

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Salisbury Community/Social Supermarket Update
Committee : Services Committee
Date : 8 February 2021
Author : Annie Child, City Clerk

1. Purpose of Report:

1.1. This report gives an update on the Community/Social Supermarket for Salisbury project at 59 Catherine Street.

2. Background:

2.1. At its meeting in November 2020 this committee agreed the following:

- 2.1.1. Salisbury City Council (SCC) to work with Any Body Can Cook (ABC) to deliver Community/Social Supermarket for Salisbury
- 2.1.2. The use of 59 Catherine Street for this purpose
- 2.1.3. To make a recommendation to the Finance and Governance committee at its next meeting that SCC should be allowed free use of 59 Catherine Street for this project, noting loss of potential income from commercial hire and the potential decrease in SCC's NNDR costs
- 2.1.4. Opening the Community/Social Supermarket by the end of 2020 to take advantage of the available Covid funding
- 2.1.5. Delegation to the Communities Working Group to agree the final arrangements for this project, including the SLA.

3. General Update:

- 3.1. Overall, good progress has been made towards getting the supermarket established, but the task has proven more complicated than originally envisaged, particularly related to the internal fixtures and fittings which need to meet Environmental Health standards.
- 3.2. This has led to a revised opening date of April 2021 to allow all practical and procedural issues to be fully resolved before the shop opens fully to the community.
- 3.3. The Finance and Governance Committee agreed the recommendation shown at 2.1.3 shown above at its meeting on Mon 11 Jan 2021.
- 3.4. During this interim period (Jan 21– Apr 21) families are still being supported with some direct food deliveries, and by the establishment of short term food outlets at the Friary Centre and Bremerton Heath Centre. This means that no families have been disadvantaged by the delay, and also we are able to introduce the new way of service delivery to families as planned. There will be membership charge for this service just as there will be for membership charge for the community shop.
- 3.5. By working closely with Your Local Pantry (YLP), the grant funding for the project is still available to the City Council.
- 3.6. The Team is working with agencies such as Salisbury Food Bank, Spurgeon's and Wiltshire Council's Housing Team to establish a referrals pathway to increase the

scheme membership beyond those families already known to the Team. In this way the membership will grow manageably. The team believes that the service can be targeted to the right families rather than a scatter gun approach across the city which would mean inviting anyone to apply – this would be difficult to control and administer. We aim to build the capacity slowly. The team is working to link all of our systems and communications together from our Salisbury Pantry Facebook and membership page. The team will look at developing the service with more organisations such as schools, churches, Alabaré and so on, as the project progresses.

3.7. The project remains a key priority for the Communities Team, especially during lockdown when some of their other activities are restricted, and regular reports will be made to the Communities Working Group.

4. **Summary of Activity to Date:**

- 4.1. First stage of internal works have been completed and was overseen by the Facilities Team
- 4.2. Second phase of internal works are being commissioned by the Facilities Team
- 4.3. Active liaison with YLP
- 4.4. Continued liaison with local stakeholders
- 4.5. Establishment of financial systems of shop operation and management
- 4.6. Establishment of new referrals pathway
- 4.7. Delivery of fridge/freezer from YLP
- 4.8. Layout of the shop has been established – see plan at Annex A.
- 4.9. Donations have been received from UK Harvest - They provide free donations of a mixture of items - Vegetables, Fruit, Fridge produce, Freezer produce and also store cupboard items. The items are good quality and in good quantities.
- 4.10. Researching and forwarding potential grant sources to ABC
- 4.11. Received digital copies of artwork ready for communications (examples shown below)
- 4.12. Finalising the draft SLA between SCC and ABC

5. **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that:

- 5.1. The Committee note the report.

6. **Wards affected:** All.

7. **Background Papers:**

- 7.1. Annex A – Shop layout plan – *Doc 81450*
- 7.2. Report to Services Committee – November 2020- [available here](#).

8. **Implications:**

- 8.1. **Financial:** As shown in this report.
- 8.2. **Legal:** Nil in relation to this report.
- 8.3. **Personnel:** Nil in relation to this report.
- 8.4. **Environmental Impact:** Project will result in a reduction in food waste.



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Figure 1 – SCC team members finalising the internal arrangements for the shop