

Meeting: Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee
Date: 26 July 2016
Title: Establishment of a Cultural Development Plan sub group

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Service(s): Law and Governance
Environment, Housing & Leisure

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

To provide the sub-committee with the proposed scope for the Cultural Development Plan sub group.

2. Recommendation(s)

The sub-committee is recommended to consider and approve the proposed scope and work programme for the Cultural Development Plan sub group and determine its membership.

3. Details

- 3.1 At the meeting on 28 June 2016 during the consideration of the sub-committee's work programme 2016-17, it was suggested that the Chair of the Sub-committee, in consultation with appropriate officers, produce a scoping exercise for a sub group relating to an area of interest discussed by the sub-committee at the meeting.
- 3.2 It was proposed that in terms of policy development, a sub group be established to undertake an in-depth study into proposals for the development of a Cultural Development Plan.
- 3.3 The Chair invited Members of the sub-committee to suggest specific areas that could be investigated as part of the in-depth study, and it was agreed that a report on the proposed scope of the in-depth study would be submitted to the next meeting of the sub-committee.
- 3.4 Members were subsequently emailed asking them to submit their suggestions to the Chair and the Democratic Services Officer by 14 July 2016.
- 3.5 In consultation with the Chair of the sub-committee, Councillor Day, a scoping document is attached at Appendix A to the report.

- 3.6 In order to assist the sub-committee in deciding upon the areas for investigation, a copy of the 'Our North Tyneside' *Arts Development Strategy 2014-2021* is attached at Appendix B to the report.
- 3.7 On 23 March 2016 the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) published the *Culture White Paper*. The White Paper is the first comprehensive statement of government policy on culture in over 50 years and represents a clear statement of intent in providing a national framework for the sector.
- 3.8 The publication of the White Paper follows a period of concern in the cultural sector about the national distribution of Arts Council England and Lottery funding, suggesting too great a bias in favour of London and the South. The paper *Rebalancing Our Cultural Capital* (Stark, Gordon, Powell 2013) has been particularly influential in this debate. While the methodology behind the paper was not universally agreed, the discussion which has followed has helped focus policy makers on the distribution of cultural assets.
- 3.9 In the region this discussion has taken the form of the establishment of the North East Culture Partnership and the publication of the *North East of England's Case for Culture*, launched in 2015. The report outlined the existing benefits of investment in culture while arguing the case for greater investment to support learning, skills and jobs.
- 3.10 The Council's existing *Arts Development Strategy 2014-2021* reflects the 10 year strategic framework of Arts Council England, *Great Arts and Culture for Everyone*, translating the key objectives into a local context. These documents will provide a useful context for members engaged in the considerations relating to the in-depth study.

4. Appendices

Appendix A – Scoping document for the Cultural Development Plan sub group.
Appendix B – Arts Development Strategy 2014-2021.