
Meeting of Executive Member for Leisure and Culture and Advisory Panel

6 June 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Service Plans 2006/2007

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Service Plans for council services that are wholly or partially funded from the Leisure and Culture budget.

Background

2. The planning process this year for the new Directorate of *Learning, Culture and Children's Services* has evolved in response to a number of new expectations, both local and national. Locally, changes in the corporate standard have required all service managers to provide a corporate compliance statement covering the following cross-cutting issues:
 - equalities,
 - safer city,
 - operational risk,
 - Gershon efficiency and
 - competitiveness.
3. The planning cycle starts in September when the Departmental Management Team (DMT) begins the process of building a budget for the following year on the basis of priorities identified in the strategic plans. Between September and December, strategic priorities are finalised in the *Lifelong Learning and Culture Plan*. Following agreement about the budget in January, service and group managers are required to review their performance as part of the annual service planning exercise and to produce plans for the year ahead.
4. The plans for 2006/07 are significantly more detailed than in previous years. An annual review statement has been incorporated in the service plan itself, and the number of sections in the plan has increased to take account of corporate requirements. As a consequence, it is no longer realistic to publish all of the plans in hard copy. The plans are available on

A number of printed copies will be available at the meeting, and a full set of plans is available in the members' library.

5. The Service Plans recommended for approval at this meeting are as follows:
 - 5.1 Arts and Culture
 - 5.2 Early Years and Extended Schools
 - 5.3 Libraries and Heritage
 - 5.4 Parks and Open Spaces
 - 5.5 Sport and Active Leisure

Corporate Objectives

6. Service Plans have been drawn up in line with Corporate Objectives.

Implications

Financial

7. Service Plans have been produced on a timescale that ensures they reflect the budget settlement for 2006/07.

Human Resources (HR)

8. Whilst there are no direct implications for HR arising from this report, it should be noted that the planning demands on Assistant Directors and Service Managers are increasing.

Equalities

9. There are no implications arising from this report.

Legal

10. There is no statutory requirement for the production of service plans, though there is a strong expectation by District Audit that they will be produced in order to support effective Performance Management.

Crime and Disorder

11. There are no implications arising from this report.

Information Technology (IT)

12. There are no implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to approve the Service Plans attached to this report.

Reason: To inform the Executive Member of objectives that have been met and service plan delivered within the approved budget.

Contact Details

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Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Report Approved Date 24 May 2006

Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Report Approved Date 24 May 2006

Specialist Implications Officer(s) *List information for all*

Implication ie Financial

Name

Title

Tel No.

Implication ie Legal

Name

Title

Tel No.

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Annex: Service Plans