

REPORT TO:	Community Services	AGENDA ITEM:
DATE OF MEETING:	29 August 2002	CATEGORY: DELEGATED/
REPORT FROM:	Head of Community Services	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Stuart Batchelor Ext. 5820	DOC:
SUBJECT:	Local Cultural Strategy	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE: CSO4

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members note the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and comments are forwarded to the Derbyshire Consortium prior to the strategy being adopted by the Derbyshire LGA.
- 1.2 The South Derbyshire Cultural Strategy Action Plan is completed and brought to a future Committee Meeting for adoption.

2.0 Summary

- 2.1 This report provides Members with an update on the process to produce a Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and the local action plans.

3.0 Content

- 3.1 In June 1999, the then Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport launched draft guidance for local authorities on the development of cultural strategies.
- 3.2 The guidance defined culture as broad and inclusive. It included:

The arts, media, sport, museums, libraries, archives, parks, countryside, built heritage, play, tourism and informal recreation.
- 3.3 The Secretary of State's aim was to ensure that local authorities took a lead role in forging partnerships to develop cultural opportunities for their local communities thus ensuring the wide ranging benefits to quality of life that cultural activity engenders.
- 3.4 The guidance indicated several key underlying principles:
 - community needs, demands and aspirations
 - guided by a clear vision
 - equality of access
 - cross cutting (both internal and external)
 - linked to other strategies (local, regional, national)
 - active consultation with stakeholders
- 3.5 The Department for Culture, Media and Sport requires that local cultural strategies are in place by the end of 2002.

- 3.6 In Spring 2001 the Derbyshire Local Government Association agreed that a consortium approach between the County Council and the District/Borough Councils should be adopted to develop a Derbyshire Cultural Strategy with each area contributing its own local action plans.
- 3.7 The County Consortium Officer Group has produced a draft Strategy that is provided as Annexe 1.
- 3.8 The Derbyshire LGA at its next meeting will adopt the Strategy.

Local Action Plan

- 3.9 To ensure that a local perspective is brought to the Cultural Strategy a multi-agency officer group has been meeting to prepare local action plans to underpin the County Strategy.
- 3.10 This Group has included officers from the Council representing: leisure facilities and parks, heritage, sports development, health development and improvement, tourism, regeneration, environmental education, crime and disorder and the arts, plus officers from People Express, National Forest Company, Youth Service, Library Service and Sharpe's Heritage Trust.
- 3.11 Initially the Group has completed an audit of cultural activity in the District and also highlighted examples of good practice, which illustrate some of the excellent work in the District. This work is provided in Annexe 2.
- 3.12 The Group will now complete a series of Action Plans based upon the themes used in the County Strategy and will hold a seminar/event in the Autumn, to give the opportunity for local people to have an input into the development of cultural activity in South Derbyshire.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The County Cultural Strategy has been funded through contributions from the County plus £2,500 from each district/borough authority.
- 4.2 The production and launch of the local action plans was costed at £2,000 but a Service Development Proposal was not successful. At present it is unclear how this cost will be covered and will be considered at the next local action plan meeting.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The completion and adoption of the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy and local action plans by the end of 2002 will satisfy the BVPI set by the Government for the adoption of a Local Cultural Strategy.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The Cultural Strategy covers a wide range of activities and will provide the Council and its public, private and voluntary sector partners with a framework for developing these activities over the next 3 years.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The production of the Derbyshire Cultural Strategy has been an excellent example of partnership working both at county and local level.
- 7.2 The local action plans provide a framework for the development of culture, which can then be included in the community planning process and Local Strategic Partnership.

8.0 Background Papers

- 8.1 File ST2

