

**TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR LEISURE, CORPORATE SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
APRIL 2009**

**COMMUNITY ARTS STRATEGY
Director of Environment, Culture and Communities**

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 To approve a new Community Arts Strategy for the period 2009 - 2013.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 **The Executive Member for Leisure, Corporate Services and Public Protection approves the Community Arts Strategy.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The strategy provides a high level framework to give direction to how Bracknell Forest Council seeks to help support arts activity within the borough.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 An option would have been to not have an adopted strategy however, this would mean that an overall strategic direction was not in place.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Community Arts Strategy with supporting appendices is attached to this report.
- 5.2 The process for developing the strategy commenced in September 2007. A steering group was set up to consider various drafts of the strategy as it developed. Notes from these meetings are also attached.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 Nothing to add as no legal implications arise directly from the matters discussed or referred to in this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Community Arts action plan identifies resource implications. Bracknell Forest funding is from within existing authority resources, if external funding is not forthcoming the plan will be adjusted accordingly.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 A full equalities impact assessment is attached to this report. (*Currently being written*)

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 It is hoped that through this strategy the arts provision within the borough may be enhanced which should be of benefit both to the local community and the local economy.
- 6.5 The strategy contains a number of aspirations that may be dependent on sourcing additional funding.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 A steering group was set up to include representatives from the arts, business, Bracknell Forest Council staff including Bracknell Forest councillors. The group met 4 times during the writing of the strategy and commented on the draft strategy in between meetings.
- 7.2 A range of external bodies were also consulted, including the six town and parish councils South Hill Park Arts Centre, Pilgrim Hearts Trust, Creative Traditional Arts and New Bracknell Company.
- 7.3 A draft of the strategy was also sent to colleagues in different departments, for example, Youth Services, Extended Services, Family Learning, Continuing and Long Term Conditions, Libraries and Community Development.
- 7.4 A list of consultees is contained in appendix 3 and 4 of the Community Arts Strategy

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 The method of consultation has involved meetings, telephone discussions, email and paper correspondence.

Representations Received

- 7.3 A wide range of comments were received during meetings, by email, in paper form and by telephone and these were taken into account during the drafting process.

Background Papers

Community Arts Strategy 2009-2013

Overview and Scrutiny Panel Report – 11 September 2007

Arts Strategy Steering Group Meeting Notes – 26 March 2008

Arts Strategy Steering Group Meeting Notes – 23 June 2008

Arts Strategy Steering Group Meeting Notes – 22 July 2008

Arts Strategy Steering Group Meeting Notes – 9 February 2009

Community Arts Strategy Report to Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 16 March 2009

Contact for further information

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