



SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



## Non-key Decision

18 December 2023

Report of Councillor Paul Stokes,  
Cabinet Member for Culture and  
Leisure

To formalise a recommendation of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee to reject a request from the Showman's Guild of Great Britain to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair in 2024 and beyond.

### Report Author

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Approved for  
publication:

Councillor Paul Stokes, Cabinet Member for  
Culture and Leisure

10 January 2024

### Recommendation to the decision maker

- 1. Following consideration of the consultation undertaken by the Council and the subsequent recommendation from a meeting of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 November 2023, that the request made by the Showman's Guild of Great Britain to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair is rejected.**

## 1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

### ***Finance***

- 1.1 The Showman's Guild pay the Council a hire fee to hold the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair which is based upon reimbursement of the costs the Council incurs in relation to the fair. This ensures there is no financial burden on the Council.
- 1.2 Should the decision be made to accept the proposal by the Showman's Guild to extend the Mid-Lent Fair dates in Grantham this would increase the costs to be recharged significantly, especially in relation to the Council making an application to the Secretary of State, and the necessary changes required to the Council's waste collection rounds.

**Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer**

### ***Legal and Governance***

- 1.3 The Council's Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a report on 30 November 2023 (**See Background Papers**) which set out a request from the Showman's Guild of Great Britain to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair for 2024.
- 1.4 The report detailed the implications should this request be accepted, together with results of the consultation which had been undertaken to identify the views of local residents and businesses who would be impacted by the change.
- 1.5 In consideration of the report and accompanying information, the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to reject the proposal received from the Showman's Guild to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair.
- 1.6 In line with the Council's Constitution there is a requirement for this decision to be formalised by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure.

**Completed by: Graham Watts, Assistant Director (Governance and Public Protection) and Monitoring Officer**

## 2. The Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To formalise a decision made by the Council's Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee to reject a proposal from the Showman's Guild of Great Britain to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair for 2024.

## 3. Available Options Considered

- 3.1 The request to amend the dates for the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair was fully considered at a meeting of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was held on 30 November 2023. The alternative option considered was for the fair to remain on the traditional days as set out in the Royal Charter of Grantham 1484.

## 4. Preferred Option

- 4.1 Following consideration of a report at the meeting the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 November 2023, a recommendation was made to reject the proposal received from the Showman's Guild of Great Britain to amend the dates of the Grantham Mid-Lent Fair.

## 5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 The Council's Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee has no decision-making powers and therefore the recommendation made at its meeting on the 30 November 2023 needs to be formalised.

## 6. Background Papers

- 6.1 Report to Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 November 2023 - Grantham Mid-Lent Fair  
(<https://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/documents/s39716/Grantham%20Mid-Lent%20Fair%20Report.pdf>)

(Delete section if not applicable)

<b>Report Timeline:</b>	Date decision due to be made	17 January 2024
	Call-in deadline	25 January 2024
	Date decision effective (subject to call-in)	26 January 2024