

**Bolsover District Council**

**4 April 2016**

**Executive**

**Arts Development Strategy 2016 to 2020**

**Report of the Joint Assistant Director - Leisure**

**Purpose of the Report**

Bolsover District Council has previously had an Arts Development Strategy that the Leisure Services team have been implementing since 2008. The purpose of this report is to present to Officers and Members the proposed arts Development Strategy and action plan for the coming years 2016 to 2020.

**1 Report Details - Background**

- 1.1.1 The Joint Assistant Director of Leisure, the Arts Development Officer, the wider leisure team and the Consultant have reviewed the Council's current approach to arts development within Bolsover District and, have produced a draft new strategy for the coming years covering the period 2016-2020 for consideration.
- 1.1.2 The Arts Strategy provides the strategic framework for development and delivery of the arts in Bolsover District and to sets out how the arts should be considered as an important contributor to the Council's success in many areas and aspects of the aims.
- 1.1.3 The development of this new Arts Strategy has taken place over the last 15 months and consultation has taken place with a wide variety of different stakeholders including:
- 1 Residents through Bolsover Festival launch and Limestone Journeys Celebratory Event
  - 2 The Culture and Tourism Partnership
  - 3 The Citizen's Panel
  - 4 Junction Arts
  - 5 First Art (an Arts Council funded project which involves a consortium of organisations and is led by Creswell Heritage Trust).

- 6 Arts Council, East Midlands
- 7 Live & Local Community Touring Scheme
- 8 Joint Assistant Director of Leisure
- 9 Executive Director “Transformation”
- 10 Arts Development Officer, BDC
- 11 Other Council departments
- 12 Head of Arts Derbyshire County Council
- 13 Attached as appendix A is a copy of the strategy for consideration.

The strategy approval process will include consideration by SAMT, Scrutiny Committee prior to presentation to Executive.

An action plan has been developed to address each of the main outcomes and targets of the Arts Strategy. These plans will be strongly influenced by local needs and aspirations identified. This action plan is attached as appendix B.

## **2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 The existing Arts Strategy is now expired.
- 2.2 The economic contribution of the arts has continued to grow since 2008. It is widely understood that the arts and culture sector are major contributors to both the local and national economies.
- 2.3 A large proportion of spending by tourists and visitors to areas can be directly attributed to arts and culture.
- 2.4 National research shows that for every £1 spent by local authorities on the arts, grant aid and partnerships working brings in another £4 (arts development UK local authority spending survey 2013). This leverage has been exceeded in Bolsover District in recent years due to the success of the Arts Development Officer.
- 2.5 This strategy presents us with an opportunity to utilise the arts to engage with those who we are not currently reaching through our current portfolio of health promotion. Arts involvement can play a significant role in the creative development of communities with regard to their own physical fitness and health.
- 2.6 The effective inclusion of arts can contribute to good planning leading to lively, pleasant, attractive, distinctive public places and routes which encourage

participation in healthy outdoor activities, which in turn increases health and a feeling of well-being. Art can contribute to this, both on an aesthetic level adding to the attractiveness and interest of a place and on a functional level by increasing a feeling of safety and security, making spaces easier to navigate and providing places where people want to go to meet.

- 2.7 The production of this new strategy will give us an opportunity to not only develop arts and cultural activity throughout the district, but also cultivate awareness amongst our communities of what role the arts and cultural activities play in our society and why they are so important.

### **3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

- 3.1 The Arts Development Strategy will impact on a number of target user groups resulting in increased participation in the arts. (See EIA attached at Appendix C.)

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 To manage arts development within Bolsover District without an Arts Development Strategy. The main reason for this being rejected is that obtaining funding for projects is far easier to justify once a strategy is in place.

### **5 Implications**

#### **5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

5.1.1 No changes to the current arts development staffing structure is anticipated.

5.1.2 No changes to the current arts development core budget is anticipated.

5.1.3 External funding from grant funding bodies and other organisations will be sought to support the delivery of this strategy.

5.1.4 The delivery of much of this strategy will be determined ultimately by planning policy in relation to the viability of development sites, developer contributions and the priorities that are established by members in relation to this.

5.1.5 Planning obligations can sometimes provide funding towards the arts, although this is becoming increasingly more difficult due to the viability of development sites and other constraints.

#### **5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

5.2.1 None known

### 5.3 **Human Resources Implications**

5.3.1 None. Though the work streams that may emerge as a result of the strategy may provide additional employment opportunities once operational .

## 6 **Recommendations**

6.1 Executive approve the Arts Development Strategy 2016 to 2020.

6.2 That the Arts Development Officer provide update/progress reports as necessary.

## 7 **Decision Information**

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> (A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	no
<b>District Wards Affected</b>	All
<b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b>	

## 8 **Document Information**

Appendix No	Title
N/A	
<b>Background Papers</b>	
N/A	
Report Authors	Contact Number
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Report Reference –