

Culture and Sport Committee

2.00 pm, Monday, 20 March 2017

Citywide Culture Plan Update

Item number	9.1
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	

Executive Summary

Since the delivery of the Council's citywide Culture Plan in November 2015, the Culture Service has progressed working with stakeholders and partners to deliver on the Plan's agreed Vision, Objectives and Actions.

This report highlights the extensive success in the year to date in the Council's contribution to the progress and delivery of the Culture Plan.

Links

Coalition Pledges	P24, P31
Council Priorities	CP6
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1, SO2, SO3

Citywide Culture Plan Update

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Culture and Sport Committee note the progress made to date on the Culture Plan and Council-led Actions delivery.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Culture Service led on the development of a citywide Culture Plan, reported in detail to Committee on [30 November 2015](#).
- 2.2 The Service has since progressed with the Actions in the Culture Plan for which it has been agreed that the Council should act as lead. An update on these is captured in the main report.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The following update provides an overview of developments and activities undertaken in the delivery to date of the Citywide Culture Plan Actions. The report focuses on the elements led by the Council as part of the citywide partnership approach to the delivery and progress of the Plan.
- 3.2 The Culture Service works in alignment with the Culture Plan's objectives; and reports against the delivery of these in all service committee reports. Reported here is progress and updates on 18 (highlighted in Appendix 1) of the reported 23 Actions contained in the Citywide Culture Plan. The outstanding actions will be progressed in partnership with other Council Service areas, such as Planning; and through the support of the Culture Task Group.
- 3.3 The Culture Service has facilitated and supported the membership and organisation of four meetings of the Citywide Task Group ([Outcome of Cultural Policy Review](#)). The meetings have been hosted by Group members, and the supporting secretariat has been provided by the Council.
- 3.4 Task Group discussions have included the development of a Creative Spaces project where it is planned that an online resource will be developed by the cultural sector itself, and which will carry affordable and accessible spaces for performing arts practitioners. A small project board has been established with partners from

relevant sectors and organisations. The project is expected to be small grant funded by both Creative Scotland and the Council.

- 3.5 Following the establishment of the online resource, the stated ambition is to seek to establish and develop a mechanism allowing a similar model of access to commercial, for example vacant shop front, and office spaces when they are not in use. Both Task Group members and related Council Services are interested in actively contributing to the content of this and the second phase of the project development.
- 3.6 Most recently, the Task Group has agreed to review their action planning agenda through an upcoming workshop in late March to be hosted and led by the National Museum of Scotland.
- 3.7 The Music Is Audible initiative has been progressed. The importance of live music in Edinburgh was acknowledged on 26 September 2016 when the Licensing Board agreed an amendment to their current policy regarding a licensing condition relating to amplified music. This came after several years of discussions and significant consultation with the music sector and the wider public about the live music scene in the city. The Board voted in favour of amending the current wording of its policy from *“where the operating plan indicates that music is to be played in premises, the Board will always consider the imposition of a condition requiring amplified music from those premises to be inaudible in residential property”* to *“Amplified music...shall not be an audible nuisance in neighbouring residential premises.”* Premises licence holders wishing to adopt the revised condition will be required to submit an application for variation of the premises licence, and applications received will be considered by the Licensing Board on a case by case basis.
- 3.8 The Music is Audible (MIA) Working Group will continue to address the recommendations made in an independent report by the Music Venue Trust, commissioned by the MIA Working Group, and that work will continue to implement these as work strands and key milestones are achieved.
- 3.9 The undertaking by licensing colleagues to organise consultation workshops, has been an intention which has still to be realised. The full extent of legislative changes will be known later this year and Licensing colleagues continue to assure the sector the workshops will follow quickly thereafter. In the meantime, discussions have continued, hosted by the Convenor of Culture and Sport and the Licensing Convenor to look at licensing-related management relationships and issues going forward.
- 3.10 The Director of Culture was invited and presented at two World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF) ([World Cities Culture Forum](#)) meetings since Edinburgh's membership was approved. At the first meeting in London in 2015 the presentation focused on the development of Edinburgh's Culture Plan and the Music is Audible work stream. The second meeting took place in Moscow in 2016 with Festivals Edinburgh also presenting to the Forum on the collaborative work of the major festivals, Thundering Hooves and the 70th Anniversary of Edinburgh as the pre-

eminent festival city. A further update on the Culture Plan, 2050 City Vision and the Culture pillar of the City Region Deal were also shared with delegates.

