

Report Title: **Chief Executive's report**

Report of: **Duncan Wilson, APP Chief Executive**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To update the Board on progress in a number of areas not covered by other papers.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Board notes the attached paper.

Report Authorised by: **Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive APP**



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**3. Executive Summary**

This report details progress in a number of areas, for information, as follows:

- Fabric repairs and facilities management
- Recruitment
- Update on Olympic period events programme
- Tender for legal services

Trustees are invited to note these activity reports

**4. Background**

**4.1 Fabric repairs and facilities management**

English Heritage have awarded APPCT a grant of £268k from a total urgent repairs programme costed at £537k. This would include structural repairs to the SW façade, urgent repairs to the theatre roof, and re-roofing of currently derelict areas of the building to the N and S of the ice rink foyer. All of this is targeted at dealing with the most pressing areas of decay and degradation. Most of the work will be carried out post-Olympics.

This grant is in addition to the grant of £52k EH have offered towards the cost of preparing a Conservation Management Plan reported under the regen. report item.

Both of these grants are very good news, not just because of the additional resources which they deliver but also because they represent is a vote of confidence in the direction of travel of the regen. project as whole. We will be issuing a press release shortly, with EH agreement.

We have also reassessed our capital repairs budget with a view to taking a more comprehensive and long term approach. We have already dealt with a number of lift repairs in this way, tied a to a new maintenance contract. We are also looking at a prioritised strategy for dealing with repairs to street lighting in the Park.

#### **4.2 Recruitment and HR (APPCT and APTL)**

With a number of departures from key roles, including that of Rebecca Kane MD of the Trading Company in prospect, we are going through a phase of both temporary and permanent recruitment to ensure that both Trust and Trading Company are appropriately resourced to deal with a very busy year in prospect.

We already have Anna Clover as temporary Head of Events backfilling the role while the post holder is on maternity leave. We are also recruiting a senior catering manager to fill a vacant post, and are looking at candidates on a part time interim basis to take on some of Rebecca's workload. I will be taking on some of the role, as CE of both companies, to strengthen the process of bringing them together. Amanda Sears, Executive Assistant to the MD Trading Company, is also leaving and we are recruiting her replacement too. Rebecca and Amanda have both gone on to senior roles, Rebecca at the O2 as Trustees will be aware. Both have made an outstanding contribution at AP and they leave with our good wishes.

Within the Trust we will also hopefully be appointing a new Estates and Facilities Manager in February; the post has been vacant since October, and applications are now being sifted.

#### **4.3 Events Programme over the Summer**

Rebecca Kane will update Trustees on good progress with planning major events over the summer, including the Olympic Torch Relay and Holland Heineken House.

#### **4.4 Tender Process for Legal Advice to Trust and Trading Company**

We are following LBH procedure for the tendering of legal services to the Trust and Trading Company. The two-part contract will be advertised later this month. Howard Kennedy our present solicitors will not be bidding.

### **Trustees are invited to note these items**

#### **5.0 Legal Comments**

- 5.1 The legal opinion of the Trust's solicitor has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.
- 5.2 The Council's Acting Head of Legal Services has no comments on this report.

#### **6.0 Financial Comments**

- 6.1 The LBH Chief Finance Officer notes the contents of this report.