General Manager's Overview
MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 26

Project Updates

Guildhall Gateway Centre Complex:

- Council Officers are working on arranging various initiatives in late 2026 to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Guildhall opening. This will include guest speaker talks and refreshments on the evening of 27th Nov, a community engagement project for children to design a Christmas card and a Discovery team event on 28th Nov.

- Usage of the Guildhall (most of which aligned with the approved purposes) in Sept-Nov includes:

  1: Ruins and Monuments Exhibition in the Robing Room- running from the 1st August-Feb 2027
  2: Two Paranormal Evenings
  3: Moorland Hall Adventure school visits
  4: Several Abbey Remains Partnership and Steering Group Meetings
  5: Discovery Team- half term activities and school visits
  6: Simon Dell talks in Sept, Oct and Dec.
  7: Ad hoc use of the Robing Room – including VIC Volunteer Meetings and Heritage Alliance Meetings.
  8: Successful programme relating to HODs

- The Guildhall will be closed from 23rd Dec 26, reopening 19th January, and during this period the facility will have a deep clean and remedial property maintenance works will be actioned.

Multi-use Wheeled Sports Area:

- A meeting was held with TaviSkate on 26th Oct to discuss project next steps considering the well documented funding challenges relating to the overall project. Several actions have been agreed to be implemented within the next quarter.

Abbey Remains Project:

- The capital works to Betsy Grimbals Tower and Still house are on target pertaining to both budget and completion date (grant extension agreed with Historic England until end 2026). The next scheduled formal progress meeting is 28th October.

- The archaeologists tender brief has been compiled and the contract will be advertised on 3rd November, return date 27th November.

- The core community engagement skills workshops were completed on 9th and 10th October, delivered by DBR Contractors and Le Page Architects. A further skills day is to be actioned with the Council works department team.

- Following a procurement process, the geophysical consultants tender has been let to SUMO Services for just under £20,000. A section 42 Consent has been sent to Historic England to undertake the ground penetrating radar survey, planned for mid November 26. In addition community skills days are scheduled with the consultant for 7th and 8th December 26.

- A discrete piece of work has been commissioned to undertake a measured survey and archaeological recording of the Abbey Cloisters.

Operational Update

- Following on from the previous General managers briefing note pertaining to the replacement of street lighting within the Meadows and surrounding vicinity, 10 in No. columns have been repaired/replaced and are now operations and the next phase of replacement has been implemented.

- The Council has now received proposals and costings from three specialist providers pertaining to improving the audio systems within Town Hall and Pannier Market. A detailed report will be submitted at the next Budget and Policy outlining recommendations/next steps.

- Week commencing 19th October a meeting was held with the Museum to discuss options regarding remedial improvements (prioritisations) over the closedown period and how this linked to LBC applications and funding challenges.

- Recent discussions have been held with Tavistock BID regarding partnership arrangements and Council support for the delivery of the town's Christmas lights and Dickensian Evening. In addition, an operational meeting was held with various stakeholders relating to 2027 Dartmoor Marathon and the level of resource the Council were able to dedicate next year to assist with facilitation of the event.

- I would like to pass on my gratitude and congratulations to everyone involved in supporting the delivery of Goose Fair for 2026 with a special thanks to the Works Manager regarding the significant improvements implemented pertaining to emergency planning documents and delivery of associated scenario based workshops.

Yours Sincerely



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General Manager