

Report on	Service Improvement Plan, Culture & Arts Services
Date of Meeting	Thursday 9 th July 2020
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
Contact Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members with regard to the Culture and Arts Services - Service Improvement Plan for 2020/21.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Service Improvement plan (See appendix 1) ensures that Culture and Arts services are accountable, planned and clear, and that performance and improvement are a key element of service delivery. The Plan also assists in delivering the Council's mission and strategic outcomes set out in Council's Corporate Plan and has been prepared with cognisance of the COVID-19 pandemic.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Culture and Arts Service has facility management, venue operations and associated programming responsibility for the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown, Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre, Dungannon and Seamus Heaney HomePlace, Bellaghy.
3.2	In addition, Culture and Arts Services also has responsibility for the delivery of Council's district wide Arts and Cultural development programme and the delivery of the Council's Regional and Minority Language Development programme.
3.3	The Service delivers a diverse range of culture and arts activity across a wide range of art & cultural forms. The purpose of the Service is to encourage greater community and audience participation in Culture and Arts activity delivered by Mid Ulster District Council, both for the inhabitants of the District and for visitors to our District.

3.4	<p>Culture & Arts Services is part of the Business and Communities Directorate, and is made up of the following key service areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arts & Cultural Venues 2. Arts & Cultural Development 3. Regional & Minority Language Development
3.5	<p>The social and economic disruption of COVID-19 has had and will continue to have a significant impact on the service we provide and the way we provide them and the citizens that we provide our service to. As lockdown restrictions ease, social distancing measures are enacted in the workplace and service provision gradually recovers, transitions and adapts to a 'new normal', we must be mindful of the impact of COVID-19 on the plans which are currently being developed at all levels of the Service Planning and Performance Management. How we plan now will determine how well we adapt to the challenges and opportunities within a post COVID-19 environment, not just within Culture & Arts Services of MUDC, but also within the wider Culture & Arts sector within Mid Ulster.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: As per budgets approved by Council</p>
	<p>Human: As delivered within Staffing resources approved by Council</p>
	<p>Risk Management: Risks identified are detailed in the attached Service Improvement Plan</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Culture & Arts Service provision is delivered by the officer team to be fully inclusive, and is designed to encourage wide participation from all sections of the community and which promotes and supports good relations between all sections of the community within Mid Ulster</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: Rural Needs have been considered in the formulation, development and implementation of the Service Improvement Plan for Culture & Arts Services 2020/21</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Members are asked to note the Culture and Arts Services – Service Improvement Plan for 2020/21.</p>

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Culture & Arts Service Improvement Plan 2020/21