

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Brighton &amp; Hove Cultural Framework</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>27 September 2018</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Director, Economy Environment &amp; Culture</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Val Birchall</b>	<b>Tel: 01273 292571</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<b>val.birchall@brighton-hove.gov.uk</b>	
<b>Wards affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The Council has worked with its principal partners (Brighton & Hove Connected's Arts & Creative Industries Commission), and with stakeholders, artists and residents to develop a new strategic framework for culture as directed by the Economic Development & Culture Committee in March 2017.
- 1.2 The framework will be used as the basis for future partnership working and will inform the Council's priority actions and targets in relation to support for culture in the city.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee adopts the Cultural Framework which is attached in Appendix One.
- 2.2 That the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee commits to the Council leading on the actions and initiatives which arise from the framework, as set out in Appendix Two.
- 2.3 That the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee notes the new governance arrangements for the Arts & Creative Industries Commission set out in Appendix Three.

**3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Council agreed to develop the Cultural Framework as a means to ensure that the city continues to have a thriving creative and cultural sector, capable of enhancing quality of life, supporting a clear sense of cultural identity and contributing to its attractiveness as a place to live, work, visit and invest.
- 3.2 The City's cultural and creative sector is acknowledged for its quality, range and reach. Brighton & Hove benefits from many well-established organisations including Brighton Festival, Brighton Fringe, Photo Biennial, Digital Festival, Open Houses, the Royal Pavilion and Museums, Brighton Dome, South East Dance, Lighthouse, New Writing South, Photoworks, Carousel and Creative

Future. In addition, a large number of smaller emerging cultural companies are active across different communities and artforms and our education sector offers classes, courses, qualifications and public cultural space, co-ordinated by Our Future City board. Creative Industries are recognised nationally by NESTA which has designated Brighton a Creative District.

- 3.3 Local government has been a strong supporter of arts and culture. As its resources decline, new collaborative partnership arrangements are being developed in places across the country to try to build sustainable and innovative approaches to maintaining and growing funding. The Cultural Framework provides a clear and focussed suite of ambitions shared by the Council and its partners, which form the basis for ensuring the sector continues to thrive by working together to deliver services.
- 3.4 The framework will help to provide clarity to stakeholders in the public, private and third sectors, concerning the city's cultural strengths and its development needs, which in turn will facilitate the attraction of new resources to support innovation and growth. It will be used by the Council to help prioritise its support for a range of activities, including the direction of any funds available.
- 3.5 The process for development of the framework has been inclusive and iterative. A series of workshops followed by a well-attended "summit", open discussion events, action groups and stakeholder conversations, with some events including nationally and internationally significant cultural policy specialists has been led by the Arts & Creative Industries Commission Executive, facilitated by the Council.
- 3.6 The themes of the framework reflect these discussions and are set out in detail in Appendix One; Living Well, Rethinking Our Place, Bursting the Bubbles, the Brighton Experience and the Creative Coast, which is a regional initiative aimed at improving the economic impact of the sector and will be developed further with partners under the Greater Brighton programme. The framework is aligned to the city's Economic Strategy and has strong crossover with the Visitor Economy Strategy. The Living Well strand will be delivered in partnership with Public Health and the Director of Public Health is co-chairing the working group.
- 3.7 An overarching commitment to improving inclusion throughout the sector has been developed for adoption, setting out the principles by which a diversity of cultural perspectives will be delivered, and how organisations will ensure inclusion principles are embedded in their governance, workforce and programmes.
- 3.8 Given that the sector is characterised by self-employed workers, micro and SME businesses, the Council will need to provide support to the delivery of the framework as set out in Appendix Two. In particular, it will lead on the development of three further partnership strategies linked to the framework; Events, Public Art & Public Realm and Heritage.
- 3.9 The Arts & Creative Industries Commission has developed new Terms of Reference for its governance, attached at Appendix Three. These respond to concerns raised about the lack of transparency, accessibility and membership of the Commission. They reflect the need for open access discussion fora, specialist task-based groups and focussed strategic leadership. The

Commission will be supported by an Advisory Group of key stakeholders including the Higher Education and Business Sectors and Arts Council England.

