

NEXT STEPS

There has never been a more exciting time to build onto the firm foundation that underpins the relationship between the Scottish Arts Council and Young Scot. Young Scot, in developing its Business Plan for 2006-2010, wishes to further explore how together we can engage with young people both about the arts and as active participants in the arts. Specific aspects of Young Scot's work are currently being developed in partnership with Young Scot's key stakeholders, including the Scottish Arts Council. These include:

- **CULTURAL ENTITLEMENTS**

Considerable interest is being shown in how Young Scot's communication channels and tools could provide an effective vehicle to support the delivery of cultural entitlements to young people, in particular through the Young Scot/ local authority young person's smartcard. Young Scot has already held initial discussions with a range of arts related bodies and local government. A recent research paper on the use of youth smartcards has also identified the significant potential of the Young Scot card as a mechanism to inform, encourage and increase young people's involvement in arts related activities as part of the culture entitlement process.

- **EXPO 2007**

It is proposed to hold 2 major events during 2007 (June and October 2007). These will be celebrations of young people and the range of people who work and support them. Each event will last 2 days and will be an opportunity for young people to find out about the range of youth activities and organisations across Scotland, with exhibitions, demonstrations, taster courses, events and workshops. The June event would also have a 'sign up for the summer' dimension with potential special deals with a similar approach in October for 'signing up for the winter'

- **SMARTCARD SUNDAYS**

Within 2 weeks of each Expo event, a follow up 'Smartcard Sunday' would take place where across Scotland young people would be able to access transport, special discounts at shops, leisure facilities and other council services and facilities, arts and sports activities. The Scottish Youth Parliament would also survey young people using the Young Scot card as an e voting tool to establish their views on a range of issues, potentially including the arts.

- **YOUNG SCOT INFO LINE**

The Young Scot Info line (0808 801 0338) is a one door telephone information line for young people open 5 days per week, 12-8pm. At present it provides information on money and health matters. Plans are in place to add other topics including the arts, and along with the Young Scot portal and magazine, could provide an effective communication channel in relation to cultural entitlements.