

CALL-IN OF THE DECISION OF THE COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE MADE ON 13 JANUARY 2026 (ITEM 04) REGARDING THE OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF BOURNE HALL MUSEUM

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Wards affected: (All Wards);

Appendices (attached): **Appendix 1** – Report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee on 13th January 2026 (Item 04) regarding the options for the future of the Bourne Hall Museum.

Appendix 2 – Draft Minute of Community and Wellbeing Committee on 13th January 2026 – approved by Chair and Vice Chair **(To Follow)**

Appendix 3 – Call-in request (Screenshot of Email received)

Summary

This report invites the Audit and Scrutiny Committee to consider the call-in of a decision made by the Community and Wellbeing Committee, under Agenda Item No 4 “Options for the Future of the Museum” at its meeting on 13th January 2026. The call-in has been made in accordance with the procedures set out in Annex 4.6 – Overview, Audit and Scrutiny (including Call-in Procedure and Councillor Calls for Action) of the council’s Operating Framework.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

(1) Decide whether the called-in decision should

- (A) Stand unamended, and that no recommendation be submitted to the relevant policy committee; or**
- (B) Be referred to the relevant policy committee to consider amendment; or**
- (C) Be referred to the relevant policy committee with a view to its being withdrawn / rescinded.**

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2026

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To ensure the committee discharges its role in relation to the call-in of decisions made but not yet implemented by the Community and Wellbeing Committee. Under the terms of reference of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, the Committee is responsible for dealing with the exercise of the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by any policy committee.

2 Background

- 2.1 When a decision has been made by policy committees, five clear working days must pass before that decision can be implemented. During this period, councillors may use the call-in procedure set out in Annex 4-6. If a request is made to call-in a decision, and that request is valid, a meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee will be held where that decision will be subject to review.
- 2.2 The Committee will then be able to decide whether the decision called-in should be implemented unamended, or whether the Committee make recommendations to the relevant policy committee as to whether the decision should be reconsidered and amended or withdrawn entirely.

Meeting of the Community and Wellbeing Committee held on 13 January 2026

- 2.3 On 13th January 2026 the Community and Wellbeing Committee met to consider its published Agenda. The report of Agenda Item No 4 “Options for the Future of the Museum” asked the Community and Wellbeing Committee to consider potential proposals for Bourne Hall Museum.
- 2.4 The recommendation set out below asked the Community and Wellbeing Committee to evaluate the available options and agree the most appropriate course of action for Bourne Hall museum’s future.
 - 2.4.1 Recommendation: “(1) Evaluate the available options and agree the most appropriate course of action for the museum’s future: a) Option 1: Do nothing and carry on with business as usual or; b) Option 2: Invest in improvement of the Museum (should option 2 be agreed a funding request will go to Strategy and Resources Committee March 2026 for consideration) or; c) Option 3: Close the museum”
- 2.5 The report also contained four appendices as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- 2.6 Following the Committee’s consideration of the report, Members resolved unanimously to “Invest in improvement of the Museum (should option 2 be agreed a funding request will go to Strategy and Resources Committee March 2026 for consideration)” (Option 2).

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2026

Call-in of 14 January 2026

- 2.7 Following the meeting of the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026, the Council's Scrutiny Officer received a call-in request in relation to Agenda Item No 4 "Options for the Future of the Museum". The call-in request was submitted under Annex 4-6 paragraph 14.2.3 and in accordance with 14.2.4.
- 2.8 The call-in request as set out in Appendix 3 cites the reason for call-in. The relevant reason being that, in making the decision, the committee did not have regard to certain relevant information – because it was not brought to the attention of the committee at the time.
- 2.9 In accordance with Annex 4-6, The Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee have considered the call-in request and deem it valid under paragraph 14.2.4. As a result of the valid call-in request, this Committee must now determine the request in accordance with the procedure set out under paragraph 14.3 of Annex 4-6.

Proposals

- 2.10 It is proposed that the Audit and Scrutiny Committee consider the details of the call-in matter and decide – following the guidance set out in paragraph 14.3.1(v) of Annex 4-6 – whether the decision should:
 - 2.10.1 Stand unamended, and that no recommendation be submitted to the relevant policy committee. (If such a resolution is passed the decision may be immediately implemented); or
 - 2.10.2 Be referred to the relevant policy committee for amendment. (In this case, the committee should agree the terms of such an amendment); or
 - 2.10.3 Be referred to the relevant policy committee with a view to its being withdrawn / rescinded.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

- 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment
 - 3.1.1 No direct implications
- 3.2 Crime & Disorder
 - 3.2.1 No direct implications
- 3.3 Safeguarding
 - 3.3.1 No direct implications

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2026

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 For information on the next steps of the call-in process, following the consideration of the called-in decision by this Committee, please see Section 14 of Annex 4.6 of the Operating Framework

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None

4 Financial Implications

4.1 The financial implications are set out in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026 (Annex 1).

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 The call-in process is set out in Annex 4.6 – Overview, Audit and Scrutiny (including Call in Procedure and Councillor Calls for Action).

5.2 The report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026 (Annex 1) set out the legal implications.

5.3 **Legal Officer's comments:** Any relevant comments are contained both in the report as set out above and in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Strategic Priorities for 2025-2027 – No. 7 Future of the Museum

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** As set out in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** As set out in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026

6.5 **Partnerships:** As set out in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026

6.6 **Local Government Reorganisation Implications:** As set out in the report to the Community and Wellbeing Committee of 13 January 2026

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2026

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Community and Wellbeing Committee, Options for the Future of the Museum, 13th January 2026.

Other papers:

- None