

Minutes

OLDHAM CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING
3RD MARCH 2009
GALLERY OLDHAM

Present:	John Eley	Oldham Council
	Colin Cooper	Oldham Council
	Ian Hughes	Oldham Council
	Kevin Shaw	Coliseum Theatre
	Sheena MacFarlane	Oldham Council
	Bruce Penhale	Oldham Council
	Dave McGealy	VCFS
	Ian Kendall	OCL
	Dianne Hayes	Oldham Council
	Dave Catherall	Oldham Council
Apologies:		
	Neil Consterdine	Oldham Council
	Joanne Platt	Oldham Council

A SECTION OF MINUTES

1 Work Programme:

The purpose of the meeting was to re-establish the Cultural Partnership to provide a forum for key players (from the public, private and third sectors) to regularly review the Borough's sport, creative industries and arts sector, particularly with a view to identifying opportunities for the sector.

The following points were made on the structure of the Cultural Partnership and how it will be taken forward from April 2009.

- Indicators not currently included sit within Community/Cohesion and need to be recognised within Cultural Partnership N.I's also.
- Commissioners need to smarten up on process around cross cutting issues.
- Focus needs to be on commissioning the main delivery of a project.

2 **The Borough's Sports and Culture Offer – Gap Analysis:**

A paper was circulated prior to the meeting and the following points made:

- There are a lot of facilities in the Borough however - the quality of some are poor.
- There is ongoing activity to develop the Borough's facilities for sports and culture including:
- Libraries Review
- Well-being Centres Programme
- Local Area Plan for Football
- Building Schools for the future
- Town Centre youth facility
- Parks Development Programme

The number of people taking part in activity in Oldham is at “best level” and not increasing at the moment.

3 **Logistics of how the Cultural Partnership will work:**

- Need to concentrate on gaps but not cease activity in areas that are being utilised.
- Need to be more evidence lead using intelligence provided.
- Diversionary activity is only one element of what the Cultural Partnership offers.
- Evaluation and monitoring needs to be taken on by the Group, Borough wide cross cutting contributions need to be emphasised.
- There needs to be a larger role played in communicating the activity to the Borough.
- Need to be aware of the danger of constantly creating new activity but not supporting activities already in place.
- Need to support the development of a strong VCFP.
- Do we have an effective Cultural Strategy that's fit for purpose, the current strategy is 5 years old.
- Greater transparency of resources/funding.

4 Membership:

It was agreed that previous membership be reviewed to ensure partnership members aren't outweighed by council representation. There is also a need to include key independents.

Several names were suggested for inclusion in the Group, also representation was thought to be needed from University Oldham, and the Oldham Chronicle.

It was agreed that Kevin Shaw continue to act as Chair of the Cultural Partnership and Ian Kendal to act as Vice Chair.

The Community Safety Unit will support the Partnership administratively in the interim.

5 Moving Forward:

- Arts Forum to be held twice yearly.
- Extend Festival of Diversity for 6 months. Tasking Group to be formed to make recommendations for future festivals.
- Information gathering/sharing to avoid duplication of commissioned activity.
- Set of priorities needs to be in place when commissioning projects.
- Information needs to be disseminated to smaller clubs so they know where to go for support.
- Marketing and Communications needs to be a priority.
- Need to demonstrate the contribution made by Culture.
- SSCB Strategic Assessment to be utilised to pull some of this work together.

6 Any other business:

N/A

7 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 7th April, 9.00 am at Gallery Oldham.