

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

8 AUGUST, 2007

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CULTURE AND MAJOR PROJECTS

A CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To propose the publication and adoption of the Cultural Strategy for Cannock Chase District.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members support the Cultural Strategy for Cannock Chase District and recommend to Cabinet that:-

(a) The Cultural Strategy be recommended for adoption by Council.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 On 11 July 2006 Members of the Culture & Sport Select Committee received a presentation from the Strategic Leisure Manager on the development of a Cultural Strategy for Cannock Chase District.
- 3.3 As Members are aware, recently the Government has withdrawn the statutory requirement to have a Local Cultural Strategy but advises that one would be beneficial if it supports the Local Community Strategy and gives direction to the development of key local services and partnerships.
- 3.4 A list of other Strategies at a National, Regional and Local level that have influenced the direction of the Cultural Strategy is included at Annex A

4. Consultation Framework

4.1 Consultation has been carried out on the draft Cultural Strategy with:-

- Staffordshire County Council
- Sport England
- West Midlands Arts Council
- Local Organisations and Groups
- Local Sports Council

In addition a copy was made available for local libraries, Council's Offices and on the Council's website. After the consultation had been completed the representations received were considered and included within the Strategy.

5. Cultural Strategy

5.1 Attached as Annex B is the Cultural Strategy presented for adoption.

REPORT INDEX

Background

Section 1

As part of the Culture and Major Projects Business Plan for 2006-2007 it was identified as a key action to review and develop a new Cultural Strategy for the District.

The Strategies main purpose is to co-ordinate and give direction to key cultural developments across the District with the key aim to increase participation in cultural and sporting activities over the next 5 years.

Key National and Regional Strategies and Plans continue to emerge on the key value that cultural activities play in supporting a wide range of social agendas, from the impact on our nation's health to improving learning experiences to underpin knowledge and support our education. Therefore, although not a statutory requirement to have, it is felt that it is of great benefit to have a strategy in place which supports cultural developments across the District and gives direction to future actions.

Details of Matters to be Considered i.e. Options Considered, Outcome of Consultations etc.

Section 2

That Members of the Children & Young People Select Committee support the strategy and recommend that Cabinet approve it to Council for adoption.

Contribution to CHASE

Section 3

The development of a Cultural Strategy will give direction to future actions of the

Council. The Cultural Strategy also underpins to support the main CHASE objective of:-

“Increasing participation in cultural and sporting activities across the District”.

Section 17 (Crime Prevention) Implications

Section 4

The development of a Strategic Document will underpin a number of local activities which aim to engage local people in activities therefore diverting key groups from anti-social behaviour.

Human Rights Act Implications

Section 5

There are no identified implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998 arising from this report.

Data Protection Act Implications

Section 6

There are no identified implications in respect of the Data Protection Act arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications

Section 7

The proposed 5 year Strategy will be of significant use to enable the Council in taking strategic decisions in respect of Cultural and Sporting activities. Thus having an adopted strategic document will also enable potential partnership developments and funding opportunities to be maximised in a coherent way.

Legal Implications

Section 8

The Legal Implications are set out throughout this Report.

The development and provision of a Cultural Strategy provides an effective vehicle for the Council to set out its aims, objectives and vision with regards the promotion of culture (in all its forms) within the District.

Such a Strategy promotes transparency and consistency. This contributes towards limiting the potential challenges that the Council may face with regards certain projects/policies.

Financial Implications

Section 9

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report but any future financial implications arising from the Strategy and its Action Plan will be subject to further reports as necessary.

Human Resource Implications

Section 10

There are no human resource implications arising directly from this report, however, as individual cultural and sporting aspects of the strategy are developed further

consideration should be given to the possible human resource implications.

Conclusions

Section 11

That the actions identified within the Cultural Strategy become embedded within the Culture & Major Projects Business Plan for delivery over the next 5 years, 2007 to 2012

Annexes to the Report

- A. National and Regional Strategies
- B. Cultural Strategy