

FORMER PACIFIC ROAD ARTS CENTRE, AND THE TAYLOR STREET TRANSPORT MUSEUM, BIRKENHEAD

CONTINUING INTEREST FROM THIRD PARTIES

BEST Group

The BEST Group were originally strongly interested in taking over the combined portfolio of all the three assets and saw them as a regeneration opportunity.

However, the Head of Universal & Infrastructure Services has written to the BEST Group outlining the Council's present proposals for Pacific Road, Taylor Street and the Tramway. The views of the group were requested by 17th October 2013 but no reply has been received to date and so it can only be assumed that the group are no longer interested in taking occupation of the premises.

Moonshooter Promotions Limited

Moonshooter Promotions Limited is a musical promoter interested in the concert venue side of the Pacific Road building for rock concerts.

The company had proposed an outright purchase of the building, but the Council no longer wishes to see Pacific Road operate as a performance venue, in order to consolidate arts/performances at the Floral Pavilion.

Hylgar Properties

As with Moonshooter Promotions Limited Hylgar Properties expressed continued interest in acquiring the Pacific Road venue alone, for use as a performance venue.

Merseytravel

It was reported to Cabinet on 29 March 2012 that Merseytravel had not submitted a bid for the combined group of assets and that whilst they remained interested in them any bid would be subject to a more rigorous assessment of their business case by external accountants. Since then they have not pursued their previous interest and the outcome of the assessment of their business case is unknown. Merseytravel are no longer pursuing the acquisition of the assets.

It is understood however that they have however been in discussions with Peel Holdings on Peel's ideas for sustainable transport within Wirral Waters and that they are supportive of Peel's Wirral Street Car Project to which reference is made elsewhere in this report.