
REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	13 MARCH 2003	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	HEAD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	STUART BATCHELOR (5820)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	LOCAL CULTURAL STRATEGY	REF: SB/LJW
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: CS04

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members accept the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and South Derbyshire Cultural Action Plan and recommend its approval to Council.

2.0 Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides Members with the completed Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and South Derbyshire Cultural Action Plan, which require approval by the Council.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 At the Community Services Committee meeting on 29 August 2002, Members considered the draft of the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and authorised the completion of the South Derbyshire Cultural Action Plan.
- 3.2 That original report outlined the background to the completion of cultural strategies and the process undertaken to complete the county strategy and the local action plans. The report is attached at Annexe 1.
- 3.3 The Derbyshire LGA has now adopted the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy, which is attached as Annexe 2, and the local multi-agency officer group has worked hard over the past six months to produce the local action plans which are attached at Annex 3.
- 3.4 It is intended that once the action plans have been adopted by the Council they will be placed on the Council website and a 'Culture in South Derbyshire' leaflet will be produced to promote local cultural activity. A more formal launch of the strategy may be included as part of the establishment of a 'Local Cultural Forum' where the Council, with People Express, is looking to form a body to represent voluntary groups and artists in the District.

3.5 In terms of the future delivery and monitoring of the Local Cultural Strategy, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport have indicated that they wish Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP) to take on the role of 'champion' for culture in an area. The officers involved in preparing the Cultural Strategy and Action Plans support this suggestion and will be hoping that the South Derbyshire LSP will in fact take on this role.

3.6 This 'champion' role is vitally important if projects such as Etwall Leisure Centre, West Methodist Church etc are to be seen as of strategic importance necessary to secure the external funding to be successful.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The completion and adoption of the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and local Action Plans in accordance with the process outlined in the DCMS guidance will satisfy the BVPI set by the Government.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 The Cultural Strategy covers a wide range of activities led by the Council and its public, private and voluntary sector partners. The local Action Plans provide a foundation for what is to be delivered over the coming years which can be augmented and developed through the community planning process and the lobbying of a local 'Cultural Forum'.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The production of the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and South Derbyshire Cultural Action Plans has been an excellent example of partnership working at county and local level.

7.2 However, for the process to reap rewards in the future requires cultural activity to be effectively championed and lobbied for by local people and organisations. This can be achieved through the Community Plan, LSP and Cultural Forum and lead to the development of more cultural activity on top of the excellent work currently undertaken.

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 File ST2.