottery funding has supported the development of proposals to restore the main auditorium and permanent visitor exhibition. These proposals will be assessed with the potential of securing further funding of approximately £4.5m Heritage Lottery Funding; however, additional funding will be required to deliver on the £11m restoration project.
3.5	The Chief Executive of the Grand Opera House has requested the opportunity to present on the restoration and development project.
3.6	Financial and Resource Implications No Council budget allocations have been made to support this project
	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
3.7	There are no implications attached to this report.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None