

CULTURE, TOURISM AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 9

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Scoping Report for Scrutiny Agendas		
Date of Meeting:	30th June 2011		
Report of:	Strategic Director: Communities		
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Wards Affected:	All		

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The report sets out information on a range of potential agenda items to be considered by the Committee for the next 2 meetings.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee consider taking forward a range of these potential agenda items or propose/seek/develop alternatives.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 CTEOSC has a remit to cover culture, arts and heritage, tourism and marketing, libraries and museums, events, leisure, sports and recreation, economic development and regeneration and major projects.

This Committee needs to set its agenda both for those formal meetings plus any additional workshops or events, site visits or presentations.

The potential agenda items suggested below are a starting point for discussion. Members may wish to propose additional or alternative items, other agenda items can also be proposed by other Councillors, officers or members of the public.

It is recommended that between 4 and 6 items per agenda is not exceeded and ideally not more than one external presentation per meeting.

- 3.2 There are a number of items proposed, all of which could involve Scrutiny Members in a range of ways; via committee reports, updates, workshops, presentations and site visits. Some of these items have come from the forward work programme of the different service areas and some are items which had been suggested historically from the previous Scrutiny Committee.

3.2.1 Outdoor Events Strategy

Outdoor events make a major contribution to the vibrancy and economy of the city. There are numerous requests from event organisers to stage events in the city. There were over three hundred outdoor events in 2010 ranging in scale from community festivals and fun days in the park for ten to fifty people through to the Pride festival – which attracted 120,000 participants. The Events Team also provides the same service for any filming taking place throughout the city; there were over 150 pieces of filming carried out across the City in 2010.

A new Outdoor Events Policy is needed to provide a robust assessment framework to do a number of things; to approve or reject applications for events and to provide a platform from which to look forward and work proactively to attract new events ensuring a vibrant year round programme.

3.2.2 Sports Facilities

Previous reports to this committee have given an overview of the sports facilities in the city. More specifically, the council's sports centres and golf courses have both undergone procurement exercises to seek external operators in recent years and Scrutiny Members assisted with both tender exercises through workshops. The external operators appointed were both not for profit social enterprises; Mytime Active managing the golf courses and Freedom Leisure the sports centres. Members may wish to ask for an update on the progress of these contracts, or site visits.

3.2.3 Seafront Strategy

A presentation to the last Scrutiny meeting highlighted the importance and key issues facing the council in the management and development of the Seafront. These included the all year round operational management, the challenge of repairs and maintenance in the harsh corrosive environment, and the contribution of the council's property portfolio to the Seafront economy. While the Seafront has benefited from investment particularly between the piers, there is still significant potential for improvement.

The development of a Seafront Strategy gives the opportunity to maximise the benefit of this key city asset in a coherent way and Members may wish to input at an early stage.

3.2.4 Withdean Sports Stadium Masterplan

With Brighton & Hove Albion football club moving to the new stadium at Falmer, there is now the opportunity to plan the development of the usage of the Withdean Sports Complex. The removal of a number of temporary facilities that were required for a football league ground has opened up the potential for the site. Withdean is a multi-use site with athletics, football, indoor and outdoor tennis, squash and health and fitness. Approval has been given by Cabinet to develop proposals to improve the health and fitness provision at the Complex and members may wish to input into this development.

3.2.5 Library Plan

The Libraries Plan is a key strategic document for the Council and needs to be ratified at full Council. The current Libraries Plan runs to the end of this financial year. A new three year plan will be in development over the coming months. Scrutiny Members should have an opportunity to input into this at an early stage.

3.2.6 Investment Prospectus

The Strategic Director: Place is leading the development of a key piece of strategy for the city council and its partners; an Investment Prospectus. This will create a basis for the council's use of its own asset and resources base in a more proactive and productive way to enable economic development in the city. Scrutiny Members may wish to input to this emerging piece of work at an early stage.

3.2.7 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP): Coast to Capital

Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are part of the Government's reform of economic development and its localism agenda. Following invitation by the Government to bid to form LEPs, Brighton and Hove joined with Croydon, West Sussex and the Gatwick Diamond area (which includes three districts in Surrey, Mole Valley, Tandridge and Reigate and Banstead) to be part of the Coast to Capital LEP. The bid was successful and given the green light to form itself. The Board is now established with John Peel OBE as Chair. Coast to Capital has two central themes; internationalism and entrepreneurship. Two Board members, Phil Jones and Steve Allen have been nominated to cover Brighton & Hove. The role of the LEP is to lead economic development. There is currently no funding commitment to the LEPs from Government, they will be expected to bid for funds and raise private finance to support initiatives for growth. The role and potential impact of the LEP may be of particular interest to Members.

