

Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2013

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and Public Realm)

York Theatre Royal: Update to December 2012

Summary

1. This report is to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the progress and performance of the York Theatre Royal under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA). The report in Annex 1 has been prepared against the SLA requirements below and as previously requested by the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Background

2. The SLA is a joint agreement between the Council and the York Theatre Royal. The SLA sets out:
 - The key objectives of the partnership and partnership arrangements
 - Performance targets and indicators to be met by the Theatre
 - Performance information to be provided, review and reporting procedures
3. Reports are brought to Scrutiny Committee twice a year to report on performance against the outcomes agreed in the SLA. In order to achieve the aims set out in the SLA the council requires the Theatre to :
 - Provide a year round programme of work which shall include in-house productions, including a pantomime, youth theatre productions, touring drama productions, and hires to local amateur companies.
 - Provide sign language interpreted and audio described performances, and touch tours.
 - Provide a regular Youth Theatre for at least 250 young people annually.

- Provide educational activities related to each main house production, including special matinees, talks, teachers' packs, workshops and visits to schools.
- Provide a range of activities to engage older people in activities connected with the Theatre
- Develop The Studio programme promoting new and culturally diverse work: using the space to provide opportunities for local voluntary arts organisations and to develop the creative infrastructure of the city.
- Provide student placements and careers advice to support the development of a strong local creative sector.
- Develop the De Grey Complex, along with the Theatre, as a creative production hub for the city
- Work with key stakeholders on the Cultural Quarter developments as well as other developments as appropriate.

Consultation

4. This report is for information only and there is no consultation to consider.

Options

5. This report is for information only and there are no options to consider.

Corporate Objectives

6. York Theatre Royal contributes to a number of corporate objectives including creating a world class culture under Jobs and the Economy and strengthening community participation under Stronger Communities.

Implications

7. **Finance:** The Council's funding for the period under report, 2012/13, is £304k.
8. The report has no additional implications relating to:
 - Human Resources
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Equalities
 - Information Technology

Risk Management

9. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

10. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the report and comment upon the progress that the Theatre has made in the last 3 months

Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the Service Agreement.

Contact Details

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Report Approved **Date**

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex 1: York Theatre Royal Performance report