

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Portfolio Holder Meeting 7 July 2009
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager, New Communities / Arts Development Officer

ARTS DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2009-2010

Purpose

1. To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the arts delivery framework 2009-2012 and action plan 2009-2010.
2. This is not a key decision and falls within the responsibility of the Portfolio Holder.

Background

3. The Arts Action Plan is based on the outcomes of the February 2009 arts service structural review. The review recommended the implementation of the following programmes in order to strengthen arts infrastructure within the District:
 - a) Supporting the growth agenda
 - b) Working in partnership with Village Colleges
 - c) Communications and marketing
 - d) Advocacy and support for decision makers

The review also recommended that the Arts Development Officer withdraw from operational activity and adopt a more strategic role. The action plan for 2009-2010 describes the first stage in this process.

Executive Summary

4. The Arts Delivery Framework and Action Plan seeks to strengthen local arts infrastructure in order to make the most of Council investment and to provide affordable local arts activity. Arts and Culture are included under the economic prosperity theme of the Local Area Agreement delivered by the County as part of the Local Strategic Partnership. The plan draws on this and the Council's corporate objectives, the New Communities Service Plan and a range of related local strategies. The recommendations of the arts review are included in each of the following proposed priorities:
 - (a) Engaged communities and neighbourhoods
 - (b) Positive Activities for Young People
 - (c) Sustainable Cultural Economy
 - (d) Successful Cultural Olympiad
5. Particular attention is paid to the development of locally managed arts services and facilities for existing and new communities. This part of the action plan is to be achieved through working with other members of staff and local arts development managers employed by the village colleges. The action plan also outlines the steps that the Arts Development Officer will take this year to develop a stronger and strategic input to the work of Council and its partners.
6. The appendices contain a list of performance indicators linked to the strategic and enabling role of the Council's arts service and a list of the policy documents that inform the plan.

Considerations

7. The process of review and the subsequent plan has stimulated a number of collaborative projects across the Council.
8. The plan makes clear the extent to which the Council's arts service relies on positive partnerships with the Village Colleges and the work of the stART Arts Development Managers.
9. The Arts Development Officer will take a strategic approach to growth e.g. assisting in the development design codes for public art as part of the work being led by the joint Urban Design team on growth sites.

Options

10. The Portfolio Holder may choose to approve, welcome, amend, defer or reject the Arts Action Plan.

Implications

11. Financial	The arts action plan operates within approved budget for 2009-10
Legal	None
Staffing	The arts action plan operates within existing staff structures
Risk Management	None
Equal Opportunities	The plan actively promotes equality of access to services

Consultations

12. The arts action plan emerges from the structural review of the arts service conducted in December 2008 and involved a comprehensive process of consultation amongst arts service stakeholders and council staff. For a copy of the review please contact the Arts Development Officer.

Effect on Strategic Aims

13.	Commitment to being a listening council, providing first class services accessible to all. The arts action plan contributes to fulfilling this aim
	Commitment to ensuring that South Cambridgeshire continues to be a safe and healthy place for all. The arts action plan contributes to fulfilling this aim
	Commitment to making South Cambridgeshire a place in which residents can feel proud to live. The arts action plan contributes to fulfilling this aim
	Commitment to assisting provision for local jobs for all. The arts action plan contributes to fulfilling this aim
	Commitment to providing a voice for rural life. The arts action plan contributes to fulfilling this aim

Recommendations

14. To recommend approval of the arts delivery framework 2009-2012 and action plan 2009-2010.

Background Papers:

Arts Review February 2009; New Communities Service Plan 2009-12; Working Together for a Better South Cambridgeshire - the LSP Sustainable Community Strategy, Cambridgeshire Together- the local area agreement 2008-2011; Cambridgeshire County Council's 'Big Plan'.

Contact Officer:

Andy O'Hanlon – Arts Development Officer Telephone: (01954) 713343