3.2.8 The Tourism and Leisure Delivery Unit

With the configuration of the range of services now contained in the Tourism and Leisure Delivery Unit, there is significant opportunity to delivery differently and in a more integrated way. The previous Scrutiny Committee raised the possibility of a presentation on the workings of the Delivery Unit at a future date.

3.2.9 Arts Council funding

In April of this year, the Arts Council made a major set of announcements n funding intentions from the financial year 2011/12. The impact for a number of Brighton and Hove based organisations was positive. However, in a couple of significant cases, the funding decisions were not positive. Scrutiny members may wish to invite the Arts Council to present to the Committee in terms of their current and future policy intentions.

3.2.10 Brighton and Hove Music Industry

Previous Committee Members have raised the issue of the importance of the music industry in Brighton and Hove. As part of the Great Escape, a music industry led event held in Brighton in May, there was an event held that

explored the state of the music industry locally. Members of the Committee at the time expressed an interest in receiving any feedback from that event.

3.2.11 Public Realm

An early agenda item for the previous Scrutiny Committee was a detailed presentation on Public Art and the Percent for Art Policy in the city. Committee Members wished to revive this topic and have an update on current practice ie the role of art in the public realm.

3.2.12 Hotel provision in the city

The question of hotel provision in the city was raised at a previous Scrutiny meeting. The Brighton and Hove Hotels Association is currently undertaking a review of the Hotels Futures Study produced by the city council in 2007, with a view to making an analysis of future likely demand and supply. Members may wish to ask for an update on this piece of work or a presentation by the Hotels Association.

3.2.13 Environmental industries Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel

The Environmental Industries Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel concluded and reported to Scrutiny in November 2009. Members may wish to ask for an update on the recommendations of that Panel.

3.2.14 Social Enterprise Development

Previous Committee members had suggested an update or report on the current support for social enterprise development in the city. The Social Enterprise Strategy led by Brighton and Hove Business Community Partnership, was adopted in 2009.

3.2.15 Disability Arts

The Committee had been made aware of a piece of work being undertaken by the Brighton and Hove Arts Commission into the provision of arts for people with learning difficulties in the city. The Committee had requested, if possible, to have this report presented at the Scrutiny agenda when it was concluded.

3.2.16 Major Projects

Historically this Committee has received regular updates on the progress of a range of capital projects supported by the city council. This report has been given in Part 2 as the content has been subject to commercial sensitivity.

3.2.17 Presentations by external organisations

Historically this Committee has regularly invited presentations from external organisations such as the Brighton Festival and Dome, the Brighton Marathon, Oska Bright (festival of film by learning disabled filmmakers) for example. Other suggestions from the previous Committee for presentations included: an update from the County Cricket Ground on the development and the Brighton and Hove Arts Commission.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 There has been consultation in the preparation of this report with senior service area officers, scrutiny officers and the Chair of Scrutiny.

5 FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations of the report itself, however, there may be financial implications resulting from the recommendations of any ensuing Ad Hoc Panel report or other Member recommendations passed back to Cabinet which will be reported as they are identified.

*Finance Officer consulted: **Anne Silley***

*Date: **8th June 2011***

5.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications resulting from the recommendations of the report itself. However, there may be legal implications resulting from the recommendations of any ensuing Ad Hoc Panel report or other Member recommendations referred to Cabinet.

*Lawyer consulted: **Bob Bruce, Principal Solicitor** Date: **8th June 2011***

5.3 Equalities Implications

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report, however, all of the topics outlined above would have detailed equalities implications on examination.

5.4 Sustainability Implications

There are no direct sustainability implications arising from this report, however, there would be sustainability implications in all of the topics outlined above that would be detailed in specific reports.

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report. Each of the topics outlined above would have crime and disorder implications to a greater or lesser extent on closer examination.

5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications

The risk and opportunity management implications of each of the topics would be covered in any more detailed report on them.

5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications

All of the topics above have citywide implications either in terms of the economy of the city or the population.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

None

