

# Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

## 12th February 2018



**Report of:** Andrea Dell, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

**Title:** OSMB Statement on the Arena

**Ward:** City Wide

**Officer Presenting Report:** Andrea Dell, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

**Contact Telephone Number:** 0117 9222483

### Recommendation

1. That the Board note the submission to Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018.
2. That the Board agree next steps for the scrutiny of this item ahead of the April 2018 Cabinet meeting.

### Summary

The Board submitted the below statement to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 Cabinet.

At the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 OSMB meeting Members were advised that the outcome of the value for money study into the arena and the subsequent decision will be presented to Cabinet in April 2018.

OSMB Members resolved that that scrutiny of this item will be required prior to April 2018. The Members are asked to consider and agree the most appropriate method of scrutiny (e.g. Task and Finish and/or formal meeting and/or workshop etc.). Consideration should be given to the timescales and potentially commercially sensitive information. It should be noted that the next OSMB meeting is scheduled for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018.



**Referral to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 Cabinet**

At today's meeting (22 January 2018) OSMB has received an update report on the Bristol Arena. Members were advised that the outcome of the value for money report and the subsequent decision on the Arena project was to be scheduled for the April 2018 Cabinet meeting.

OSMB members have significant concerns that this timing is unlikely to permit any meaningful scrutiny activity (either OSMB and/or Task and Finish work) and specifically that members in wards adjoining either site and/or on transport routes to either site will not have any opportunity to contribute to the decision making process or bring forward the views of their constituents despite the significant impact of the decision upon their communities.

OSMB Members were keen to highlight that, whilst they strongly feel the need for scrutiny on this item, it is acknowledged that due to the commercial nature of the project this may have to be done in way that respects commercial sensitivity\* and also does not further delay decision making.

OSMB members therefore seek assurance from the Mayor that he will work with officers to enable meaningful scrutiny on this item prior to the publication of the Cabinet reports for the April meeting.

\*\*

*\*It was noted that a full review of the exempt procedures process needs to be carried out and that this should be informed by the government's Select Committee into Scrutiny and recent guidance from the CfPS.*

*\*\*It was noted that consideration will need to be given to the Easter Holidays and the possible moving of the Cabinet date to later in April.*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

Background Papers: None.