- 3.11 The Forum provides a unique platform for Edinburgh to share practice with other major cultural cities while also learning from others what challenges and opportunities they face. The full membership of the Forum is [here](#).
- 3.12 Negotiations with the [Clore Leadership Programme](#) at the most recent Culture Summit in 2016 has resulted in a placement being allocated to the Culture Task Group via an application to the programme by the Culture Service. It is intended that the Leadership Programme participant will contribute directly to the further development and refinement of the active role of the Task Group in the city's cultural agenda, its delivery, and success.
- 3.13 As a vehicle to ensure public access to the Plan including update actions, tracking progress and amending and adding information as necessary; as well as offering other news, comment and relevant information on Council Services, the development of a Council-hosted website was a core action. It was intended that this would be up and running by May 2016.
- 3.14 It has proved to be a challenging project, both in terms of the development partner, and the ambition for structure, and timeline for development, especially given the direct impact of the Council's Transformation programme, which has meant that three members of staff involved in the website development and content have left the Council and have not been replaced. This has removed the previous capacity of the Service to further develop, deliver and support the proposed website. The Culture Service has progressed the project, and continues to seek to complete and deliver this, and to establish how the on-going updates and content can be sustained. It is not possible at this time to provide a definitive timeline for this.
- 3.15 This has also impacted on the action to provide the online equivalent of a one-stop shop to the public to better understand and have access to related Council services such as licensing in relation to venues and events.
- 3.16 Negotiations on the City Region Deal are underway and at the time of writing the aim is to achieve agreed Heads of Terms by March 2017.
- 3.17 The Desire Lines Steering Group has continued to meet, and also organised a public meeting in September 2016 in the Storytelling Centre in the city centre. This was well-attended and Councillors, the Executive Director of Place, as well as the Chair of the Culture Task Group participated. At the time of writing, there is another Desire Lines event being organised for March 2017.
- 3.18 The Edinburgh Performing Arts Development (EPAD) ([Edinburgh Performing Arts Development Project Update](#) report) initiative has proved successful to date. As previously reported to committee, the programme is currently funded by the Council, alongside funds from Trusts and Foundations and the next application to Creative Scotland has been submitted. EPAD is directly contributing to the objectives of the Culture Plan, in particular, to invest in artist and practitioner development, and support and sustain the local artistic community.

- 3.19 This objective is also being addressed through the Culture Service's establishment of a Project Fund in 17/18 agreed by committee in October 2016 and in which there has already been a great deal of interest. This fund has now been established from the existing Culture Third Party Grants budget by the allocation of 1% of the budget in 2017/18.
- 3.20 The progress of the Third Party Grants Review was also previously reported to committee ([Third Party Cultural Grants Co-production Conversations Update](#)) in October of 2016.
- 3.21 The Culture Service also continues its contribution to the cultural infrastructure in the city both in planning and partnerships terms. Most recently the service played a central role in initiating and progressing to development agreement, the Ross Bandstand and East Princes Street Gardens project which announced an international architectural competition in February of this year. ([West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand Update report](#) – Council report 30 June 2016).
- 3.22 The progress on the [Thundering Hooves 2.0 Strategy](#) is reported to Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee as included in the Culture Plan Actions.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 Continuing close liaison with the Desire Lines Steering Group to continue to support the citywide Culture Task Group. Continuing engagement across the Council and by the cultural sector to support, develop and implement the Culture Plan.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 Individual actions within the Culture Plan are contained within the work programmes and budgets of the Culture Service, and other relevant services across the Council.
- 5.2 The Culture Service continues to work with the Council's Digital Services Manager to address the Culture Plan website. This cost is expected to be contained within the Culture Service budget.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are no compliance impacts arising from this report.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 The citywide Culture Plan actions delivery methodology and Desire Lines activities ensure openness and accessibility.
- 7.2 The Culture Plan and associated reports can be downloaded from the Council website, and printed copies can be requested from the Service.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The impacts of this report have been considered in relation to the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties, and have been assessed as having no significant direct impact on carbon, climate change or general sustainability. The Plan's vision is about sustaining the city's cultural and creative success.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 The Plan and its progress and delivery is predicated on a citywide open access and collaboration model.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 The previous [Cultural Policy](#), adopted in 1999
- 10.2 [Refreshed Cultural Policy Framework](#) to Policy Development and Review Subcommittee of the Culture and Sport Committee, 22 October 2013
All to Culture and Sport Committee
- 10.3 [Update On the Cultural Policy Review](#), 16 December 2014
- 10.4 [Update on the Cultural Policy Review](#), 26 May 2015
- 10.5 [Update on Review of Council Grants to Third Parties 2015-16](#), 20 October 2015
- 10.6 [Outcome of Cultural Policy Review](#), 30 November 2015
- 10.7 [Thundering Hooves Actions and First Annual Health Check](#), 8 March 2016
- 10.8 [Encouraging Live Music in Edinburgh - Update](#), 25 October 2016
- 10.9 Desire Lines [website](#)

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11. Links

Coalition Pledges	P24 – Maintain and embrace support for our world-famous festivals and events P31 – maintain our city’s reputation at the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure
Council Priorities	CP6 – A creative, cultural capital
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1 – Edinburgh’s economy delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all SO2 – Edinburgh’s citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health SO3 – Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
Appendices	Appendix 1 Citywide Culture Plan Objectives & Actions Update

Citywide Culture Plan

Vision:

City partners work together to keep culture and creativity at the heart of Edinburgh's success.

