

Cabinet Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Artrix Outreach Provision Task Group Report

Introduction

At the Cabinet meeting on 4th June 2014 consideration was given to the report of the Air Quality Task Group. As the Chairman of the Task Group, the Leader welcomed Councillor S.P. Shannon to the meeting and thanked him for being present to provide clarification on any matters raised by Cabinet members.

The Cabinet considered the recommendations of the Task Group which were contained within 5 chapters of the report:

- Funding from Bromsgrove District Council
- Raising Awareness of Outreach Work with Members
- Outreach Provision
- Raising Awareness of Outreach Work with Residents; and
- General

The Cabinet then discussed and considered each of the recommendations of the Task Group in detail.

Response to recommendations

Please find below responses to the recommendations contained within the scrutiny report:

Recommendation 1

- (a) that the inclusion of a set of clear performance indicators in respect of Outreach work be included within the new Service Level Agreement; and
- (b) that a proportion of the funding provided by the Council be ring fenced for Outreach work.

Cabinet Response

The Cabinet sought confirmation that the Artrix Centre had been consulted on this and then approved the recommendation.

Recommendation 2

That the Bromsgrove District Council logo be more prominent in Artrix promotional literature.

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

Recommendation 3

- (a) that in order to complement the formal reporting of performance indicators to Officers that the Council receives a quarterly informal (narrative and image based) report from the Artrix detailing the events that have taken place together with the number of those attending; and
- (b) that those Member representatives on the Operating Trust report back regularly to full Council.

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

Recommendation 4

- (a) that the Artrix Centre liaise with Members in respect of specific activities within their ward; and
- (b) that the Artrix Centre explore ways in which it could raise awareness of its activities in all areas within the District. (For example through Parish Council, school and other notice boards throughout the District.).

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

Recommendation 5

- (a) that the Artrix Centre ensure that there is a defined profile for the target participants / audience that the Outreach Provision is provided for;
- (b) that the Artrix Centre ensure that participation in such activities is not prohibitive due to cost (for example, seek funding for bursaries where possible); and
- (c) that the Artrix Centre make activities available throughout the main school holidays, particularly during the Easter and summer breaks.

Cabinet Response

Councillor M. J. A. Webb proposed that, in addition, the Artrix Centre be invited to provide a presentation for the benefit of Council members outlining its plans at least once each year. Councillor S. P. Shannon indicated that Artrix Centre had undertaken to do so. In response to a query over Councillors acting as Trustee Board members and reporting back to the Council there was discussion as to the

legal propriety of such a course of action. The Principal Solicitor undertook to investigate this matter and report back to the Committee following the meeting. This recommendation was approved, as amended.

Recommendation 6

That an insert, prepared by the Artrix, be included within Together Bromsgrove detailing Outreach activities at the Artrix.

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

Recommendation 7

That the main programme brochure which is produced by the Artrix be used to promote its Outreach work.

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

Recommendation 8

That the Artrix promote all the facilities available to those with a disability.

Cabinet Response

Councillor C. B. Taylor enquired whether any facilities within the Artrix were not available to those with a disability. Councillor S. P. Shannon responded that the issue was less one of accessibility and the recommendation was more concerned with the improved promotion of facilities and programme provided for those with a disability. This was approved.

Recommendation 9

That the Artrix consider contacting Worcestershire County Council with a view to improving the signage within the Railway Station and Town Centre areas.

Cabinet Response

This was approved.

The Leader thanked the Task Group Chairman and Members for their work in producing a very useful report.

Councillor Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Leisure Services, Economic Development and Emergency Planning.