Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee

29 January 2019

Present: Councillor W Samuel (In the Chair)
Councillors L Bell, J Cassidy C Davis, S Graham, E Hodson,
D McMeekan, A Newman, P Oliver, K Osborne,
and A Waggott-Fairley

Also in attendance: Councillor S Day, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure.

CL22/1019 Appointment of Chair

In the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair, Councillor W Samuel was appointed as chair for the meeting.

CL23/01/19 Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors L Darke, D Drummond and S Phillips.

CL24/01/19 Substitute Members

Pursuant to the Council’s Constitution, the appointment of the following substitute members was reported:

Councillor P Oliver for Councillor L Darke.
Councillor S Graham for Councillor S Phillips

CL25/01/19 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

CL26/01/19 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 December 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

Further to Minute CL21/12/18 regarding the Operating Agreement with SMG Europe to run the Playhouse, Whitley Bay, Councillor Sarah Day, Cabinet Member responsible for Culture, Sport and Leisure, was in attendance to update the Sub-Committee on progress of the work reported at the last meeting.

Councillor Day advised that following a discussion with the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet members they agreed that decisions like this should be a key decision for Cabinet. In relation to such decisions a new process has been agreed. Reports would be submitted to Cabinet following discussion at Strategic Property Group, where there were property implications associated with any contract arrangements. Consistent with wider contract considerations, Cabinet would also have the chance to consider issues relating to its policies on employment, environmental issues and community engagement.
Councillor Day said she was aware that a number of these issues had been touched upon in the scrutiny discussion so far, and the valuable work that had been undertaken by SMG Europe sub group would be important in informing Cabinet’s considerations. In the light of this a report would be submitted to Cabinet for consideration on the 1 April 2019. Cabinet’s decision would then be subject to scrutiny in the usual way and that Councillor Day would keep Members informed of the progress of this piece of work.

CL27/01/19  Culture Health and Wellbeing

A report was received which set out the work of the Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group.

Steve Bishop, the Council’s Senior Manager Cultural Services, and Christine Jordan, Senior Manager Public Health, attended the meeting to present details in the work of the Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group, initiated by the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), to deliver its objective to “reduce social isolation and increase cultural engagement across the population of North Tyneside to improve health and wellbeing.”

At its meeting on 21 June 2018, the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board agreed the objectives of delivering a planned workshop, to be held on 29 June 2018. The Board further agreed to the establishment of a delivery group to take forward the recommendations of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) report, Creative Health: The Arts for Health and Wellbeing (July 2017), and objective 8 of the Health and Wellbeing Board workplan 2018-20, to “reduce social isolation and increase cultural engagement across the population of North Tyneside to improve health and wellbeing.”

The workshop, chaired by Health and Wellbeing Board Chair, Councillor Margaret Hall, was addressed by Shadow Minister (Public Health), Sharon Hodgson MP, and successfully brought together a range of practitioners and providers from the health and cultural sectors to discuss the issues and recommendations raised in the APPG report. The recommendations contained in the APPG report ‘Creative Health’ were available at the following weblink: https://www.artshealthandwellbeing.org.uk/appg-inquiry/

The Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group, was established as a result of the workshop and has subsequently met on 28 September 2018 and 5 December 2018, agreeing Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix One, and the Draft Culture Health, and Wellbeing Action Plan 2018-20 for North Tyneside in Appendix Two to the report.

Social isolation was a complex social issue which could affect people at any stage of life. Reducing social isolation across the community would contribute to improving overall health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities. Massive evidence base for cultural engagement being a means to address this.

Next steps included presenting at the LGA/ADPH Annual Public Health Conference in London on 21 March; The Culture and Wellbeing Alliance’s first Annual conference in Newcastle on 21 and 22 March; Creativity and Wellbeing Week 16-19 June - Annual Celebration Event of Culture Health and Wellbeing in North Tyneside.

