

Report Title:	The Old Court Update
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No - Part I
Lead Member:	Councillor Rayner, Deputy Leader of the Council, Resident and Leisure Services, HR, IT, Legal, Performance Management and Windsor; Armed Forces Champion
Meeting and Date:	Communities Overview & Scrutiny 8 March 2021
Responsible Officer(s):	Steph James, Maidenhead Town Manager
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

SUMMARY

The Old Court is managed by Martin Denny, Managing Director, Martin Denny Management Ltd.

He has managed the Windsor Festival since 2002 and has run the art centre since 2017.

This report is an update on activity since the last report to Communities Overview & Scrutiny on the 3 November 2020.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Old Court is Windsor's artspace for live music, cinema, creative events and community organisations.
- 1.2 The purpose of the Old Court is to execute activities which benefit the community and (without limitation) to:
 - Support local arts and theatre groups in their aims and activities
 - Manage TOC in Windsor and administer it as a venue at which both professional and amateur productions can be staged, and exhibitions displayed
 - To provide supporting facilities with the Old Court so as to properly and fully support those activities

2 DETAILS

- 2.1 Since the 15 December 2020 TOC has been closed following the borough's move into Tier 3 and the subsequent national lockdown that has been in place since the 4 January 2020.

2.2 In response to the lockdown TOC has been offering a 'Discover Live' programme online. The programme gives children the opportunity to discover and create through a virtual experience accessible to all online, through the support of the Arts Council of England and Cultural Recovery Fund.

2.3 TOC have been working on a business plan for 2021/22 based on the impact of Covid-19 and reduced grant income from RBWM.

3 RISKS

3.1 The Old Court is reliant on grant funding from the council. In 2021/22 TOC will receive two quarters of SLA funding. In addition, a sum of £50k has been set aside for arts organisations to bid for in order to develop further funding streams.

3.2 Pandemic Covid-19 impact on the centre's closure and operation

4 NEXT STEPS

4.1 Recommend that TOC give their annual report in May 2021.