

CITY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE'S MINUTES.

Hybrid meeting, 5th June 2025.

City Administration Committee.

Present: Richard Bell (Chair), Saqib Ahmed, Ken Andrew (substitute for Susan Aitken), Abdul Bostani (substitute for Greg Hepburn), Jill Brown, John Carson, Allan Casey, Annette Christie, Chris Cunningham, John Daly, Laura Doherty (substitute for Annette Christie from paragraph 3 onwards), Rashid Hussain, Ruairi Kelly, Norman MacLeod (substitute for Christina Cannon), Anne McTaggart, Jon Molyneux, Cecilia O'Lone, Lana Reid-McConnell, Roza Salih (substitute for Angus Millar), Catherine Vallis and Martha Wardrop.

Apologies: Susan Aitken, Christina Cannon, Greg Hepburn, Angus Millar, Robert Mooney and Jill Pidgeon.

Attending: E Rodger (Clerk); S Millar, Chief Executive; D Hutchison, Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Financial Services; G Gilliespie, Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance; M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; P Togher, Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and J Rowlands (for the Chief Executive, Glasgow Life).

Variation in order of business.

1 In terms of Standing Order No 6, the committee agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

Museum collections – Touring exhibition of Italian artwork to museums in China – Arrangements approved.

2 Bailie Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations, presented a report regarding Glasgow Life, in partnership with an agent, organising a touring exhibition of Italian artwork from the museum collection to museums in China, advising

- (1) that the Council had entered into a Collections Agreement with Glasgow Life to operate its museums and under that agreement, approval of the Council was required in order to lend a large number of items from the museum collection and to lend to venues which were not accredited under the Museums Accreditation Standard;
- (2) that with a new International Strategy, regular trade missions, links between the city's universities, businesses and China and the targeting of a direct air

route into Glasgow, now was the time to use an exhibition of Italian artwork from the museum collection as a cultural exchange and the backdrop for other initiatives, as detailed in the report;

- (3) that in 2013 an exhibition of the city's Italian art went on tour to the United States and was very well received and an updated version of that exhibition was proposed for a tour of China, as detailed in the report;
- (4) that to appeal to a Chinese audience, the exhibition would be entitled "Prosperous Symphony – Italian Treasures from Glasgow Museums", with the exhibition comprising 33 masterpiece paintings and a total of 58 exceptional examples of ceramic, glass, textile, arms and armour pan and a crossbow and small marble sculpture from the Burrell collection;
- (5) that for the exhibition to be economically viable, a minimum of 3 venues was required and the proposed timetable for the exhibition was for the 1st venue to take place in Shenzhen, China from September 2025 and then for it to be shown in 5 or 6 other cities, with dates and venues being announced closer to the time and that the exhibition would return to Glasgow in 2028, with the intention to display the works at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum;
- (6) of the governance arrangements which would include Glasgow Life entering into a single tri-partite agreement with NOMAD Exhibitions and Sun Pavillion Culture and Technology, as detailed in the report; and
- (7) of the risk management measures for the touring exhibition.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) noted
 - (i) the civic and cultural benefits of presenting a touring exhibition in China; and
 - (ii) the practical details relating to the protection of collection items included in the exhibition; and
- (b) approved the touring exhibition, as detailed in the report.