

WYRE FORST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 24th September 2015**

Recommendations from the Kidderminster Town Centre Market Provision Review Panel

The Panel had been established to look at where a market would fit within the regeneration of the Town Centre.

The Panel had met 4 times and interviews had taken place with the current Market Operator, an independent and national retailer and the Town Centres Manager. Views had also been sought from the Charter Trustees, Bewdley Development Trust, Worcestershire Farmers Market Association, Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce and the Women's Institute.

A public consultation took place between 20th August and 4th September 2015. The consultation was launched with a news release and was supported throughout the consultation period by the use of social media. The consultation was available to complete online or by filling in a paper copy which was made available at the Worcestershire Hub, the Swan Centre and Wyre Forest House. Paper copies of the survey had been distributed to all the businesses in the Town and the current market traders. There was a total of 198 responses to the consultation.

To recommend to Overview and Scrutiny to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration:

- **To ensure there is ample opportunity to give the future market operator scope for investment in stalls (the design and style of which is to be approved by the Council) and equipment, the length of the contract should be for a period of 5 years and 5 years rolling.**
- **There is no change to the days of the week which the general market is held on. They continue to be held on a Thursday and Saturday, within the streets of the Town Centre as defined by a boundary map. The stalls be set up with due regard to health and safety compliance and with minimum disruption as possible to the existing business within the Town.**
- **The Council reserves to right to utilise the space identified for the general market to hold 4 special events / festival markets throughout the year. The special events / festival markets would be organised by the Town Centres Manager in consultation with the Town Centre Team. The Market Operator to be invited to be a Member of the Town Centre Team.**
- **On the occasions when festival markets are held over a 3 day period, the option may be given to the Market Operator to invite general market traders to take part in the 3 day events.**