

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Performance Monitoring Board (PMB)

16th DECEMBER 2008

Artrix Centre – Trustee’s Report & Financial Statement 2007/08

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Cllr Roger Hollingsworth
Responsible Head of Service	John Godwin (Deputy Head of SS&C)

1. SUMMARY

1.1 The report is to provide information to Members on the performance of the Artrix Arts Centre and to provide an update on the current progress being made with establishing a service level agreement with the Artrix’s operating Trust.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The report seeks Members comments on:

- The current performance of the Artrix centre.
- The progress that has been made with proposed Service Level Agreements (SLA).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 As Members will be aware on the 20th November 2007 officer reported to PMB on annual report of Bromsgrove Arts Centre Trust, Trustee’s Report & Financial Statement for the year to 31st March 2007. At the meeting members requested that on an annual basis PMB receive an update on the performance of the centre for their comments.

3.2 With in the report members will see the sections relating to the Trustee’s report including performance information, the independent Auditors report of the centre, statement of financial activities and a copy of the balance sheet for the financial year ending 31st march 2008.

3.3 Member will be aware that as part of the establishment of the Artrix centre the Executive Cabinet in June 2005 agreed to provide funding to the arts centre for a ten year period up to £120,000 per year.

3.4 As part of this agreement the arrangements were to be reviewed in January 2008 prior to the end of the three year fixed period. Officers have been in negotiation with the Operating Trust to establish a formal SLA based on the Executive Cabinet report in February this year for the past 12 months.

- 3.5 The SLA is currently being discussed between both organisations and subject to minor changes around some of the terminology, the agreement is nearing completion. The aim of the SLA is to establish a framework where by the operation of the centre will be focused on the key objective and priorities of the Council and will ensure that value for money and effective use of resources are achieved from the support provided.
- 3.6 As part of this process officers will be establishing a key set of performance measure to monitoring the delivery of the arts centre based on the principles shown in 3.5. This will include a set of structured meetings and the agreement of annual targets for the centre including a six month review of performance. However as the signing of the SLA has been delayed due to the ongoing discussions, this years report is based upon a like for like comparison with the information provide last year.
- 3.7 Overall the key headline figures are very positive, show growth across the programme, demonstrate an increased use of resources and Value for Money by virtue of the increased usage. This is supported by the following headline performance information, a full break down can be found in page 5 of the annual report (please note there is data entre issues on page relating to NEWC average usage):
- Total attendance (performances and screenings): 2007/ 08 – 73,910 compared to 2006 / 07 – 58,274. An increase of 21%,
 - Increased attendances per performance across the programme.
 - Total number of events: 2007/ 08 – 426 compared to 2006 / 07 – 389. An increase of 8.75%.
 - Total number of Artrix workshop sessions 2007/08 – 355 compared to 2006 / 07 – 242. An increase of 32%.
 - Total number of days open in 2007/08 – 349, there is no 2006/07 comparison available, as this information was requested as part of the SLA proposal.
 - 12 exhibitions in 2007/08, compared to 12 in 2007/07. This is due to the limited exhibition space and the time allocated to each display (1 per month).
 - Bromsgrove Arts Alive (local arts organisation) contributed 31% of the 2007/08 programme. A comparator figures is not available as again this was not measured in this way prior to the SLA discussions commencing.
 - 100% term time usage by NEWC and an overall uptake of available space of 87%.

- Increased income generation across users and lettings, £396,800 in 2007/08 against £305,355. An increase of 23%.

3.8 Although performance on site has significantly improved it is acknowledge that there are areas for improvement this is supported by the Council annual resident satisfaction survey where 37% of those surveyed were satisfied with 47% saying they did not know. This does lead to questions relating to the sites market penetration and the overall suitability of the programme to met the whole communities needs.

3.9 On page 6 of the annual report members will see the future plans for the site. It should be acknowledge that actions contained with in this section are designed to achieve the outcomes built into the SLA. Discussion have been held between both organisations and is felt that these improvements will address some of the concerns contained with in the residences household survey and aid the site to achieve the performance targets with in the SLA.

3.10 As part of the implementation of the SLA the Councils will be hosting user and resident (none user) panels in partnership with the Operating Trust to ensure that future improvement plans address the key issues impacting upon user satisfaction.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications contained with in this report, that are currently not with in existing budgets. At year 8 (20012/13) with in the legal agreement officer will be reviewing the funding arrangements and adjusting the Medium Term Financial Plan accordingly.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Officers are working with colleagues in the legal section to ensure that the SLA that is developed is financially and legally robust and ensure BDC objectives are met.

6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

6.1 The formation of a robust SLA will assist the Council to deliver it's objective of Sense of Community & Well Being by increasing the quality of Cultural activities in the local area. Further more it will also help to improve the Council's reputation by reviewing the users satisfaction result of the centre and implementing service improvement plans.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

N/A

8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Please see comments in the Council Objectives Section.

9. **EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Officers are working with colleagues in the Equalities section to ensure that the SLA that is developed will address equality & diversity issues and promote a diverse programme that is accessible to the whole community.

10. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Please include the following table and spell out any particular implications in the relevant box. If there are no implications under a particular heading, please state 'None':-

Procurement Issues – N/A
Personnel Implications – N/A
Governance/Performance Management – Contained with in the SLA being established.
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 – N/A
Policy –N/A
Environmental – N/A

11. **OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Please include the following table and indicate 'Yes' or 'No' as appropriate. Delete the words in italics.

Portfolio Holder	NO
Chief Executive	NO
Corporate Director (Services)	<u>YES</u>
Assistant Chief Executive	<u>YES</u>
Head of Service	<u>NO</u>
Head of Financial Services	<u>YES</u>
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	<u>YES</u>

Head of Organisational Development & HR	<u>NO</u>
Corporate Procurement Team	<u>NO</u>

12. **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Bromsgrove Arts Centre Trust, Trustee's Report & Financial Statement for the year to 31st March 2008.

13. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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