

Report on	Culture & Arts Progress Report
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance
Contact Officer	Tony McCance

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the progress being made across Culture and Arts Services and to highlight events that have taken place during the previous quarter. The report also highlights specific events and activities within Culture & Arts Services that is currently being developed by the officer team and which are planned to take place in the future.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that Culture and Arts plays in today's society and recognises that access to high quality culture and arts performances, events and activities can enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of the local community of Mid Ulster while also showcasing the quality of the Culture and Arts offering to visitors to our District. The Culture and Arts activity delivered, including facility programming is designed to maximise engagement and participation from all sections of the community in the Culture and Arts Service provided by Mid Ulster District Council.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Full details of key elements Culture and Arts Service provision for the previous quarter period is detailed in Appendix 1.
3.2	<p>During the period September through to December highlights of the programme of activity delivered through Arts & Culture Services and across all functions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seamus Heaney HomePlace Celebrates its first 12 months of operation • 1,000 tickets for events over Closing weekend • Receives awards for: Best Local Authority Tourism Initiative- Northern Ireland Local Government Awards (NILGA) <p>Best Visitor and Interpretation Centre by the Association of Heritage Interpretation (AHI)</p> <p>Best NI Visitor Attraction 2017 - Northern Ireland Travel and Tourism Awards</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links established with Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Monaghan and Linen Hall Library Belfast • Students Participate at third INTO Film Festival at Ranfurly • Niall Hannah - recipient of the Young Musician's platform Award from the Arts Council NI in 2016 performs at Ranfurly • Ranfurly House and Hill of the O'Neill profiled in Visual Artists Ireland Newsletter • 470 participate in the ever popular "Victorian Christmas in Ranfurly House" Schools programme • Successful Winter Craft Fayre at Burnavon attracts in excess of 3,000 visitors • Christmas family fun day at Burnavon attracts over 1,000 visitors • 260 participants take part in Autumn programme of workshops and classes at Burnavon • Burnavon hosts live recording of BBC's Irish Language Magazine show "Blas"
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Within identified and agreed budgets approved by Council</p> <p>Human: Within identified staffing resources agreed and approved by Council</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>The Culture and Arts activity delivered, including facility programming is designed to maximise engagement and participation from all sections of the community in the Culture & Arts Service provided by Mid Ulster District Council.</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)

5.1	Members are asked to note activities undertaken within Culture and Arts Services over the last quarter period and to note planned activities currently being developed by the officer team as detailed under appendix 1.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Culture & Arts Service Update Report