ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **10 FEBRUARY 2026**

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF SUNDERLAND CULTURE AND DIRECTOR OF ECONOMY, CULTURE & SUSTAINABILITY

CULTURAL SECTOR UPDATE

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To provide a provide a report on the progress of the cultural sector and its impact on the local economy of the city.

2. Background

2.1 At the beginning of the year, the Committee agreed to include in its work programme a report on the cultural sector.

2.2 This item has been brought to the Committee in view of the significant economic impact of the cultural sector for the city.

3. Current Position

3.1 Nick Malyan (Chief Executive of Sunderland Culture) and Catherine Auld (Director of Economy, Culture and Sustainability) will be in attendance to provide a presentation and answer questions as appropriate.

3.2 A copy of the presentation will be circulated to follow.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment.

5 Background Papers

None