

Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 25 November 2014

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Review of the Effects of Arts, Leisure and Culture on Wellbeing

Following an initial presentation on evidence supporting the use of arts, leisure and cultural activities as an effective means of contributing towards wellbeing and given the breadth of the topic, it was agreed that the focus of the review should be the impact that arts, leisure & cultural activities has on **mental health and wellbeing** as there was already well-documented evidence regards how physical activity helped improve physical health.

The October meeting of the Committee focused on children and Members received a presentation from SNAPS (Special Needs Activities with Parents Support) as well as a presentation on the use of creative therapies in Children's and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

The next meeting of the Committee on 19 November will examine issues affecting older people and will be held at the Arc in Stockton. The Committee will be learning about the Silvers Programme and creative therapies for dementia services.

The presentation of the final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet is scheduled for 12 March 2015.

Other Work

At the November meeting, the Committee will also be receiving the initial progress update in respect of the Committee's earlier review of Child Poverty.