

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE



DATE	26th May 2009
PORTFOLIO	Leisure & Culture
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Burnley Arts & Culture Action Plan

PURPOSE

1. To seek Member approval of the new Burnley Arts and Cultural Action Plan 2009 – 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

2. To ask Members to note the achievements delivered through the 2005-09 arts strategy and ask them to endorse the new strategy with the ambition of embedding the arts and culture as a key support mechanism for Burnley’s physical and social development.
3. To approve the creation of a 29.5 hour Cultural Regeneration Officer Post, Grade 8 with in the Council’s Arts Development Team for a fixed term of 3 years.
4. To request that Members delegate responsibility to the Strategic Arts Development Officer in conjunction with the Head of Leisure and Recreation to apply for and receive external grants and funds and appoint appropriate creative industries to assist in delivering the strategy.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

5. The previous strategy has been well received and has supported Burnley council to develop the role of the arts across council departments, exploring new ways of working and engaging residents in the town’s regeneration, gaining regional and national recognition for the good work achieved.
6. It is now time to build on the momentum gained through project delivery over the last 4 years, to further embed arts as a successful way of engaging and supporting local residents in the borough’s social and physical regeneration. The new strategy aims to build on previous successes, learn from project challenges and respond to residents needs to develop a challenging yet achievable plan for delivery.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

7. Creative consultation techniques were undertaken by the artist collective ‘Creative Collaborators’, to talk to local residents, agencies, organisations and other council

departments about their view of arts and culture, and where it should head in the future. Key themes of delivery came out of this consultation and this has informed the attached strategy and action plan.

8. The attached plan is ambitious as it aims to raise understanding and consequently use of the arts and culture to support cross departmental working, raise the quality of delivery and our cultural offer as well as empowering and up skill Burnley residents as they become involved in their borough's regeneration. The strategy clearly highlights how arts and culture will support Burnley's strategic priorities of people, place and prosperity and key themes within this of, health, resident empowerment, communication, creative industry and cultural asset development and regeneration are specifically focussed on.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

9. The cost of the delivery of the arts strategy 2009 - 2012 will be undertaken within existing Arts development budgets or through external funding.
10. Funding for the Cultural Regeneration Post has been committed for three years, by Arts Council North West, (£54,000) Lancashire County Arts Development Unit (£30,000) and from existing budgets (£18,127). Breakdown attached in appendix 2.
11. Where necessary separate additional reports will be brought to the executive for approval

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12. New strategy for arts and culture for 2009/2012 adopted.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

13. 300 Burnley residents, Council departments and Burnley community and arts organisations were engaged in the consultation activity.
14. Findings from recent youth consultation have also been used to inform the action plan.
15. Councillor Charles Bullas – Executive Member – Leisure and Culture
Mick Cartledge – Director of Community Services
Management Team
Gerard Vinton – Head of Leisure and Recreation
Leadership Scrutiny Committee

BACKGROUND PAPERS

16. Burnley Council Arts Strategy 2005 - 08

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ALSO:

Gerard Vinton