

Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee 24 February 2015

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

York Theatre Royal: 2014/15 Half Year Performance Update

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).

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. The key partnership requirements covered in the SLA are:
 - To maintain and develop York Theatre Royal as a local, regional and national theatre provider, creating productions of quality, daring, delight and accomplishment for the citizens of York and the region, and for visitors to the city.
 - To continue to develop local and nationally significant programmes of work with partnerships across the UK and internationally, that contribute to making York a vital and vibrant city and extending our reputation for world class culture.
 - To encourage creative expression and engagement with the community, through a diverse programme of work, both on and off stage, that offers a cultural mix of entertainment, innovation, participation and enjoyment.
 - To develop work and activities that promotes the enjoyment of Theatre with older people and diverse communities.

- To work in active partnership with business, education, community and arts organisations, and local authority service providers to extend both the range and reach of the Theatre's work.

4. Reports are brought to Scrutiny Committee twice a year to report on performance against the outcomes agreed in the SLA. Annex 1 sets out in detail the work undertaken in the first 6 months of 2014/15 and the plans in development for the future.

Consultation

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

Options

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

Corporate Objectives

7. York Theatre Royal contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for learning, and in strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure.

Implications

8. **Finance:** The Council's funding in 2014/15 is £203,600, a reduction of £70k compared to £273,600 in 2013/14. The funding reduces to £173,600 in 2015/16. The Council has also made available £500k of capital to support the Theatre's successful Arts Council funding bid for refurbishment of the theatre.
9. The report has no additional implications relating to:
 - Human Resources
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Information Technology

10. **Equalities.**

Annex 1 sets out the contribution the Theatre makes to support our Equalities agenda.

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

12. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the report and comment upon the progress that the Theatre has made in the last 6 months

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

Contact Details

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Report Approved **Date** 13 February 2015

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex 1: York Theatre Royal Performance report