

Advisory Panel – People

Date of Meeting	27 October, 2008
Report of:	John Weeks, Strategic Director (People) Designate
Title	Provision of Cultural Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share with Advisory Panel Members the Project Initiation Document (PID) which has been put together in relation to the Provision of Cultural Services, **Appendix 1**.

2.0 Decision Required

- 2.1 Advisory Panel Members are recommended to decide on the advice on this matter which they wish to give to Councillor Andrew Knowles, the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing services.

3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 3.1 None.

4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

- 4.1 The work proposed will contribute to the budget setting round 2009/10.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Risk Assessment

- 6.1 The work itself will involve a risk assessment.

7.0 Background and Options

- 7.1 The Project Initiation Document was put together through detailed discussion with the Portfolio Holder, Councillor Andrew Knowles.

8.0 Reasons for Recommendation

- 8.1 Before particular decisions are made about Cultural Services, it will be important to address some fundamental questions about their purpose, outcomes and direction.

For further information:

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Andrew Knowles

Officer: John Weeks

Tel No:

Email:

Background Documents:

Documents are available for inspection at:

Appendix 1

WP Id.	CEWP36	Title	Provision of Cultural Services	Due date	6 th November 2008
Background <p>The Cheshire East People Work Stream has previously commissioned a project to determine the nature of Culture and Leisure provision in the new East Cheshire Authority and come forward with appropriate recommendations. Further discussion with the Health and Wellbeing portfolio holder for Cheshire East Council has highlighted the need to do some further work around the themes of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why should Cheshire East Council continue to involve itself in the provision of Cultural Services (Library Services, Arts, Museums, Leisure and Recreation) and if it does • how should Cheshire East Council manage its involvement in the delivery of those services? 					
Objectives <p><i>To Review current strategies.</i> To conduct a full review of the current strategies of Cheshire County Council, and the District Councils of Macclesfield, Congleton and Crewe and Nantwich, and to pull together a clear statement, in respect of each of the services listed, of the outcomes those Councils have been seeking to achieve and of the contribution those services currently make to the Health and Wellbeing of their citizens and the extent to which they will continue to contribute to the Health and Wellbeing of the citizens of Cheshire East.</p> <p><i>To assess the Cheshire East Context.</i> To review the operating context, which will include the likely aspirations of Cheshire East as outlined in the original "People and Places" bid, the political make up of the newly elected administration and some of the values which are likely to be expressed, for instance, the emphasis upon localism. When the range of possible outcomes/contributions from the review of current strategies has been examined, give advice to Cheshire East about the distinctive priorities which it should be embracing in this area of activity.</p> <p><i>To recommend a mode of involvement.</i> To determine the conclusions from reviewing the current strategies, the outcomes sought and the context of Cheshire East and the fact that the new council might manage its involvement in Cultural Services in a variety of ways e.g. by directly providing them, by combining them with those of others or by putting them out into Trusts. To make specific recommendations on the approach to delivery that Cheshire East should take.</p> <p><i>To Evaluate the Trust Mechanism</i> In order to make any recommendations about approaches to delivery, it will be necessary to evaluate the Trust Mechanism as a potential way forward. Cheshire East will want to understand what lessons have been learned by other Local Authorities which have gone down this route and what alternatives there might be.</p>					
Scope <p>The project will cover all Cultural Services delivered by Cheshire County Council and the District Councils of Macclesfield, Congleton and Crewe & Nantwich</p>					
Deliverables: <p>A report will be produced for consideration by the Portfolio Holder and Cheshire East People Work Stream Project Board that details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the outcomes the County Council and Districts have been seeking to achieve • the contribution services currently make to the outcomes sought • the extent to which they will continue to contribute to the outcomes when translated to the citizens of Cheshire East 					

- the advice to Cheshire East about the distinctive priorities which it should be embracing in this area of activity.
- recommendations about the approach that Cheshire East should take to delivering these outcomes.
- evaluation of the Trust Mechanism drawing upon the experiences of other Local Authorities, where possible

Approach:

The work package will be achieved through the use of existing internal resources.

Resources required

A team of officers will be utilised to achieve the deliverables.

Officers likely to be involved are:

Mark Wheelton, Jocelyn McMillan, Roy Walker, Rob Hyde, Bill North, Sue Eddison,
 Claire Wilson, Jonathan Pepler, Keith Pickton, Emma Chaplin, Tony Parr, Helen Battersby
 Neil Anderson (Critical Friend), Linda Morris

Costs

There will be no additional costs. All activities will be met from the existing resources.

Effort

To be determined

Timescales

Suggested timeline:

27 th October	Shared with the Advisory Panel: People
31 st October	Review of current strategies Evaluation of the Trust Mechanism
6 th November	Consideration of Report by the Portfolio Holder and Cheshire East People Work Stream Project Board.
2 nd December	Consideration of Report by Cheshire East Cabinet

Quality and controls required

A final report delivered on time that delivers the objectives

Acceptance/ approval by Cheshire East – the Portfolio Holder and the People Work Stream Project Board

Acceptance/ approval by Cheshire East - Cabinet

Cheshire East People Directorate's Culture and Leisure Services will be fit for purpose on 1/4/09 – services open for business with no deterioration in the user experience.

Agreement to the proposed work package

Guy Kilminster
(Project Owner)

Signature and Date