

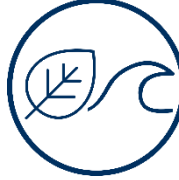






ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE – 27 JANUARY 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****LEARNING CENTRE FEASIBILITY STUDY DRAFT REPORT**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Recommendation:

1. Progress on the draft Learning Centre Feasibility Study Report produced by Henrietta Boex, as set out in this report, be noted.
2. Authority be delegated to the Town Clerk to consult with interested parties, including the Penlee Masterplan Working Group, in order to refine and finalise said report prior to its presentation to Penzance Council for approval.

Background:

The Penlee House Learning Programme attracts over 1,500 school students per year for school visits. It also provides informal programming for almost 2,700 people per year. Much of this activity has traditionally taken place in the Coach House, despite the conditions inside this building being sub-optimal for this work. The conversion of this space to a new café requires an alternative arrangement for the Learning Programme to be sought, and an improvement in the facilities is also required.

A feasibility study into a new Learning Centre has been funded by the Friends of Penlee House, and, following a competitive process, consultant Henrietta Boex was appointed to undertake this work.

The initial draft report has been presented to officers. There is further consultation required to reach a series of recommendations to progress work towards a new Learning Centre. It is therefore recommended that authority is delegated to the Town Clerk to liaise with interested parties, including the Penlee House Masterplan Working Group, and Henrietta Boex in order to complete the report and reach a series of recommendations to be reported to Penzance Council. The final report will be presented to Penzance Council for approval as there will be inevitable impacts upon

both the Arts and Culture and Leisure and Amenities Committees and, in accordance with the Council and Committee Scheme of Delegation, *‘there may be occasions when there is conflict between Committees regarding which one has powers to deal with a particular matter. In such cases, the Council shall determine the matter.’*

Membership of the Masterplan Working Group was discussed and agreed at the Penzance Council Meeting held on 9 September 2024. The membership of the group is given in the table below.

Masterplan Group membership

Name	Representing
Cllr MJ Beveridge (Chair)	Arts & Culture Committee
Cllr N Broadhurst	Leisure & Amenities Committee
Cllr J How	Arts & Culture Committee and Leisure & Amenities Committee
Cllr J Power	Leisure & Amenities Committee
Cllr S Reynolds	Arts & Culture Committee and Leisure & Amenities Committee
Cllr R Sorrell	Arts & Culture Committee and Leisure & Amenities Committee
Cllr P Young	Arts & Culture Committee and Leisure & Amenities Committee
Arwen Fitch	Advisor
John Swarbrooke	Advisor
Trevor Thorne	Advisor

For the purposes of this project, a representative(s) from the Friends of Penlee House will be consulted, as they are the funders of the feasibility study and subsequent report. Any Councillors who are not currently members of the Masterplan Working Group will also be consulted or invited to attend the upcoming Penlee House Masterplan Working Group meetings concerning the Learning Centre to help shape this report.

Anna Renton
Penlee House Gallery & Museum Director