Objectives:

1. Ensure that everyone has access to world class cultural provision.
2. Encourage the highest standards of creativity and excellence in all aspects of cultural activity.
3. Support greater partnership working in the cultural and creative sectors and maximise resources available to help them thrive all year round.
4. Articulate the positive impact of culture in Edinburgh and promote Edinburgh's cultural success locally, nationally and internationally.
5. Develop and support the infrastructure which sustains Edinburgh's cultural and creative sectors.
6. Invest in artist and practitioner development, and support and sustain the local artistic community.

Citywide Culture Plan: Actions Update

❖ The Actions highlighted in red have been progressed (with Council as lead).

	Action	Timeline
1	In collaboration with the Desire Lines Steering Group, create a citywide Culture Task Group	From January 2016 for one year in the first instance Achieved
2	Maintain existing partnerships and continue to facilitate networks and opportunities for discussion and debate	Ongoing
3	Maximise the benefits of the Council's membership of the World Cities Culture Forum	Ongoing
4	Work with others to promote greater understanding of the value and importance of the city's year-round culture and events to Edinburgh's success	Initiated with the launch of the Culture Plan online, in early 2016 Progressed; ongoing
5	Gather and publicise a body of evidence which supports the case for investing in the cultural and creative sectors (using tools such as cultural mapping, economic impact analyses, surveys etc)	Ongoing Not progressed further to date
6	Improve collaboration within the Council to support the city's cultural and creative sectors and make it simpler for people to contact the right people in the Council for help and support (a 'one stop shop' approach)	Initial progress through Culture Plan website; further progress expected through the Council Transformation outcomes by mid-2016 Progressed; ongoing
7	Develop a range of opportunities for performers, others working in the cultural and creative sectors, and small organisations - such as affordable spaces for rehearsal and performance, and for pop-up exhibitions (promote database of available spaces and toolkit), and support for skill and project development	Ongoing
8	Continue to collaborate in Creative Clusters and Hubs initiatives to maintain and enhance networks and artist/practitioner support and development	Ongoing
9	Carry out informal consultation, in partnership with Music is Audible group, on proposed changes to licensing	Achieved
10	Using the report commissioned in 2015 from the Music Venues Trust, and working in partnership with the Music is Audible group, develop other actions to support Edinburgh's live music provision and add these to this Plan	Ongoing
11	Work with licensing colleagues to hold workshops with relevant cultural partners on the 2016 Licensing consultation	Spring 2016 To be progressed; interim discussions

	Action	Timeline
12	Continue to July 2016 the capacity building project (EPAD) for the theatre sector which is managed through the Festival City Theatres Trust and Traverse Theatre. Seek funding to continue project development beyond July 2016.	Funding application to be prepared December 2015 Achieved and Ongoing
13	Explore ways to replicate the theatre capacity building project for other art forms	Commence late 2016
14	Implement outcomes of Third Party Grants review for cultural organisations from early 2016 (including stronger collaboration, developing new partnerships and creating new funding streams)	Communicate findings early 2016 and implement from April 2016 Progressed & ongoing
15	Develop new and collaborative approaches to funding packages, investment (including alternative funding mechanisms) and resources for the cultural and creative sectors with private and public partners	Proposed for the Task Group agenda in 2016 Progressed; Council achieved through Ross development Project
16	Continue to work with partners to maintain and enhance the city's cultural infrastructure, creating an environment which attracts and retains artists and creative people and supports the city's festivals and other cultural assets	Ongoing
17	At the time of writing, the outcome of the bid for an Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal has not yet been announced. If this Deal is awarded by the UK and Scottish Governments, cultural infrastructure projects will play a key part in the Deal's success.	Outcome pending
18	Continue advocacy and support of a digital infrastructure strategy for the city to support innovation across all sectors	Ongoing through City Region Deal
19	Explore how the Planning system can contribute to the delivery of cultural elements in new development sites and in the public realm	Ongoing
20	Research existing models elsewhere to ensure the consistent delivery of the best of public art in public spaces and work towards adopting a suitable model for Edinburgh	To be confirmed
21	Improve and implement wayfinding (signage both physical and digital) to cultural venues and spaces across the city	Ongoing
22	Regularly assess and report to the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee the Council's progress in leading and contributing to agreed actions within the Thundering Hooves 2.0 Strategy	April 2016 Achieved and on-going
23	Regularly assess and report to the Culture and Sport Committee the progress made by the Council and partners towards meeting the Culture Plan Actions	Annually