

ECONOMY REGENERATION & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Monday, 22 January 2024

66 **ADDENDUM: SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Mr Alan Featherstone:

“After the last meeting, where councillors were led to believe that Marks and Spencer's wasn't available because of the art gallery, will it now be included in the high level studies?”

Answer: The Marks and Spencer's site is leased by the Council to Marks and Spencer on a long-term lease and given this, would not be in a position to turn the site into a market.

Mr Alan Featherstone:

“With the information that has been provided by Council officers, are we happy in this room with the current plans of a 60% reduction and eviction of current market traders by way of stolen meterage with all the current plans?”

Answer: The Council commissioned a market curator that has developed circa 250 markets to work with the Councils design team and officers to undertake a review of the space required and a report with recommendations will follow back to the Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee.

Mr Joe Orr:

“Chester Market recently received a reduction in rent. Can I ask if a similar package could be offered to help our traders now?”

Answer: The Council already subsidises the existing market and unfortunately, is not in a position to reduce existing rents. That said, Officers, are working with the BMTA to review how we can support traders in the interim that includes a review of signage and marketing of the existing market offer.

This page is intentionally left blank