

## **Member Questions Raised at Council**

**Minute No: 147 – Customer Focus Scrutiny Committee – 22 January 2026**

### **Question from Councillor Banyard to the Portfolio Holder for Portfolio Holder for Arts, Culture & Tourism**

Please could the portfolio holder tell us which of Exeter's cultural organisations, partners, or individuals were asked, consulted, or involved in the preparation of the Expression of Interest for the Exeter City of Culture bid. Also, will the EOI be shared with councillors?'

### **Response**

The Expression of Interest was produced as part of the work on the emerging Cultural Strategy and was informed by 5-months of engagement activity with a broad range of cultural organisations, stakeholders and individuals from the cultural sector.

### **Question from Councillor Read to the Portfolio Holder for Portfolio Holder for Arts, Culture & Tourism**

I understand from cultural stakeholders in the city that they had not been consulted with in the preparation of the Expression of Interest for the Exeter City of Culture bid. Does the Council think that this is the correct approach? Would the Council have the same approach in future bids?'

### **Response**

The Connected Culture Group, which supports the Exeter Partnership, is made up of over 20 people representing a range of organisations from the cultural sector and helped shape the Expression of Interest.