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**Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12 June 2013**

At the last meeting of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee, improving the quality of Heritage and Arts in the city was suggested as a possible topic that may benefit from Scrutiny input i.e.:

**Improving the quality of the heritage and arts offer in the city** – to support the Council’s aim to continue working with its partners to ensure the city attracts more cultural tourists through supporting improvements in the quality of the heritage and arts offer in the city.

The Council has high ambitions for culture in the city, and given its own budget restrictions in the future it is clear that this will have to be delivered in partnership with creative and cultural organisations across the city. We are currently in the process, working with Visit York, in fleshing out the new high level tourism strategy for the city which includes the creation of a cultural tourism programme. Working with partners we have already established a steering group with the aim of submitting a funding application to Visit England/ Arts Council England funding in July.

Given that we are already working with partners actively in this area with a specific timetable in place, it would be useful to postpone any consideration of this topic until after the outcome of the funding application is known.

Gill Cooper  
Head of Culture, Tourism & City Centre  
Tel. 01904 554671