Members were invited to share details of known interested groups/individuals and Ward lists with the Senior Manager Cultural Services, to help expand the contact database.

Following the presentation, Members of the sub-committee sought clarification over a number of areas, including:
• The criteria for social isolation which involved a range of issues including e.g. income, deprivation, social at known risk and loneliness characteristics which were shown in the North Tyneside mosaic mapping index (by postcode) indicating ‘the lower the level indicated on the map, the higher the risk’.
• Establishing links with Dementia and other types of groups with meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group: Information was still being gathered on the types of people and groups who could benefit from being involved.
• Social prescribing by GP’s: Contract arrangements in relation were currently being finalised and that communications on this would follow in due course.
• Transport arrangements for bringing people together for activities where possible: Localised activities were being reviewed and by bringing more people together in one place it was hoped transport would not be a barrier.

The Chair on behalf of the Sub-committee thanked officers for attending the meeting to present the work of the Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group and welcomed a future report on the group’s outcomes.

It was agreed (1) to note the establishment of the Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group; and (2) to endorse the progress made to date by the Culture Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group to develop a multi-agency action plan, to deliver the Health and Wellbeing Board objective and the recommendations contained in the All-Party Parliamentary Group report.

CL28/01/19 North Tyneside Local Cultural Education Partnership

A report was received which set out the work of the North Tyneside Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP).

Julie Dorr, the Council’s School Improvement Advisor, Music Education Hub, attended the meeting to present an outline and progress in the work of the North Tyneside Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) and plans for future developments. She was accompanied by Mel Carter, Culture Bridge North East.

Local Cultural Education Partnerships bring together representatives from the education, arts and culture sectors to engage more children and young people with high quality arts and culture. Culture Bridge North East was supporting the development of these partnerships in every part of the region. Some partnerships were just getting started, while others were already delivering strategic interventions against priorities identified by the partners.

The North Tyneside Cultural Education Partnership aimed to increase connectivity between the education and cultural sectors in North Tyneside, by increasing awareness of the cultural offer, and supporting schools to use the arts to meet their wider objectives.

Culture Bridge North East’s vision was that everyone growing up in the region should have a childhood rich with arts and culture. Culture Bridge believed that arts and cultural education was not only the spark that creates the artists, performers, makers and curators of the future, but that it was essential for children’s quality of life. Taking part in excellent cultural education enabled children to make meaning; discover connections with others; find and develop their unique talents; build confidence and resilience; and develop transferable skills that set them up for life. Culture Bridge North East collaborates with organisations across the North East and beyond to champion culture and the arts as vital parts of childhood.

Arts Council England funded 10 Bridges across England, all of which were tasked with the strategic development of arts and cultural education by, with and for children and young
people. Culture Bridge North East was managed by Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums and based at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle.

Following the presentation, Members of the sub-committee sought clarification over a number of areas, including:

- How LCEP acted as a catalyst to bring new funding into North Tyneside. This involved partnership working and by seeking grant funding up to £25k (subject to match-funding investment) which was currently being looked at by LCEP.
- The provision for children with special needs in terms of representation and recognition. Support was in place and activities were being development to further involve children and young people e.g. Olympic musicians.
- Looked After Children and how they were being encouraged to get involved. North Tyneside operated virtual schools’, with this being an area for review.
- Engagement in schools and the ways in which they were being encouraged to come on board to the participate in partnership working. The LCEP were in the early stages (in some cases) of bringing together representatives from education, arts and culture sectors to engage more children and young people in every part of the region.
- How children, young people and society could measure achievements. There were many ways of showing performance outcomes and LCEP were looking at cultural and educational awards associated with e.g. reading, cultural, musical etc., and always aiming to showcase/focus on achievements for all.

The Chair on behalf of the Sub-committee thanked officers for attending the meeting to present the work of the North Tyneside Local Cultural Education Partnership.

It was agreed to note the work to date of the North Tyneside Local Cultural Education Partnership.