- 3.10 An annual summit will enable the city's wider community interested in culture and creativity to come together to review progress against the framework, keeping priorities relevant and enabling a broad constituency to become involved in shaping and delivering activities. An annual report on progress will be presented to the Committee.

#### **4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The Council plays an active role in the city's cultural life, whether through delivery of services (tourism, events, museums, public art), financial support (Brighton Dome and Brighton Festival and third sector grants), promotion of the city or provision of information, advice and guidance.
- 4.2 The city's cultural life is renowned. It is closely linked to the wider economy, including to the creative industries and the tourism sector. The Council's investment and capacity to fund the sector has declined as a result of reducing budgets, and it needs to be clear about its role in future, including where it is leading, facilitating or supporting.
- 4.3 Clear shared priorities, with space to allow for new ideas and initiatives to come forward in the coming years, will enable the Council, working with a wide range of both private and public sector businesses and organisations, with artists and residents, to play an active role as appropriate. By articulating the priorities of the place, the framework will help to steer resources to support actions.

#### **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 As described above, the process of developing the framework was collaborative, and the delivery of resulting actions is planned to take place in close partnership with stakeholders, partners, communities and individuals.
- 5.2 The draft framework was issued for public consultation in Summer 2018. Responses were positive and suggestions for specific improvements will be considered as actions are developed by the working groups. Importantly, each theme will review its plans to ensure a balanced approach which addresses the needs of different population cohorts, including young and old people, people with disabilities, LGTBQI+, people on low incomes, culturally diverse groups and geographical locations.

#### **6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 The framework provides a clear direction for the Council and its partners in order to build on Brighton & Hove's successful cultural and creative economy by identifying the key priorities for the sector, setting clear and shared ambitions for the future and identifying practical actions for the Council (across relevant services) and its partners. This will enable improved planning and more effective delivery to achieve local priorities, and will facilitate attracting new investment to support the sector in future.

- 6.2 The new Arts & Creative Industries Commission governance arrangements will ensure the partnership is permeable and represents a wide variety of perspectives, from the established to the emerging organisations, and key partners including public health and education.

## **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The Council will provide support to the delivery of the framework as set out in Appendix Two and any financial costs associated with providing this support will be met from existing revenue budgets. The Framework will seek investment and funding opportunities to support the delivery of the aims of the Cultural Framework. Annual reports on progress of the Cultural Framework will be presented to this Committee and any financial implications will be included with this report.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen*

*Date: 17/09/18*

### Legal Implications:

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

*Lawyer Consulted: Alice Rowland*

*Date: 18/09/18*

### Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment for the Cultural Framework is in the process of being prepared. The Council has worked with its partners, through Brighton & Hove Connected's Arts & Creative Industries Commission, and with stakeholders, artists and residents to develop a new strategic framework for culture. Working with a wide cross-section of partners to assess the cultural needs of the city has resulted in a framework that has inclusion at its core. The framework document has a section devoted to Inclusion, linked to the delivery of the individual work strands, the governance structure for the overall framework delivery, and the operational, management and governance structures of the city's arts organisations. The *Living Well* strand focuses on Health and Wellbeing for all and the *Rethinking Our Place* strand aims to ensure that those with limited or no access to culture have opportunities to be the producers of their own cultural activities, in their neighbourhoods. The EIA will explore how the five work strands' action plans and the framework's governance and delivery takes into account equality implications and also maximises the opportunities that diversity and inclusion can bring.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Brighton & Hove Cultural Framework

2. Council-led Actions to Support the Framework
3. Governance Arrangements for the Arts & Creative Industries Commission Framework

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. None

### **Background Documents**

1. Report to Economic Development & Culture Committee "Developing a new Strategic Framework for Arts & Culture in the City" 9 March 2017.

