

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
9 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Officer:** Amanda Spencer, Deputy Town Clerk and Andy Watkin, Head of Resources

**Sunday Market**

**Purpose of Report**

To receive an update on the future of the Sunday Market at Battlefield.

**Background**

The current Sunday Market operator, Tony Bromierski has decided to retire from the operation after 20 years. The last Sunday Market was held on Sunday 25 August 2024. The popularity of the market has been deteriorating for some time and in particular following Covid.

**Finances**

The Sunday Market has struggled in recent years since the move from the livestock Market to the Park and Ride site due to the increase in retail offerings in the area from The Range, Go outdoors and Tesco Supermarket coupled with explosion of online and Amazon.

The current figures are as follows before any recharges of internal costs are:

	Turnover	STC (net)cont
	£'000	£'000
YE25 EST	43	15
YE24	43	15
YE23	46	17

The mix of the traders is changing, with the Sunday traders decreasing and transitioning to a more car boot setup, with the % of takings over the last few years from car boot increasing from YE22 29%, YE23 40% and YE24 46% and currently 53%.

**Potential Future**

Since the current Sunday Market operator indicated his intention to resign, a search for an alternative market operator has been undertaken via a soft 'expressions of interest' process. Unfortunately none of these alternatives have been viable.

The Town Council has also considered running the market itself but this does not appear to be financially viable due to the current operators slim line model or sustainable.

It is therefore proposed that a new Sunday Market operator be sought via a more formal tender process. The Head of Resources has already received a number of enquiries from organisations who may be interested in taking over this operation and they would be invited, alongside an open market tender, to submit an application.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) The report be noted.**
- (ii) That the proposal to proceed to a formal tendering process be approved.**
- (iii) That a vote of thanks be offered to Tony Bromierski and his family for all of their hard work and commitment to the Sunday Market over the past twenty years.**