

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW 2008/09: DRAFT REPORT

LINK TO WORK PROGRAMME: POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW

Report of the City Solicitor

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP1: Creating a prosperous city, SP2: Extending cultural opportunities, SP7: Developing an attractive and accessible city
CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO4: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City.'

1. Why has this report come to committee?

- 1.1 The report provides Members of the committee with the first draft report from the evidence gathered in relation to this year's policy review on music venues.
- 1.2 The review report presents in detail the evidence, research and conclusions drawn throughout the review process and members are asked to comment on this for relevance, clarity and accuracy.
- 1.3 The review into music development has clear links to the Council's Strategic Priorities in particular 'creating a prosperous city', 'developing an attractive and accessible city' and 'extending cultural opportunities.' The review also has links to Corporate Priorities on improving partnership working to deliver 'One City.'

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 17th June, 2008 following discussions regarding the work programme the Committee consider the possibility of a study into arts development and particularly that of music development. The key driver for the review is the progress of Sunderland towards recognition as a Music City. A five year draft strategy for music is currently being finalised and will be presented to the Review Committee. The music strategy identifies the need to undertake research into current venues for the performance, practice and development of music in Sunderland and the potential for new venues and music performing spaces.

3. The Draft Report

- 3.1 The draft report on music venues is attached as an appendix to this report presents members with the facts and evidence that have been gathered throughout the review process. As part of the review process evidence was obtained from a variety of regional and local key witnesses and stakeholders.

- 3.2 The report is divided into a number of sections which provide the background information to the review, how the review was carried out and the findings and conclusions from the review process. The findings from the review reflect the focus groups, visits and discussions held with members and witnesses throughout the review process.
- 3.3 Members are asked to read the report and comment on the content with particular reference to the findings of the review and the conclusions that have been drawn from these findings. Members may wish to amend the report for purposes of accuracy, clarity or relevance to ensure the report is a true reflection of the review work undertaken.
- 3.4 Members should also begin to consider themes and issues for recommendations. The draft report has no recommendations attached at present and it is for members to consider the direction and content of the recommendations for this policy review work.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Culture and Leisure Review Committee are presented with a draft copy of the policy review document for comment and amendment with the aim of producing a final draft report with recommendations for approval by the committee.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the Culture and Leisure Review Committee provide comments on the draft report and that any agreed amendments are made.
- 5.2 That consideration is given to themes and issues for recommendations to be included in the policy review report by the Culture and Leisure Review Committee.
- 5.3 That a final review report is presented to the Culture and Leisure Review Committee at its April 2009 meeting.

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