

**Briefing note on reports included in the Forward Plan Issue 2009/10
Forward Plan Select Committee**

SERVICE AREA: Environment and Culture

Report ref	Report title
E & C -09/10-17	A Cultural Strategy for Brent 2010 - 2015
<p>Summary:</p> <p>As explained in the previous briefing note for Forward Plan Select Committee the new Brent Cultural Strategy has been produced by the Brent Culture, Sport and Learning Forum. As such, the new Strategy is not a Council strategy although the council is a partner on the Forum and will have a key role in it's delivery. The Children and Families Department are represented on the Forum along with a number of other council services.</p> <p>A 12-week consultation period was undertaken this summer, starting on 20th July and finishing on 9th October. Brent Council led on the consultation on behalf of the Forum, although a number of Forum members were present at the public meetings and took the lead on distributing the draft strategy for comment amongst their own representative groups. As explained in the previous note the draft strategy with a letter explaining how to comment was sent out to over 400 local groups and organisations. These included voluntary organizations, sports clubs, faith groups, arts groups, theatre and music groups, women's organisations, disability organisations, homeless user group, residents associations, health organisations, scouts/brownies groups, youth associations and learning based organisations,</p> <p>It is not possible to state how many and who from the list of organisations responded as the response was done through the council's consultation tracker, the standard approach for consultation, and this is anonymous. Approximately 150 different comments were received from about 38 different individuals/organisations. All comments have been considered by the Culture, Sport and Learning Forum at its meeting in October and responses to comments will be made available on the Council's website.</p> <p>The main change to the Strategy as a result of the consultation is that the principle relating to 'Making the most of London 2012' has been changed to 'Making the most of London 2012 and other Major Events'. This is to address the concern that some people felt it suggested that work will stop after 2012 and that it missed out other major events that will be happening in Brent and across London over the five year period of the strategy. Other more minor changes have been made to the strategy including raising the profile of some low participation groups, inclusion of missing assets in the appendix, the recognition of the need for working with neighbouring boroughs and on a sub-regional basis and highlighting future funding issues.</p>	
<p>Nature of Decision to be taken/Intended Outcome: The Council will be asked to agree the Cultural Strategy as one of the partners involved in its production.</p>	
<p>Timescale for decision: Executive 14th December 2009</p>	

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