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**Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and  
Social Inclusion**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities and Culture)

**York800 Activities in 2012**

**Summary**

1. This report asks the Cabinet Member to approve the outline programme and budget for the programme of York 800 activities in 2012.

**Background**

2. 2012 is a very significant year in York's history, marking 800 years since the city was granted a royal charter by King John in 1212. This charter enabled York's citizens to take charge of their own affairs with the right to elect a council, hold courts, appoint a mayor, and collect taxes. To celebrate this historic anniversary a programme of activities is proposed, designed to engage York residents, communities and businesses.

**Consultation**

3. Earlier this year York@Large, the city's cultural partnership, established an advisory group from partners across the city to look at supporting and producing a year long umbrella festival in support of York's 800th anniversary of its civic charter: York800.
4. Within the overall context of the civic life of the city the key objectives of the year long celebration are to:
  - build an understanding of the past
  - celebrate a sense of belonging in the present to all our communities and to
  - contribute towards a shared vision of the future of York

5. A public campaign to garner ideas for how we celebrate York800 was launched in July 2011 and we have had over forty suggestions as well as meetings with a wide range of individuals and organisations.

### **The Programme of Activities**

6. The advisory group proposed that in these restricted financial times that partners around the city would be asked to consider supporting these objectives through activities already scheduled that could accommodate the objectives outlined above; however, they also wished to undertake a certain level of special activities for 2012 that would leave a legacy of inclusion, celebration and understanding in the city.
7. A proposed schedule of activities is attached at Annex 1. This calendar highlights those festivals and events that could benefit from the enhancement of activity in 2012 but also indicates the unique projects programmed. The year will be a platform for York to maintain its reputation on the international stage as a vibrant city, capable of staging memorable and influential events.
8. Funding to support many of these activities has already been secured from partners across the city or from allocated budgets within the council. In addition, funding bids to the Arts Council: England and other grant giving bodies have been made or are in preparation.
9. The proposed programme is still open to enhancement; for example, whilst ideas for York800 activities have already been received from some neighbourhoods, in others ideas are likely to emerge as the year progresses. To further develop the potential of the programme to involve the whole community, to build a greater understanding of York's unique heritage and to demonstrate the healthy and vibrant civic life of the city it would be helpful to have a budget allocation. A bid will be made through the Council's 2012-14 budget process.

### **Options**

10. The Cabinet Member may comment on the outline programme and suggest amendment or alternatives.

## Corporate Priorities

11. The programme of events would demonstrate the entrepreneurial spirit of the city, the cohesiveness of its communities and build on its world class culture. This will support corporate objectives in culture, the economy and neighbourhoods management.

## Implications

12. **Finance:** If funding is not secured through the growth bid within the council or from grant giving Trusts then the programme of activities will have to be contained within the budget available.
13. The budget for the proposed activities is set out below.

Programme Title	Funding secured '000	Funding applied for '000s	Additional funding required* '000s
Communication and enhancement of year round activities	0	0	25
York800 Community projects	22	50	13
York800 enhancement of City of Festivals programme	100	130	21
Volunteers and Carers project	20	13	7
York800 one off celebration	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>71</b>

\* £18k is match funding for funding applications

14. **Equalities:** One of the key objectives of York800 is to promote activities that will engage the whole community and develop a sense of belonging in the city. Events organisers will be required to ensure an equality of access to their event and full compliance with the Equalities legislation.
15. There are no Legal, Highways, Human Resources, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology or Property Implications arising from this report.

## **Risk Management**

16. In compliance with the council risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

## **Recommendations**

17. The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the outline programme of events and support the request for additional funds.

Reason: To celebrate this historic event in the civic life of the city and to engage the whole community in the planned activities.

## **Contact Details**

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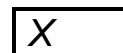
**Report Approved**



**Date** *24 October  
2011*

**Wards Affected**

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:**

## **Annexes**

Annex 1: Calendar of events and activities for 2012