

## SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT/CULTURAL AGENCY WORKING GROUP ON CULTURAL PLANNING AND ENTITLEMENTS

### **Background**

*“Scotland’s Culture” says: “We shall establish a group including the local authority bodies and cultural agencies to produce practical guidance on the development of local cultural policies and strategies within Community Planning and between Community Planning Partnerships, supported by a new quality assurance tool. The aim will be to help local authorities and their Community Planning Partnerships to plan and monitor their cultural provision as part of a pan-policy process that ensures culture’s contribution is harnessed in all departments of local government. It is also intended that this should lead to a greater consistency of approach to cultural provision across Scotland.”*

and

*“The proposed new cultural planning and self-monitoring guidance, mentioned above, is intended to help local authorities take necessary action. That guidance will provide examples of good practice, and cover the practical development and monitoring of entitlements by each local authority, discussing approaches such as capacity building, and collaboration between Community Planning Partnerships and with neighbouring authorities – for example, to provide touring exhibitions.”*

### **Remit**

The group’s remit has been agreed as follows:

- Develop guidance for local authorities and advice for Community Planning Partnerships on approaches to local cultural planning, demonstrating how they can inform the Community Planning process.
- Develop guidance for local authorities (can be part of the above) on developing and monitoring cultural entitlements in full consultation and engagement with local people, helping to expand and broaden the local cultural opportunities available.
- Develop guidance for local authorities (can be part of the above) on self-monitoring/quality assurance activity, embracing ongoing developments within the public service reform agenda relating to outcome-focused performance measures.
- Consider and advise on options for some pathfinder projects to examine cultural entitlement-setting in a range of scenarios to address the needs of specific, priority sections of the population. Once support for selected pathfinders has been approved by the Minister, the group will monitor and support their progress. Separately, an evaluation tool will be developed, aimed at supporting and monitoring the pathfinders.
- Develop guidance (can be part of the above) on good practice in local cultural provision in relation to planning and delivery, informed by entitlements pathfinders and agreed examples.
- Explore opportunities for incentivising local cultural provision.

## **Membership**

The following will form the core membership of the group:

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| Leslie Evans –             | Scottish Executive Education Department<br>(Tourism, Culture and Sport Group) <b>Chair</b> |
| Steve Grimmond –           | VOCAL (Fife Council)   |
| Ian Hooper –               | VOCAL (Glasgow City Council)   |
| Rod Stone –                | VOCAL (Aberdeenshire Council)  |
| Councillor Graham Garvie – | CoSLA (Scottish Borders Council)   |
| Lindsay McGregor -         | CoSLA (HQ)   |
| Caroline Docherty –        | Scottish Arts Council  |
| Joanne Orr –               | Scottish Museums Council   |
| Douglas Paterson -         | SOLACE (Aberdeen City Council)   |
| John Travers -             | ADES (North Ayrshire Council);   |
| Angela Saunders -          | Scottish Executive Education Department (Cultural<br>Policy) Secretariat                   |
| Gillian Miller -           | Scottish Executive Education Department (Cultural<br>Policy) Secretariat                   |

To keep numbers tight and business focused, other stakeholders and experts will be invited to contribute their knowledge and experience as appropriate. In particular, this includes bodies like the Scottish Library and Information Council. Indeed, all parties whose interests will be affected by the product of the group's activity - including Community Planning Partnerships and relevant cultural bodies - will be consulted on drafts and proposals as appropriate. Scottish Executive officials handling e.g. local government, Community Planning and regeneration policy, will also be consulted.

## **Secondee**

The Scottish Executive, CoSLA and VOCAL invited expressions of interest from all Scotland's local authorities, in a secondee post located with the Executive's Cultural Policy Division. Following an application and appointments process, Sue Selwyn, Head of Culture and Lifelong Learning at Falkirk Council, has accepted the part-time position. Sue will work on drafting the guidance and contributing to the development of practically-based, effective, local responses to the new policy agenda. (For the rest of her time during the secondment period, Sue will continue in post at Falkirk.)

## **Timescale**

The preparation of guidance needs to progress in step with the Executive's work to produce clauses for a draft Parliamentary Bill. The Executive plans to issue the draft Bill for consultation by the end of this calendar year. Initially, a lifespan of c. 8 months is anticipated for the group; this does not preclude subsequent engagement.

**SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
CULTURAL POLICY DIVISION,  
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