

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**12 MARCH 2015**

**REPORT OF ARTS, LEISURE  
& CULTURE SELECT  
COMMITTEE**

**CABINET DECISION**

**Adult Services and Health – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Jim Beall  
Arts, Leisure and Culture – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Ken Dixon**

**SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE EFFECTS OF THE ARTS, LEISURE AND CULTURE ON  
WELLBEING**

1. Summary

The attached report presents the Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee findings following the Scrutiny Review of the Effects of the Arts, Leisure and Culture on Wellbeing.

2. Recommendations

1. That policies which see continued investment in cultural and arts activities aimed at community level wellbeing be endorsed and every effort be made to retain sufficient professional expertise and capacity to deliver or advocate for such programmes.
2. That a modest budget be allocated to “seed fund” community based arts and cultural projects on a non-recurring basis and that Health and Wellbeing Board agree a criteria for allocation of resources with a focus on reducing social isolation and improving mental health and wellbeing.
3. That the Health and Wellbeing Board work with the CCG to encourage all GP practices to sign up to social prescribing and seek to expand the menu of options for social prescribing.
4. That arts and cultural options to be routinely considered across partners when commissioning preventative and mental health services.
5. That through implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy:
  - a. better use is made of arts and cultural activities to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of local people;
  - b. ensure that local planning policies continue to support historic places and healthy living environments.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

The report presents the findings of the scrutiny review that took place as part of the agreed work programme for 2014/15.

#### 4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or

- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

#### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code).

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#### **SUMMARY**

The attached report presents the Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee findings following the Scrutiny Review of the Effects of the Arts, Leisure and Culture on Wellbeing.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That policies which see continued investment in cultural and arts activities aimed at community level wellbeing be endorsed and every effort be made to retain sufficient professional expertise and capacity to deliver or advocate for such programmes.
2. That a modest budget be allocated to “seed fund” community based arts and cultural projects on a non-recurring basis and that Health and Wellbeing Board agree a criteria for allocation of resources with a focus on reducing social isolation and improving mental health and wellbeing.
3. That the Health and Wellbeing Board work with the CCG to encourage all GP practices to sign up to social prescribing and seek to expand the menu of options for social prescribing.
4. That arts and cultural options to be routinely considered across partners when commissioning preventative and mental health services.
5. That through implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy:
  - a. better use is made of arts and cultural activities to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of local people;
  - b. ensure that local planning policies continue to support historic places and healthy living environments.

#### **DETAIL**

1. This report presents Cabinet with the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of the Effects of the Arts, Leisure and Culture on Wellbeing undertaken by the Committee during the Municipal Year 2014/15. The topic was identified for review at Scrutiny Liaison Forum and included in the 2014/15 Work Programme by Executive Scrutiny Committee.
2. The review sought to understand the impact of arts, leisure and culture on wellbeing and if this provides the case for future commissioning of arts in health initiatives.

3. As there was significant evidence associated with the physical activity and physical wellbeing, the review has sought to focus in particular on the effect of arts and cultural activities on mental wellbeing.
4. The Committee considered national and international research and also considered local case studies at themed meetings focusing on children, older people and place.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. One of the recommendations from the review is seeking a modest budget be allocated to “seed fund” community based arts and cultural projects on a non-recurring basis. This can be met from within existing ring fenced public health budgets.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6. None.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

7. This review is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

### **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS**

8. The following Council Plan themes/objectives are relevant:
  - Health and Wellbeing - A healthier borough

### **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

9. This report is not subject to an Equality Impact Assessment because it is making no major change to any policy or service provision.

### **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

10. The proposals in this report have been developed in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members.

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Education related? No

Background Papers None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors

The proposals as a whole are not ward specific.

Property

None