

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO AREA: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Date of Meeting:

11th March 2002

Public

Key Decision:

No

Recorded in Forward Plan:

Yes

Inside Policy Framework

Title: LOCAL CULTURAL STRATEGY

Report of: Director of Leisure and Community Development

Report reference: LCD 7/02

Summary:

Production of the Cultural Strategy has been delayed by approximately 3 months for reasons given in the report.

Recommendations:

Note the report.

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

The original timetable for the production of a Local Cultural Strategy envisaged that it would be completed by April 2002. This time table has slipped for the following reasons:-

- Additional work required on the revision Leisuretime Best Value Performance Plan pushed back the whole programme of work.
- Preparation of the documentation for the Leisuretime tender process has taken priority
- Publication of the Sub Regional Strategy, in which we wish dovetail, has been delayed.
- Publication of the Action Plan relating to the Regional Cultural Strategy is awaited.
- We are awaiting the inclusion in a Citizens Panel Survey of questions on the priorities for the strategy. This is scheduled for March 2002.

Significant work has already been completed:

- The six Cumbrian Districts and the County Council have jointly commission a Cultural audit of the County.
- Two consultation sessions have been completed with representative of Local cultural organisations.
- A similar event has been held with the Local Sports Council.
- 115 local Cultural Organisations have been surveyed on the issues emerging from those consultations.
- The Regional Cultural Consortium is now finalising a Regional Action Plan which we will wish to incorporate into our Strategic Document.
- The County Council is, in consultation with the Districts, developing it's own cultural strategy which will dovetail into our own document.

Subject to the returns from the Citizens' Panel survey we anticipate being able to produce the draft strategy by early July. This will be brought to the Executive Committee before being passed to Overview and Scrutiny for examination.

2. CONSULTATION

1. Consultation to Date.

See above

2. Consultation proposed.

See above

3. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

Production of the draft strategy coincides with the evaluation period for the Leisuretime Externalisation Tenders and the production of the Bereavement Services BV review and the development of the Stage 2 Sheepmount application. The Sports Development Section, which is helping with the production of this strategy and the Sheepmount bid is presently reduced from four members of staff to one. Depending on the details of these circumstances completion of all these pieces of work on time may be difficult.

4. CITY TREASURER'S COMMENTS

Not applicable

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

Not applicable

6. CORPORATE COMMENTS

Not applicable

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Not applicable.

8. EQUALITY ISSUES

The Cultural strategy will address equality issues but these are not relevant at this stage.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

The Cultural strategy will address these issues but these are not relevant at this stage.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

Note the present position.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS