

**Arts proposals**

**1. Do you think the four priority areas of work are the right areas for Brent to concentrate on?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Yes	92	53.5%
No	80	46.5%
Total Responded to this question:	172	85.2%
Total who skipped this question:	30	14.9%
Total:	202	100.0%

**2. How important, relatively, do you think the priority work areas are?**

Responses:	1	2	3	4	Total
Supporting the regeneration and infras	66	88	26	15	195
Promoting the cultural and creative eco	130	45	16	5	196
Commissioning and promoting art:	50	64	39	42	195
Promoting arts and festival events linke	35	44	61	55	195
	33.9%	45.1%	13.3%	7.7%	100%
	66.3%	23.0%	8.2%	2.6%	100%
	25.6%	32.8%	20.0%	21.5%	100%
	18.0%	22.6%	31.3%	28.2%	100%

Total Responded to this question:	197	97.5%
Total who skipped this question:	5	2.5%
Total:	202	100.0%

**3. Do you think they are equally important?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Yes:	57	29.1%
No:	139	70.9%
Total Responded to this question:	196	97.0%
Total who skipped this question:	6	3.0%
Total:	202	100.0%

**4. Are there other areas of work the Council should concentrate on that have been missed out?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Total Responded to this question:	89	44.1%
Total who skipped this question:	113	55.9%
Total:	202	100.0%

**Festivals proposals**

**5. Do you think the four priorities for supporting festivals are the correct ones?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
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Yes:	83	53.2%
No:	73	46.8%
Total Responded to this question:	156	77.2%
Total who skipped this question:	46	22.8%
Total:	202	100.0%

**6. How important, relatively, do you think the priorities for supporting festivals are?**

Responses:	1	2	3	4	Total
An all encompassing approach that pro	124	24	8	11	167
Promoting events that act as a commu	63	60	25	18	166
Promoting a business development app	42	53	50	19	164
Promote best practice jointly between	71	32	25	36	164
	74.3%	14.4%	4.8%	6.6%	100%
	38.0%	36.1%	15.1%	10.8%	100%
	25.6%	32.3%	30.5%	11.6%	100%
	43.3%	19.5%	15.2%	22.0%	100%

Total Responded to this question:	169	83.7%
Total who skipped this question:	33	16.3%
Total:	202	100.0%

**7. Do you think they are equally important?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Yes:	49	30.4%
No:	112	69.6%
Total Responded to this question:	161	79.7%
Total who skipped this question:	41	20.3%
Total:	202	100.0%

**8. Are there other priorities for supporting festivals the council should concentrate on that have been missed out?**

Total Responded to this question:	83	41.1%
Total who skipped this question:	119	58.9%
Total:	202	100.0%

**9. Is there anything you wish to add about Brent Council's proposals for supporting arts and festivals?**

Total Responded to this question:	109	53.96%
Total who skipped this question:	93	46.04%
Total:	202	100%

**About you**

**10. Are you responding as:**

Responses:	count	% of responses
an individual:	124	73.8%
an organisation:	44	26.2%

Total Responded to this question:	168	83.2%
Total who skipped this question:	34	16.8%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### **An organisation? PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT DETAILS**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Contact Name:	64	95.5%
Organisation:	51	76.1%
Address:	62	92.5%
Email Address:	59	88.1%
Total Responded to this question:	67	33.2%
Total who skipped this question:	135	66.8%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### **11. Gender**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Male:	78	49.7%
Female:	79	50.3%
Total Responded to this question:	157	77.7%
Total who skipped this question:	45	22.3%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### **12. How old are you?**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Under 18:	0	0.0%
18 - 24 yrs:	11	7.1%
25 - 34 yrs:	31	20.0%
35 - 44 yrs:	27	17.4%
45 - 64 yrs:	77	49.7%
65 yrs or over:	9	5.8%
Total Responded to this question:	155	76.7%
Total who skipped this question:	47	23.3%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### **13. Ethnicity**

Responses:	count	% of responses
Asian Indian:	46	31.3%
Asian Pakistani:	1	0.7%
Asian Bangladeshi:	1	0.7%
Asian Other:	1	0.7%

Black Caribbean:	8	5.4%
Black African:	8	5.4%
Black Other:	2	1.4%
Chinese:	0	0.0%
Mixed White and Black Caribbean:	3	2.0%
Mixed White and Black African:	0	0.0%
Mixed White and Asian:	1	0.7%
Mixed Other:	4	2.7%
White British:	46	31.3%
White Irish:	12	8.2%
White Other:	11	7.5%
Other Ethnic Group:	3	2.0%
Total Responded to this question:	147	72.8%
Total who skipped this question:	55	27.2%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### 14. Do you consider yourself to have a long standing illness or disability?

Responses:	count	% of responses
Yes:	9	6.0%
No:	140	94.0%
Total Responded to this question:	149	73.8%
Total who skipped this question:	53	26.2%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### 15. What is your religion?

Responses:	count	% of responses
Baha'i:	0	0.0%
Buddhism:	0	0.0%
Christianity:	48	31.6%
Hinduism:	44	29.0%
Jainism:	1	0.7%
Judaism:	4	2.6%
Islam:	8	5.3%
Sikhism:	0	0.0%
Taoism:	0	0.0%
No religion:	23	15.1%
Prefer not to state:	14	9.2%
If other, please specify:	10	6.6%
Total Responded to this question:	152	75.3%
Total who skipped this question:	50	24.8%
Total:	202	100.0%

#### 16. Sexuality – are you?

Responses:	count	% of responses
Bisexual:	1	0.7%
Gay man:	4	2.9%
Lesbian:	0	0.0%

Heterosexual:	100	73.0%
Prefer not to say:	29	21.2%
Other:	3	2.2%
Total Responded to this question:	137	67.8%
Total who skipped this question:	65	32.2%
Total:	202	100.0%

Theme	Arts Question - Are there other areas of work the Council should concentrate on that have been missed out? (Themed)
<b>Supporting the regeneration and infrastructure investments underway.</b>	2012 is Queen's Golden Jubilee and World's Gay Pride, which is mentioned in Brent's Cultural Strategy, but has no presence in your strategy. I find it highly inappropriate.
	What is the situation re theatres and local arts groups funding?
	Encouraging arts activities in empty properties by waiving full rates.
	Using empty shops / buildings for temporary Youth Clubs
	Willesden Library building. This building and the surrounding grounds is a huge, neglected and under used space with huge potential. Willesden has great transport links to many areas throughout Brent from Wembley to Queens Park, this building could reach out as beacon of arts. It could and should be the centre of arts in Brent, it is large enough and the very diverse demographic in the area could easily support such a building. The library should remain but the rest of the building could re-defined with arrival of a great cinema (perhaps ran by a good, commercial company such as Curzon), a gallery with a more active marketing campaign behind it, it could offer arts related activities to the wider community and perhaps even a cafe (ran by a family friendly company). This is a neglected space that could actually be a good commercial proposition for Willesden, Brent and beyond. The area outside the area could be a wonderful use of space for more markets, art performances. Willesden is Art starved and the residents deserve more.
	Yes job creation and retaining and promoting the growth of the retail and industrial sectors. Forget your fireworks and your lads dancing down the street. Hardly important during the recession.
	Facilitating access to studios and practice venues
	Regeneration of the Stables art centre
	It is not clear to me what regeneration and infrastructure investments are underway. How can one find out?
<b>Promoting the cultural and creative economy</b>	A TEA PARTY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES & CULTURES. A GETTING TO KNOW YOU IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF LIGHT-HEARTED FUN. ALL CULTURES UNDERSTAND THIS!
	Arts and Education
	Brent Council should support all local community groups to celebrate its culture and festivals
	Brent has been multi cultural borough and hence more importance should be given to promotion of cultural activities, art and creativity from these diverse communities to keep the vibrancy of culture alive.

	Broadening access to the arts by supporting services that bring arts and arts education to hard-to-reach and disadvantaged groups.
	Building and establishing local communities i.e. the ones that are already working in certain areas e.g. Queens Park etc..
	Capacity building arts organisations on the borough mentor schemes and training like Brent Bounce
	Celebrating the multi cultural and thriving area that Brent has become.
	Whilst I think the four priority areas are important I do worry slightly that these projects focus quite heavily on the economic and financial benefits of large scale arts and creative interventions. My concern would be that as a result other less glamorous or less commercial artistic projects are ignored or stigmatised. I would like to see more focus on grassroots and vernacular forms of creativity as these smaller scale projects often demonstrate innovation and inventiveness within marginalised groups which may otherwise be overlooked. Moreover grassroots projects can often be more meaningful to local residents than professionally dictated large scale projects
	Under "promoting the cultural and creative economy" links between cultural services supported by Brent - such as museums and libraries and cultural businesses (like the Lexi) - for example supporting schools work. We would also be keen to see emphasis on supporting and nurturing existing well-loved cultural hubs such as the Lexi, the Tricycle, and others such as pubs with theatre space, as much as developing new projects such as the site in Willesden.
	Yes. Cultural development. Area Officers to meet local arts organisations to give them one to one support on funding and developing their work such as buildings.
	Yes, Brent Council should support performing arts groups in Brent. On behalf of Encee Arts: Encee Arts is a professional arts organisation with widespread grassroots experience in arts education and promotion of south Asian performance. Encee Arts is creating a bespoke programme of new south Asian work that is relevant and specific to the communities of North West London for them to enjoy, participate and benefit from the range and experience of high quality of professional arts activity. It has developed an aptitude for arts from its arts educational activities based at the Patidar House. All this takes place from a purpose built arts facility with state of the art equipment with various rehearsal and performance space. At Patidar House we have Encee Arts specialising in South Asian Arts with almost 150 students of dance and music. The Centre is the only purpose built Arts facility in Brent with 3 floors dedicated to arts. It is open to all and various groups in Brent and London use the rehearsal and performance space.

	Developing new artists, local music and art spaces what about theatre in Roundwood Park, a music festival in Gladstone Park.
	Yes supporting existing Groups and long standing festivals especially those where Groups bring extra resources to the table and are not simply funded by the Council - such as Navratri which attracts tens of thousands of participants, brings in much more than the Council grant and passes most of the grant money to local schools for hire of halls
	The promotion of creative arts amongst the over-25 age group. There are many talented performers in their thirties, forties and older who don't seem to have access to funding, tuition opportunities and creative spaces.
	The four priorities don't seem to be supportive of smallscale, community-focussed projects giving accessibility to all to DO art. I want to see more art in local areas with involvement from a cross-section of people, for example in the small libraries and other community venues across Brent.
	The Council should support the community of Brent to promote the community's cultural and festivals.
	Sustainability for artists and creatives to be able to work in the borough i.e affordable w/shop spaces. Greater correspondance with their local artists.
	Promoting social and cultural cohesion. Promoting a feeling of well being
	Promoting Cultural festivals across the borough and cross section of communities rather than certain part of the borough. No cultural events sponsored by Brent council are currently taking place on the Kingsbury and Queensbury area apart from the resident organised "Queensbury Eco-Cultural Festival" which the council could play an important part.
<b>Black art / history</b>	African/black arts & history
<b>Young people / schools</b>	Youth Arts Strategy and promoting the inclusion and development of young people in the arts in Brent, esp through specialist centres such as Granville Youth Arts Plus Centre and promoting uptake and involvement in the arts in the community and through youth groups and clubs in the community.
	The council has many talented young artists and a platform should be given to them during the festivals etc to be able to showcase that talent. It also gives agents etc an opportunity to pick them up.
	Skills development in schools and colleges



	<p>Arts and culture has a real breadth of impact and this is to a certain extent acknowledged within the 4 priority areas. However, I would like to see provision for young people as a focus within the strategy. There are some great programmes, both local and national, being delivered in Brent for young people to access the arts or use the arts to achieve. Designating focus to ensure young people continue to be provided for is very important. This is even more vital now with national and local government cuts and a number of initiatives disappearing. The council has been previously energetic in working in a cross-departmental way to link, for example, regeneration strategies with Children and Families and the the Arts and Festivals team priorities. It would be great to see this continue, but without a specific spotlight on this within the council's strategy I fear it will not. As one example of how arts and culture has supported wider aims within the borough's young people agenda, a number of schools in the area have benefitted from the national Creative Partnerships programme. Arts and culture have been used as a way to support schools to address school improvement priorities. In this context schools have worked in partnership with creative organisations to develop their creative learning provision. More broadly access to arts programmes has a real impact on skills, confidence, mobility and attainment. Showing consideration to young people within the strategy will make sure that for them living in Brent is a really exciting, vibrant opportunity. It will also show the importance they play in their local area.</p>
	<p>Promoting art through educational programmes in schools. Budget for writers and artists tours to schools. Promoting groups in local libraries. Subsidising amateur craft, drama, music groups etc.</p>
	<p>Preparation of youth at the earliest stages for interaction with the world within and beyond Brent.</p>
<p><b>Disabled</b></p>	<p>Brent has never showcased disabled artists or groups eg you never see the children from a special school performing music at showcase events, always tend to be balck dance groups. Also need to ensure that all events and venues have a changing places accessible toilet so that people with profound and multiple disabilites can also join in. There are never any workshops for disabled people re arts/music and you only pay lip service to inclusion eg where is the accessible version of the consultaion documentdocument</p>
	<p>Brent should continue to ensure that reductions in support for Elderly and disabled people are kept to a minimum. Irish people have a long history of volunteering in this sector - they are naturally supportive to their own and wider community</p>

<b>Commissioning and promoting art</b>	<p>Brent needs to do more to grow its Arts organisations especially those that have got National Portfolio status from the Arts Council. These organisations have a big roll to play in the lead up to 2012 and are bringing investment into the local economy, providing jobs locally. Brent should invest in its local artists first before bringing artists from outside the borough. Other boroughs are doing this and so Brent's Artists are not getting the oportunities from other boroughs especially the 5 host boroughs. Brent has very experienced artists that live and work in the borough. Brent should look at doing more work with their resident artists. Brent needs to have high profile artists to inspire its community what better way to do this than to give its local arts champions the platform they deserve to show their skill. Brent needs to grow a local arts economy</p>
	<p>There is a need to promote/grow/support local artists to ensure the survival of the cultural arts of those who live in Brent. Those artists who live in Brent and who contribute to the economy and growth of the Borough make Brent a richer place. Also, if we support local artists, we will not have to depend on bringing in artists from outside the Borough. Our people are the greatest asset. Investment in local people should be of paramount importance if the Borough is to promote integral human development.</p>
	<p>Too little high quality art and film are promoted. There is not enough diversity - we see very little film or art from other European countries, for example. I remember when Willesden Library opened its arts centre and you had fantastic films, theatre, concerts etc. Please bring this back. Willesden arts centre within the library feels desolate now.</p>
	<p>The last few months have been really helpful (Brent Bounce) for a small number of independent arts organisations - more support in this way is really useful, also enabling networking of those organisation, which they may be able to pool resources through these difficult times. Is there also a possibility of offering 'hot-desking' opportunities within Brent offices - wouldn't cost the Council anything, and may make a huge difference to smaller organisations</p>
	<p>Supporting and developing artists</p>
	<p>Especially - priority (3) (commissioning and promoting art) Tower Hamlets and its local businesses (incl city) are way ahead - just check out - initiatives, read z eastend life paper and see how T.H. Council is doing it!</p>
	<p>Improve marketing</p>

	It is unclear whether support of and nurturing of creative/artistic grassroots and non-venue based groups and individuals are included in the priorities; without this you are not investing in the future as you will have no future creatives/artists to speak of, and therefore nothing to promote. The future needs to go beyond just Olympic planning and not all valuable arts practice is relevant to the olympics!
	I am not aware that Brent Artists Resource is mentioned in the proposals and would like to be assured that this important arts facility is retained.
	Promoting 'Koesler' Artwork/Photography/Sculpture/Handcraftwork/Needlecraft and Promoting Overseas Artwork
	Film
	FILM LONDON HOPE THE SCREENING OF CULTURAL FILM, INCLUDING SCREEN HERITAGE & EDUCATION, WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE ARTS DEVELOPMENT PLANS. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS WAYS TO COLLABORATE TO SUPPORT THIS SECTOR FURTHER.
	Focus on building the strengths of Artists that live in Brent so that we can generate local jobs for artists living in Brent. Provide resources for local artists to deliver work in the local area so that young emerging artists have facilities to grow.
	Linking arts practitioners/organizations/initiatives to work together, enabling best use of limited resources
	Performing Arts @ events in Open Space ie The Queensbury Eco-Culture Festival held annually in Summer (3 July 2011)
	Places for Artists to make art.
<b>Promoting arts and festival events linked to the Olympic and Paralympic Games.</b>	Although hinted at, the Council should actively community festivals and events. Support for the Olympics is not a strategic area UNLESS there will be clear legacy (continuing or repeating) events over the following years.
	Please give more details re arts and festival events linked to olympics?
	What concerns me most about plans for Willesden Library Centre is that there will be so many visitors due to the Olympic Games, so it would not be an appropriate time to have it out of use, or in an unsightly state, when it is such an established, attractive centre we have grown proud of, and willingly bring our own visitors.
<b>Relevance?</b>	How will the events around 2012 benefit the local community. Will it be delivered by them? Will the local artists be commissioned to produce work for these activities or will our taxes be used to pay Artists from outside the borough. I think that Brent is full of talent that it does not invest in and that the events around 2012 should in Brent should benefit the local community and employ our local artists

<b>Support for the Arts Team</b>	The arts team offers a great level of communication with local/small arts organisation in Brent. It's a very inexpensive formula that's giving great results. La Boheme opera was premiered at the Cock Tavern Theatre and has won the best new opera production in London. It competed against the Royal Opera House and the English National Opera. Also, The Gallery at Willesden Green, where Brent Artists Resource is based, was selected last November by the BBC and The Guardian's editor as one of the top community galleries in London. All of this will be lost if the Arts team is been removed.
<b>Support for festivals</b>	Christmas & St Patricks
	Continuation of Navratri funding in Brent
	Why is there 72k spent on Divali and all christmas funding being pulled? There is a lack of balance here
	Yes...In Queensbury and Kingsbury ..No budget is allocated for the festivals... Friends of Eton Grove park is the local community group whcih organises event every year but no proper council support is given...We do understand that council can not do everything but if community does they should support them at least with small things...it has been completely ignored....I have seen online that council has spent thousands of pounds adn compare to that we donot require big thing for queensbury but at least something. Community does not speak out in queensbury should not be considered that they do not know. Please take it as a request and take it further...Thanks for this opportunity of participating in this valuable survey.
	<p>Uphold the multicultural ethos and how to preserve existing methods supporting community celebrations for all faith groups. How to encourage the annual celebrations to flourish thus boosting sales in local businesses.</p> <p>These annual positively uplifting spiritually meaningful celebrations that have a long history which should be preserved. Council should build on its successes and manage its budget wisely by looking at wider positive impact of these celebrations for all the community. Worldwide Britain is admired for its multicultural cosmopolitan society and council would do well to act with caution and wisely to keep this positive reputation of Britain alive. Back projects that bring value to communities and thus Council too. Budget wisely, instead stop unnecessary wastage of money by going green in your offices, being energy efficient, not sending out duplicate letters to same individual (thus save on postage, manpower wages to workforce, energy, envelopes), stop wrong fines and hence unnecessarily paying out compensations, lots of other ways council can save on its own spending before targeting positive holy festivals from receiving funds. Festivals which have proven track record of success and joy and happy communities.</p>

	Yes, Christmas should continue to be promoted.
	It is sad to hear the there are cuts in the Brent Irish festival. It is always popular and brings money to the local economy through visitors purchasing goods and services in the area. It is a very sad day for Brent not just the Irish as lots of other cultures took part in the event.
	Promoting and funding Navratri - Hindu cultural festival is a must
	Navratri Festival is important to Brent's Hindu population. Believe it is between 30 - 40%. Can reduce Diwali funding by at least another 30% but this nine days festival is important.
	Navratri Festivals
	Its a total disgrace that you are no longer funding Christmas, St Georges day and St Patricks day
	How can you cancel Christmas and Christmas lights. I am an Asian and think Xmas is also important from a national point of view.
<b>No support</b>	I think given the £43K cut to the budget, the Council should focus on providing essential services that have an impact on people's quality of life every day, and not waste money on Festivals.
<b>Other</b>	<p>This questionnaire is very badly designed and does not make sense. It is essentially just one questions. Questions 1 and 3 are derived from question 2. Question 1: are these the right areas? - whether they are right is obvious in the ratings of question 2. 1: yes it is right. 4: not important, so not right. Question 3: Do you think they are equally important? Look at the answers in question 2. If they are equally important, they would have the same rating. I am not sure what kind of data you want to extract from this questionnaire as it seems very vague.</p>
	Don't wast time on surveys regarding funding for areas that we can all do without.
	You have covered almost everything..
	We believe that these are enough and that it is best to concentrate on these four areas and to do them well.
	The council should work to improve the saftey and wellbeing of the residents , reduce crime rate. Al so works towards improving the roads
	The council need to focus and listen to what the local people want, not what they think that local people want.
	Remember that Brent consists of a lot more than just Wembley. The neglect of Kilburn, Willesden and Harlesden is shocking. Closing libraries and sports centres whilst throwing loads of money at this is diabolical.

	Promoting cultural & a sense of community. Promoting good customer service instead of bureaucratic bullying that exists now. Council officers can make decisions which destroy the lives of people in the community without any comeback on them.
	No. I think Brent are one of the most socially aware councils in the UK
	Nothing at the moment
	I can not think any
	N/A
	Kilburn
	I would like to see the vulnerable protected elderly and children.
	Housing.
	Fairtrade - the Council made a commitment in its Our Future document
	Fairtrade. Environmental Sustainability - these are Council strategies and need to be included
	Ensuring cultural heritage and skills are safeguarded by providing funding and venues for people to use. Opening more community spaces that local people can use cheaply for sport, games, art etc. Keep the libraries open in all areas- There should be a library for each area, so that people are not further discouraged from using them because they have to take transport to get to it.
	Having Brent emailing me to get me involved in the art experiences, although I live in the Ealing Borough. I used to live in Harlsden, and find that they have an edge, towards cultural diversity. I wish I could cover and replicate a similar feeling in London Borough of Ealing.

Themes	Q. Are there other priorities for supporting festivals the council should concentrate on that have been missed out? (Themed responses)
<b>An all encompassing approach that promotes festivals and events which are inclusive of all Brent's communities.</b>	A wish that I would have is opportunity for different cultures/faith traditions to work together on a festival or share a stage in a meaningful way
	Being part of mainstream British culture
	An approach that promotes important festivals and events which are trouble free, value for money and the events which adds back to the Brent's communities.
	Involve different communities
	Do not forget the majority of people who are white and British
	Promoting and supporting well established community events which enhance the Brent culture and enable better understanding of the different cultures and festivals amongst the many different communities of Brent
	Promoting and supporting well established community events which enhance the Brent Religion and culture and enable a better understanding of the different cultures and festivities amongst the many different and diverse communities of Brent.
	Promoting and supporting well established community events which enhance the Brent culture and enable to understand different cultures and festival in cosmopolitan community of Brent
	Promoting and supporting a well established community events will enhance the integration and harmony amongst many different communities of Brent.
	Festivals are an important way of developing community capacity in this very diverse borough. We accept that the festivals of individual faiths have to be supported by that community and can not in these times of fiscal austerity expect financial support from the Council; the Council should restrict itself to broader events and shared themes and values.
	More arts/cultural activities to encourage the community to participate such as nice performances and workshops.
	Understanding individual importance of festivals/culture
	Support should be directed at festivals which reflect the demographic of Brent's inhabitants.

	The Council should make a better link between what it proposes for festivals and what it proposes for the arts. Both should be a focus for community activity, promoting community cohesion and a sense of belonging as its no.1 priority. The investment will come if you get that right.
	Please seriously reconsider your festival proposals. To stop funding of the Christmas lights would be to cease a long standing english winter tradition which gives joy and delight to so many and is of significance to many more than just practising christians, as well as being visually stunning. Please embrace the wonderful diversity of the Brent population and allow and support different faiths to celebrate and Brent to enjoy, behold and appreciate their celebrations as they do it. Surely that is much more honouring of Brent's diversity than saying that we want to promote only all encompassing events.
	I am vehemently opposed to the "all encompassing approach". For me it is another way of saying that any faith, religious or specific event is somehow non encompassing or inclusive, which is simply not true and shows a very narrow views of how cultures and faiths develop and interrelate
	I think that the approach to keep festivals that the whole community can share is a good one.
	Promoting and supporting well established and value for money community events such as Navratri celebrations which has not only enhanced the Brent's vibrant culture and enable better understanding of the different cultures and festivals amongst the many different communities of Brent. The events that promotes family values and virtues of enjoyment by people of all ages while still remaining a responsible citizen of brent.
<b>Other communities</b>	Supporting Festivals that promote community spirit, community cohesion and green issues ie giving financial support & officer support @ the Queensbury Eco-Festival.
	Performing Arts@ events in the Open Space i.e. The Queensbury Eco-Culture Festival held annually in summer (3 July 2011)
	Places for artists to make art.
	Promoting festivals and events that work to support at-risk groups (disadvantaged youths, homeless, users, ex-offenders, etc.).
	Preparation of youth at the earliest stages for interaction with the world within and beyond Brent.
	Friends of Eton Grove park eco culture festival...very little support from council.....



	I don't think any faith related events or festivals should be funded, and there seems very little for younger people mentioned and even less for disabled people
<b>Promote best practice jointly between council officers and external event organisers to ensure we deliver safe and well organised events.</b>	What advice and support will be offered to local community groups advice pack is useful. Personal support from officers is invaluable and has often supported events in happening. Will there be officers time?
	PREVENTION OF UNRULY BEHAVIOUR AMONGST TEENAGE BOYS AND GIRLS. SENIOR CITIZENS OF ALL NATIONALITY MUST BE WELCOMED PERSONALLY BY EXPERIENCED DIGNIFIED PERSONNEL.
	The big society is telling communities to do it for themselves but how can they do that if the council experts don't help them with all the hard stuff like permission and safety and security. You are asking for trouble otherwise. Communities need to be capacity built to do it and the council have to help them.
	Appointing officers to work alongside festival organisers to ensure health and safety.
	We had some doubt as to whether the Fireworks Display is a priority, but accept that there is significant benefit to public safety in having a properly organised public display rather than ad hoc private celebrations everywhere
	FILM LONDON ARE KEEN TO CULTURAL FILM ACTIVITY INCLUDING EDUCATION AND SCREEN HERITAGE INCLUDED IN THESE PLANS. WE WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS COLLABORATIONS IN THIS AREA.
<b>Promoting a business development approach to festivals and events which secure additional funding and sponsorship.</b>	Audience development support for festivals and events (thinking of the Lexi pop-up screenings in Roundwood Park) - tapping into the bigger picture information which the arts team can help us with when we go into new areas.
	Allowing people to set up their own festivals- taking an enterprise approach
	The upcoming artists and organisations that apply for grants should be allocated the opportunities to project manage and create the events, this would establish work for them so in turn less funding allocated and in the long run Brnt would have artistic teams that can host many of the festivals that are currently probably outsourced for them to take place.

	<p>Communities should be able to organise their festivals in partnership with Brent Council who should provide match funding for the festivals.</p> <p>Small community festivals should be encouraged rather than massive council organised events.</p>
	<p>It will be very sad not to have any Christmas lights. Can these be reinstated but scaled down - or done in partnership with local businesses?</p>
<p><b>Promoting events that act as a community showcase creating vibrant public spaces which attract visitors to the borough.</b></p>	<p>Yes how to uphold Britains good reputation abroad.</p> <p>Britain is well liked by a lot of people overseas, they feel its a home away from home. le many have migrated from abroad and are happy in Britain with its multicultural ethos, its tolerant nature. Its cosmopolitan nature and the people settled here wish to celebrate their culture and festivals and share it with all people in Britain. This allows for better understanding between different. Faith groups and each person can have chance to share and mix in and thus be enriched by the variety. Council should look forwards into the distant. Future and be openminded and think bigger and with broader vision to ensure that decisions on refusing funding will not have sour returns at a layter date in the future. Sometimes reputations and other values and community welfare in terms of joy, mutual tolerance and mixing of all types of people is more important in the long run and these festivals like Navaratri provide opportunities for this to happen. Sometimes what seems like a ggreat decision to fix a current problem is , in the long run &amp; in hindsight not great at all because of the consequences in the future. Likewise,a decision to toletrate a difficult time instead of acting may prove to be better decision as situation unfolds.</p>
	<p>Promoting and supporting well established and value for money community events such as Navratri celebrations which has not only enhanced the Brent's vibrant culture and enable better understanding of the different cultures and festivals amongst the many different communities of Brent. The events that promotes family values and virtues of enjoyment by people of all ages while still remaining a responsible citizen of Brent.</p>
	<p>Brent is mostly a residential area. When you state "which attract visitors to the Borough" you must mean The Town Hall in Wembley. The Dancing and Stage Music Festival usually held in Roundwood Park is good. Gladstone Park is very empty and void.</p>

	<p>Encee Arts would like to perform at the opening ceremony of the London Olympics. We showcased a performance at the start of the Olympic Relay from Wembley Stadium and at the opening of the New Wembley Stadium. The group has been involved in art since 1970's. We are currently the biggest school of Kathak dance style and the resident teacher for 12 years is also an artist in residence at the Southbank.</p>
	<p>Brent ignores its carnival organisations who do contribute to the creative landscape of Brent. Brent should celebrate carnival because London's best carnival band is based in the heart of Harlesden and processes on the 2 days of Carnival from Harlesden to Ildbrooke Grove with over 200 performers and supporters.</p>
	<p>It would be good for Brent to consider supporting Carnival arts perhaps by having a carnival workshop at the festival or through an Arts education programme. Carnival arts can contribute to the 2012 events as the work is highly visible and dynamic.</p>
	<p>The Council should consider supporting Carnival as an art form.</p>
	<p>Local people having fun and enjoyment. Identification of local talent and providing a showcase for local talent.</p>
<b>Comments related to specific festivals</b>	<p>"NAVRATRI"</p>
	<p>Navratri festival funded in part by Brent Council, is one such festival that needs to be funded, albeit reduced (in the current financial situation).</p>
	<p>Promoting and funding Navratri - Hindu cultural festival is a must.</p>
	<p>Brent Council should be proud of the Navratri celebrations as this is the biggest dance festival in the UK. The festival goes beyond the dance as it brings the communities together as well as the bringing together of people of all age groups and gender, it is an interaction that will otherwise not happen. There is the learning by the young from the old generation resulting in respect, better morals and good citizenship. For 35,000 Hindus residing in Brent, the main priorities are Navratri and Diwali festivals.</p>
	<p>The decision now to refuse funding to Navratri may cause upset, deprive joy and freedom to have means to celebrate as used to, create negative image of Council and take away a great opportunity for all communities to come together to celebrate and share and enjoy and learn about each other.</p>
	<p>Keep funding levels same for Brent Irish festival</p>
	<p>Christmas, St Patricks, St Georges &amp; Black History</p>

	I think we should have a public meeting to discuss the Brent St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival 2012.
	I believe once a year EID festival should be kept as one of the festivals in the Brent as there is large Muslim community live in the Borough. Making funding available to organisations who to organise Eid festival is also an option
	Diwali is the festival of lights and it signifies the victory of good over evil. It is the BIGGEST festival in India. This celebration attracts visitors from outside of borough and also from outside of London. Brent Diwali has been so popular that people EAGERLY await the day of celebration and participate in the borough from different parts of the country. No other festival can supplement Diwali celebration and hence, the council MUST organise the festival.
	I think Xmas and St Patrick should be kept on the agenda. Maybe by cutting some of the Diwali grant...
	It's a total disgrace that you are no longer funding Christmas, St Georges day and St Patrick's day.
	Where are the Polish festivals and don't drop St Patricks Day festivities
	Navratri Festival
	Navratri festival is important to Brent's Hindu population. Believe it is between 30% - 40%. Can reduce Diwali funding by at least another 30% - but this nine days festival is important.
	Navratri festival promotes family values and virtues which at a times like these should be promoted by the council. It is one trouble free, value for money festival that event adds additional funds back to the Brent's school by hiring halls.
	Navratri is an important festival in bringing people of all ages and background for a joyous dance festival - it is enjoyed by all communities.
	Supporting Diwali is great as everyone enjoys it very much and it has won awards. Its good for Brent
	The festival goes beyond the dance as it brings the communities together as well as the bringing together of people of all age groups and gender, it is an interaction that will otherwise not happen. There is the learning by the young from the older generation resulting in respect, better morals and good citizenship. For 35,000 Hindus residing in Brent, the main priorities are Navratri and Diwali festivals.

	<p>The priorities are that the cost spent on Diwali Day on Ealing road should be stopped and that cost of £72,000 should be utilised on 10 day Navratri Festival. In India or Africa no Diwali day procession is carried out and no money is spent on fire works by the councils so WHY SHOULD BRENT SPENT ON THE DIWALI PROCESSION</p>
	<p>Respect Festival is day after London Gay Pride and it is not presenting any LGBT theme.</p>
	<p>We are very concerned that the present budget, with ongoing support for Diwali but not for any other single faith event might appear to be favouritism of one group, and divisive. We believe that there are presentational issues here which could be reviewed; we understand that the Council receives considerable sponsorship for the Diwali lights so we are not sure whether the £72,000 is a net or gross figure, and we ask that some of the financial breakdown of the figures be publicly available.</p>
	<p>We remain concerned that the Respect Festival does not aspire high enough but is a rather 'down-market' event focused on young people in its music/dance content, and with too much fast food and not enough offerings of healthier food sourced from local community groups. We acknowledge that this would take more work but the outcome could be so much better. We made similar comments in the 2008 Consultation and continue to think that the contracting out of the management of this event rather detaches it from the local communities. We maintain that an equal partnership with all those concerned including the faith, community and voluntary sectors from beginning to end would be an advantage in planning the Respect Festival if it continues. We have similar concerns about the Country Fair's offering of junk food and alcohol.</p>
	<p>Chanukak, Christmas, Eid, Christmas Lights should all be sponsored as they are meaningful and significant for significant populations of Brent and should be promoted and able to be enjoyed by all, whether you are in the faith or not. That's part of a diverse community and honouring the different peoples. So too should Diwali, which rightly is being funded. I agree with what you are proposing to retain, esp Diwali and Respect festival. However, to promote a countryside day in the city seems superflous, unless you are drawing attention to the countryside parks and green spaces in Brent.</p> <p>But by all means promote the Brent Respect festival, which is wonderful and promote greater inclusion of young people please.</p>
	<p>Holocaust Memorial Day has been widened out to include other genocides and atrocities, and perhaps the name therefore needs to be reviewed.</p>

	Gladstonebury Festival: summer performance in Gladstone Park
	I also think that Brent Diwali is unique and other boroughs don't have anything like it.
	I with my family have enjoyed the celebration of Hindu festivals in Brent for over 30 years and I am sadden to hear the proposed termination of this support by Brent Council. I understand that various groups and individuals including Hindu Council (Brent) have suggest alternatives and I think this should be taken up. I agree that the Diwali event to be shorted in size to reduce the costs ans use that savings for the Navratri festival. Over the years I have seen and heard many councillors from various parties come with Hindu Council representative to our community celebrations and have talked about the importance and the significance of the Navratri and now the u-turn by many of these councillors. I think it needs to be reconsidered - you will be letting down one of the largest community groups in Brent.
<b>Other points</b>	
	N/A
	No - I think Brent are one of the most socially aware councils in the UK.
	Not to just rely on email & your website. Contact Associations in the Borough.
	Nothing at the moment.
	That the council should look at the way it is being run as far as equilibrium for Brent residents is concerned.
	See what Tower Hamlets Council has done and they are more diverse than Brent! - eastendlife paper (weekly)
	Generation of employment for young people as part of the events process rather than giving space for commercial activities.
	I strongly believe that Brent Council have got their priorities just right in their proposals for the Festivals. We all know that cuts have to be made no matter how hurtful.
	Maybe instead of calling the Diwali festival - Diwali. Why don't you call it The festival of lights and invite one float from each community in addition to what already exists- Honika, Christmas, to show the unity of the peoples of Brent. It would be a gesture of unity.
	Look at value for money, the number of people that benefit from the money spent, this ratio should be equal across the board

	<p>Its not right to just include Diwali. If anything it should be just Christmas as the UK is a christian nation. Its wrong to cancel christmas celebrations by claiming the event is catered for.</p>
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Themes	9. Is there anything you wish to add about Brent Council's proposals for supporting arts and festivals?
<b>General Support</b>	I think that Brent Council are trying to establish something worthwhile and it is appreciated by all those who
<b>Support for continuing specific festivals.</b> <b>Navratri</b>	<p>Navratri Festival is an important part of our culture and participated by all ages. It brings young and old to celebrate together over these 10 days. It brings communities together and is a good way of engaging the youngsters in understanding morals and good citizenship and care of the community. The events are held in a peaceful manner and without any major violations of Public Order Act. Since we use the local schools, our communities positively engage with these schools and therefore support them in other activities throughout the year. For example: support in school fairs, school outings, charity fund raising and also in some instances support the learning of our cultures. Axeing this grant would inevitably deprive some of our underprivileged communities and lead to inequalities. It is a good way of bringing some "hard to reach" communities to engage in activities. We all fully understood the situation the council faces in respect to the reduction of grants from the Central government and that savings need to be made in all areas. With this in mind we consider that Navratri is a lower cost benefit option than any other festival organised by the Council for the community such as Diwali. To the best of our knowledge £ 72,000 has been allocated to the Diwali festival just for one day event, compared to 10 days event for Navratri. On the basis of costs alone Navratri is a more cost effective option. There are no additional costs other than the grant of £67,000 as the festival is organised by Hindu Council (Brent) and it's affiliated organisations. £67,000 is for 10 day festival and involves over 30 community organisations. This equates to approx. £2,200 per organisation and about 50p per head per day. This compared to 1 day costing £100,000 is surely better value for money. The funds allocated for Navratri are solely used for the payment of venues mainly school halls within the Borough of Brent, so the funds are being re-invested back into the schools. Due to all the reasons listed above, I would like council to consider funding Navratri celebrations.</p>



<p><b>Navratri x2</b></p>	<p>Brent Council should continue providing the grant for the Navratri festival which has enabled the Hindu Community to celebrate this festival in a safe and secure environment by subsidising the hire of some 30 local Brent schools halls. Without these grants many Hindu communities will be unable to organise and participate in very beautiful dance and music festival without any public disorder or crowd trouble. The grant is spent fully on hiring of halls and virtually free of any administration costs. A very high value for money. The festival has been established for many years and the community has worked in partnership with the council officers to deliver a trouble free event which , over years has been, praised by many of the Visitors such Council leaders, Members of Parliament, Chief Inspector of Police and many other dignitaries'. The festival in Brent is the largest outside of India and is probably the biggest Dance festival in Europe. It is important to preserve small grants to help a large number of organisations and communities across the borough which the Navratri festival grant caters for. In contrast large amount of funds are allocated to Council organised festivals such as Respect, Diwali and others. These should scaled down and the funds to be diverted to community festivals such as Navratri. Rather than the Brent council, Communities should be allowed to organise and celebrate their festivals as they know best. And at times would deliver a low cost option by use of volunteers rather than paid staff and external consultants. The option to completely remove it baffles us community volunteers who finds it strange that the Brent council wants to promote its "own managed" festivals at the expense of "community managed" festival like Navratri. We understand that the council needs to save the money. We are open to discussions, but we were hardly given any chance to defend our case. Also the consultation process we were promised was open and fair. But this consultation process doesn't seem open and neither fair. We will have take this into consideration in the upcoming elections and inform our members about which councillors supported Navratri grant and which ones decided to remove it.</p>
<p><b>Navratri</b></p>	<p>BRENT MUST CELEBERATE DIWALI. If the funds become scarce, volunteers may be used to generate donations from the streets or temple areas. More sponsors should be encouraged to fund the event. Navratri festival does not attract so many people on single day (all over the borough) as compared to 65000 to 70000 people for Diwali celebrations.</p>

<p><b>Navratri x10</b> <i>This comment is reproduced verbatim on 10 occasions in the consultation responses</i></p>	<p>Brent Council should give the grant for Nine Day Navratri festival which has enabled the Hindu Community to celebrate this festival in safe and secure environment by subsidising the hire and security costs at 30 schools halls. Without these grants many Hindu communities will be unable to organise and participate in very important festival in Hindu calendar.</p> <p>The festival has been established for many years and the community has worked in partnership with the council officers to deliver a trouble free event which over years has been. Member of Parliament, Chief Inspector of Police and many other dignitaries. The festival in Brent is the largest outside India and is probably the biggest Dance festival in Europe. It is important to preserve small grants to help large number of organisations and communities across the borough which the Navratri festival grant caters for in contrast large amount of funds to be diverted to community festival such as Respect, Diwali and others. These should be scaled down and such funds to be diverted to community festival such as Navratri. Rather than Brent council, communities should be allowed to organise and celebrate their festivals as they know best. And at times would deliver a low cost option by use of volunteers rather than paid staff and external consultants.</p>
<p><b>Navratri</b></p>	<p>Brent Council should give the grant for the nine day festival in Brent which is the largest of its type in India. It promotes the well being of the borough and its trouble free status has received praise from prominent leaders, MPS and the police</p>
<p><b>Navratri</b></p>	<p>Brent Council should give the grant for the nine day Navratri festival which has enabled the Hindu Community to celebrate the festival in a safe and secure environment. Without these grants the Hindu Communities will be unable to organise and participate in a very important festival in the Hindu Calendar. The festival has been established for many years like the Notting Hill carnival, and the community has worked in partnership with the council officers to deliver a trouble free event over many years and has been praised by many of the visitors such as council leaders, Members of Parliament, chief of Police and many others. It is important to preserve small grants to help a large number of organisations and communities across the borough which the Navratri Festival grant caters for.</p>
<p><b>Navratri</b></p>	<p>Grant for nine days of Navratri festival not only is benefitting Hindu community but helps the local school in letting their halls on hire. Festivals are very trouble free and are enjoyed by other faiths. Over all the cost of Navratri compare to Diwali is very small</p>
<p><b>Navratri</b></p>	<p>Brent Council should give the grant for the nine days Navratri festival which has enabled the Hindu communities to celebrate this festival in safe and secure environment by subsidising the hire and security cost at 30 schools halls. Without these grants many Hindu communities will be unable to organise and participate in very important festival in the Hindu calendar.</p>

<b>Navratri</b>	Important "Navratri Festival"
<b>Navratri</b>	Yes for Navratri grant should be granted to continue the festival and young ones to enjoy ten day event, NAVRATRI FESYIVAL SHOULD NOT BE STOPPED AS WILL HUMILATE THE HINDU COMMUNITY IN BRENT. USE THE COST OF DIWALI PROCESSION ON NAVRATRI FESTIVAL
<b>Navratri</b>	<p>The organsing and planning of the festivals is best left to the respective communities as they are best placed to understand the requirements and sensivity the festival needs. Festivals organised by the community are not planned from a commercial or publicity aspect, but more for its significance. Navratri is an essential part of Hindu Culture and the loss of the celebrations would have a detrimental effect on some of the communities, as Navratri is probably the most important event during the calender year, lasting 10 days Brent Council should give the grant for the Nine Day Navratri festival which has enabled the Hindu Community to celebrate this festival in a safe and secure environment by subsidizing the hire and Security costs at 30 schools halls. Without these grants many Hindu communities will be unable to organize and participate in very important festival in the Hindu calendar. The festival has been established for many years and the community has worked in partnership with the council officers to deliver a trouble free event which , over years has been, praised by many of the Visitors such Council leaders, Members of Parliament, Chief Inspector of Police and many other dignitaries'. The festival in Brent is the largest outside of India and is probably the biggest Dance festival in Europe. It is important to preserve small grants to help a large number of organisations and communities across the borough which the Navratri festival grant caters for. In contrast large amount of funds are allocated to Council organised festivals such as Respect, Diwali and others. These should scaled down and the funds to be diverted to community festivals such as Navratri. Rather than the Brent council, Communities should be allowed to organise and celebrate their festival s as they know best. And at times would deliver a low cost option by use of volunteers rather than paid staff and external consultants. To Withdraw the grant, the entire Hindu community of Brent will be deprived of a very significant Hindu festival. it is celebration by the largest ethnic group in Brent and has been going on for the last 37 years. In my view Navratri can be funded by downsizing the Brent Diwali event; to make do with the procession and reducing the cos of fireworks display. Traditionally Diwali is celebrated by the Hindu Communities with family and friends at home and it is more of greeting and sharing of food at home. Also most of the Hindu communities have their own Diwali celebrations (events)</p>

<b>Navratri</b>	This application is on behalf of Shree Bavis Gam Patidar Samaj (UK), we have celebrated all our events in Brent, including Navratri and Diwali, going back over 30 years. As mentioned by many councillors during their visit to the Navratri festival, it is important in keeping the community together. Our community will be disappointed if we were to lose this major event - we promote events (traditional dress, aarti designs, traditional dance style etc.) for young people at the festival.
<b>Navratri</b> <b>x3</b> <b><i>This comment is reproduced verbatim on three occasions in the consultation responses.</i></b>	The organising and planning of the festivals is best left to the respective communities as they are best placed to understand the requirements and sensitivity the festival needs. Festivals organised by the community are not planned from a commercial or publicity aspect, but more for its significance. Navratri is an essential part of the Hindu culture and the loss of the celebrations would have a detrimental effect on some of the communities, as Navratri is probably the most important event during the calendar year, lasting 10 days. To withdraw the grant, the entire Hindu community of Brent will be deprived of a very significant Hindu festival. It is celebrated by the largest ethnic group in Brent and this has been going on for the last 37 years. Navratri can be funded by downsizing the Brent Diwali event; to make do with the procession and reducing the cost of fireworks display. Traditionally Diwali is celebrated by the Hindu communities with family & friends at home and it is more of greeting and sharing of food at home. Also most of the Hindu communities have their own Diwali celebrations (events).
<b>Navratri</b>	Support for community festival such as Navratri should be continued even if it is at slightly reduced level than at present. There is no comparable festival where all sections of the community ( Children, young persons, women, disabled people, older generation) come together to celebrate an major event for the Hindu
<b>Navratri</b>	Navratri is celebrated by all age groups over nine days and unlike Diwali cannot be celebrated at home. I also feel that there is a lack of arts funding for the South Asian group in Brent and this needs to be looked at.
<b>Navratri</b>	I believe Navratri Festival is very important to All Hindu Communities
<b>Diwali</b>	I have heard that this time diwali festival in brent in on question...it should happen...it is a festival where thousands of people come out and enjoy.

<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	I have been a supporter of the Brent St. Patricks Day Parade since it was started in 1996. I am on the working committee that helped put on the show each year. I got other companies involved and I believe the Parade/Festuvak webt frin strength to strength. It would be a real shame to loose it over for 25K. I believe we have to come together and raise some funds to put on the show in 2012. If we work together we can achieve this. We have formed a small working committee to meet monthly to discuss ways & means to support the Council.
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	Brent should continue to fund St Patrick's Day Parade because: * Family event - appeals to all generations/age groups * Festival well attended Numbers up - 5000 + attended this year. * Costs £25-27000 - economical * Irish culture very popular with wider community * Irish community provide worthwhile services for Brent by volunteering at a number of organisations for the Irish and wider community. Brent Irish Advisory Service gets funding from Irish Government which supports Children & Elders programme for Brent residents. * Irish Business & Construction have long history of very generous support for Brent Council. Irish have made huge contribution to prosperity of Borough for at least least 50 years.
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	I don't agree with Brent Councils decision to support Diwali but not to support St Patricks Day. St Patricks Day is a fun is a fun event in Willesden. The residents will be very sad to loose it. A very odd and uncomfortable decision I feel.
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS ORGANISING THE BRENT ST PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL EVENT. OVER THESE YEARS THE QUALITY OF EVENT MANAGEMENT HAS RISEN TO A NEW HIGHER PLAIN. ORGANISATION, SECURITY AND PARTICIPANT/AUDIENCE ASSISTANCE HAS IMPROVED 100%. THIS HAS COME FROM PARTICIPANTS & ATTENDEES RELIANCE AND TRUST BEING EXTENDED TO FESTIVAL OFFICIALS, POLICING, PRIVATE SECURITY PERSONNELL. AS WELL AS NOW BEING ASSURED THAT THE VERY BEST IN LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, WILL BE PRODUCED & PRESENTED ON STAGE! OUR AUDIENCE AT BRENT ST PATRICK'S
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	I believe that Brent Council should continue to support the Brent St. Patrick.s Day Parade. Its a very important event for the Irish in Brent and in London. Its a great day out for the family and friends and its been going now since 1995 and getting better every year. I know it costs approx 25K to put on the event each year. We could look at other ways of raising funds for this annual event. Thee are lots of large Irish Companies in Brent who would support the above. If we loose it now its very difficult to kick start it again. I hope that the Brent Council will reconsider their proposals & decision in June 2011.

<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	The St Patrick's Day Festival was a massive success this year and brought a vast array of people to the borough. People had travelled not only from the north of England but as far away as the US. It was a multi cultural extravaganza that many people look forward to and it brings a diverse cross section of the community together.
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	Brilliant library facilities and the staff are wonderful. Brent Irish festival was well organised and witnessed no trouble there.
<b>Support for Christian festivals</b>	We live in a Christian country and I find it disappointing that all the Christsian festivals (Christmas / St George's Day / St Patrick's Day) have had their funding withdrawn. As a Brent resident for almost 20 years I do not find that your choice of festivals to be completely inclusive (as you seem to state in your proposals).
	I think it should have been remembered that Christmas and Christmas celebrations do not exclude anyone, whereas festivities such as Diwali do. I think it is an obscenity that Christmas and Christianity seem to have been wiped out of existence by Brent councillors.
	I dont understand why Diwali is being kept, and Christmas isnt. The UK is a Christian country and the religious ceremonies of christianity should be shared and expressed and all British citizens should be exposed to them. Diwali costs a massive amount than Christmas and it is only celebrated by one distinct group in Brent. Outrageous!
	Events should be for the benefit of Brent residents as a whole. Christmas lights cheer the whole community at a depressing time of year. Christmas, unlike Diwali, is celebrated by all those of different faiths and none. It is a British cultural festival not necessarily a religious one. At a Christmas party at Wembley Children's Centre a Hindu Mum said "Diwali is for Hindus, Eid is for Moslems, But Christmas is for everybody"
	As a English person and a Christian I strongly object to my culture and faith being undermined and the lack of respect for EASTER and CHRISTMAS. As the LAWS of this Country come from Christinity and the council is part of these Laws should not all of the residents be equal, I was sorry to hear that the EASTER MARCH in some parts of brent were banned and all CHRISTIAN CELEBRATIONS HAVE BEEN CUT WERE OTHER FAITHS HAVE NOT WHAT ABOUT MY CULTURE AS AN ENGLISH PERSON

	Proposals to stop funding Christmas and Christmas lights. This is discriminatory and anti-Christian, bearing in mind that Diwali is still being supported; this hardly surprising in a secular age and another example of bias. the Christmas lights have been a feature of Brent for many decades, and apart from religious significance, brighten up various Brent areas during Christmas/New Year. The Christmas lights loss of funding should be reconsidered and at least some money (eg £25,000 same as Diwali) spent on lights in some key areas / town centres of Brent.
	I would like Christmas to still be celebrated by Brent Council
<b>Support for Respect</b>	I believe a Festival like Respect should be promoted in a more accessible park such a Gladstone park and the religious festival such a Diwali should be scrapped. Festivals are a unique way to unite the communities rather than stressing the differences and alienating other communities.
<b>General support for arts / festivals. One community basis</b>	An all encompassing approach should include all, (or exclude all from funding). If other religious festivals are to be excluded from funding, so should Diwali. Retaining fireworks display makes non sense. Is it Guy Fawkes? Also Diwali? The "Christmas" lights are enjoyed by all and make a huge difference in the darker, colder season, in keeping with the rest of Great Britain's holiday season. Respect Festival and Countryside Days are clearly for everyone. Holocaust Memorial Day is a celebration of survival, important to retain - also open to all.
	Arts & festivals are a 'bonus' to the essentials of life, with funding in it's present state, funding/subsidies of arts/festivals primarily aimed at only part of the community (such as Diwali, St Patrick's Day etc.) should be AXED completely. These events have other options & can get funding from sponsors or scale their activities to match their own budgets. Things like Tricycle theatre, (which has fixed costs/overheads) have a much great need for funding from the public purse. Both Tricycle & things like Fryent open day have scope to appeal to ALL sectors of the community and should be funded if circumstances allow.
	Arts should embrace ALL culture dance / drama / languages at events. When neighbourhoods hold/organise successful Festivals/Events - these should be encouraged + funded. The Council should include the newly established Festival held in Queensbury in the planning & promotional literature like they do @ The Respect Festival. There is nothing such event in North of Brent.

	As Brent is made up of such a diverse group of people from so many ethnic backgrounds and religions why don't we stop trying to keep one group happy and upsetting all the others by having one big joint celebration of all our various religious beliefs, general celebrations and sexualities. that way be can promote mutual respect and inclusion which will save money by not needing to have events such as the respect festival!
	Brent has a clear and solid history of community cohesion through festivals which should be celebrated and supported
	Brent has always had a first class record in promoting events and festivals with a professional team so to do. This must be continued.
	You have supported festivals with an 'all encompassing approach that promotes festivals and events which are inclusive of all Brent's communities' however, you have cut the British celebrations of st.georges day and st.patricks day, which have small budgets. I see these as part of the nations historical inheritance and can not understand why it is deemed to be unfundable when they are part of our society, can the funding not be lowered on the other larger events to allow more of the mentioned 'inclusive of Brent's communities' that you clearly state.
	It's important that funding for arts and festivals doesn't just go to showboat activities, and that groups and events that provide a service to the marginalised members of the community, including the elderly and the homeless, are still supported.
<b>Young people</b>	As noted previously, provision for young people is vital and ensuring they have a place within the strategy will demonstrate their importance in local life and the commitment the council makes to ensuring they have the best oppourtunities in the present that will lead to better oppourtunities in the future. Please see previous comments.
	I would suggest Brent council should made funding available to small organisation (infant) engaged in Culture and Arts that represent a very large ethnic community in the Borough like Somali
<b>Young people and the importance of the Olympics</b>	Please consult with Brent Sports Service and Granville Youth Arts. Also, please do some canvassing and communication with all the different youth and community groups and clubs in Brent (perhaps via Brent Magazine) and encourage them to feedback their ideas and what they want to do. In today's tighter budget times, rather than seeking to censor and control, the council should be encouraging, supporting and equpping the community and community groups in Brent to do more. I think the Olympics should be a top priority as it will only be in Brent once and then will not return for many decades.



<b>Support for artists</b>	Brent Arts Strategy should be more supportive of artists that live in Brent. Who are they???? where are they??? what is their art form???
	Brent needs to put local artists at the heart of the strategy, ensuring that adequate funding is made available to support the various initiatives in which our local artists will be given opportunities to express their talents.
	I would like Brent to focus its Arts investment within the borough first, to ensure that its artists are keep in employment, before investing in artists from outside the borough. Brent's artists do not benefit from the money it gives to the ALG. If you analyse Arts funding accross all the boroughs Brent is not doing very well. I fear that as a borough our Artists are struggeling not because we are bad artists be because we do not have the support or resourses we need to practice effectivly. For Brent to support the arts it has to support its Local Artists. Brent should be proud of our arts achievements.
	yes, better networking with artists is needed.. new ideas could come from artists rather than top level ideas within the council... better interaction needed
	I would like to see more of the available funds going directly to the art and the artists than to new consultants and advisors.
	My arts company does interesting activities that people enjoy, learn and have fun.
	Raise the standard! Not everything has to appeal to the lowest common denominator. This doesn't exist anyway. People deserve good, high quality art.
	Could Creative Performance be involved?
	It is a shame not to have the christmas lights. Could you not just cut the budget in half. Christmas is also for everyone. I am concerned that Brent does not support its residant atrists enough. Brent should employ its local artists first.
	Please make the alocal artists a priorioty. Let Brent Artists inspire Brent communities.
	The Dancing and Stage Music Festival in Roundwood Park is a must. There is always food and drink. Especially if the weather turns out well.
<b>Arts policy / arts team</b>	The Arts and Festivals team have made a great impact in Brent and should continue to be supported by the Council to devise and deliver inspiring projects and initiatives that benefit the wider community.

	We'd like to see different communities in Brent encouraged to access as wide range of arts events as possible and really appreciate the support we already get from the arts team to do this.
	I would consider that the arts part of the strategy is a much more interesting and challenging opportunity for Brent and the residents. I hope that this will be given priority over festivals.
	The arts help areas regenerate, this needs encouraging
	IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ARTS AND FESTIVALS STRATEGIES. THE FESTIVAL CONTENT SEEMS LED BY 'NON-ART' CALENDAR EVENTS AND IT WOULD BE REASSURING TO SEE PROVISION FOR ARTS CONTENT FOR ITS OWN SAKE. BEING ABLE TO OFFER ADVICE TO EXTERNAL EVENTS ORGANISERS IS CRUCIAL TO ENCOURAGE GROWTH AND WELCOME NEW ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA.
<b>Support for the Arts Strategy</b>	Support arts through education, youth groups, community centres. Much of this is being done but not seen as part of the arts policy. Make available for more art to be displayed which include framing etc.
<b>Sponsorship / partnership</b>	Brent council has a diverse community and attracts many small and big business.. Partnering those who have a business in Brent but may not necessary live in Brent and those who do is very important. Therefore building those foundations through art and festivals is so much more fun and rewarding.
	Even as an atheist, I think that all communities like to see Christmas lights - is this not an area where sponsorship could be attracted?
	The strategy's rationale is a little thin, so its hard to comment on any thinking behind the plans apart from the need to save money and to get others (principally businesses) to fill the gap. Which could lead to private sector funding being "rebadged" to fit the strategy.
	The 21st century and new/social media has created the opportunity for everyone to become more involved in events in the before, during and long afterwards than ever before. Brent's real estate is potentially of very high value, particularly on event days, and multi-national brands might be attracted to invest in return for creative/imaginative brand placement opportunities that are not immediately obvious.

	<p>Whilst the rationale for reducing the number of festivals is understood, is there scope for maintaining some of the others or sharing resources in some way? It would be disappointing if there was no Christmas festivities from the Civic Centre or Willesden Green for example. Are there any partnering opportunities? Could also open us up to criticism that the council are favouring certain festivals/religions over others. Is this strategy to last indefinitely or is there an end date, as could not see one?</p>
<b>Local people</b>	Close co-ordination with local residents
	Yes support festivals and art across the borough specially local community organised events like the "Queensbury Eco-Cultural Festival" see website: <a href="http://www.etongrovepark.co.uk">www.etongrovepark.co.uk</a>
<b>Voluntary sector</b>	<p>We would not wish to be seen as not endorsing the need for a business approach to arts and festivals, in terms of seeking sponsorship and efficient cost management. However, this should not be at the expense of squeezing out the voluntary sector which needs to be fully involved in partnership at all stages, including planning of events and not just being asked at the last minute if they would like a table. Brent Multi-Faith Forum continues to offer its own assistance and wants to be involved in such discussions. Furthermore, BMFF would like to suggest Brent could celebrate its multi-faith communities by involving these communities in celebration of all faiths and cultures through Art, Dance, Drama, Music Storytelling etc and possible universal themes such as the importance of light in terms of individual human and communal renewal. There could also be coming together of faiths and the wider community for sports-related events that promote holistic health and well being. We would welcome a conversation with yourselves to explore such exciting possibilities.</p>
<b>More equality in funding</b>	If funding is to be cut so drastically, make a smaller firework display, and reduce funding for all celebrations, do not cut all Christmas funding. Transfer monies to health and education
	If this is a multicultural society & we wish people to integrate how is Diwali being retained at £72,000 & any other culture is being ceased for funding. Why have just Diwali - why not integrate Chanukah & Christmas rather than spend so much on one section of the community.
	Each festival should be reviewed under it own merits.
	If you are discontinuing to fund and support most religious festivals. I believe the Diwali festival should no longer be funded especially due to the amount of funding it requires, it also singles out support to one religion. Which is not reflective of Brent.

	The Respect Festival funding should be reduced as not everyone can attend so all members of the community do not benefit. Same with Diwali, families tend to celebrate at home & in community groups, such big funding can be better used to help artists grow that are struggling in the current climate and will be the future of tomorrow.
	Regardless of the fact that the Council says religious festivals other than Diwali are well-catered for in the local community, given that many Council tax payers will follow Judaism, Islam & Christianity the proposal to cut funding altogether for Chanukah, Christmas & Eid and retain £72,000 funding for Diwali, means that the Council is not being balanced in its support of the religions followed by Brent residents or representing the whole of Brent's religious communities.
<b>No funding</b>	The Council should withdraw funding from all festivals in the current climate. If communities or organisations wish to promote a festival it should be funded by the organisers.
	I would like to see all Festivals scrapped, with the possible exception of Countryside Day, which is a genuine community-led event. I dislike Respect which over the past few years has become a commercial venture. In any case, we have the separately funded Queens Park Day in September which is an excellent Festival - we don't need to waste money on other events.
<b>Consultation and process</b>	Sorry I don't feel very competent in the matter at that level ! As a new a very little actor, I would prefer to meet somebody personally in an office to get explanation about what I can expect from the council than to deal with a website....
x2	This questionnaire does not give scope for residents to express views on which particular events are being cut.
	Yes lots - this type of box ticking is not very creative.
	Is there any point? Haven't you already decided? Seems like it. This consultation was buried and its only cause i asked that someone sent me something
	I do not believe this consultation will make any difference as Brent Council will do what they want anyway!

	<p>Considering that the festivals programme aims to be inclusive to all of Brent's communities - the language used in outlining the proposals is not written in plain English standards and thereby excludes residents whose first language is not English! "An all encompassing approach that promotes festivals and events which are inclusive of all Brent's communities. Promoting events that act as a community showcase creating vibrant public spaces which attract visitors to the borough. Promoting a business development approach to festivals and events which secure additional funding and sponsorship. Promote best practice jointly between council officers and external event organisers to ensure that we deliver safe and well organised events." Even to me it is not even clear what any of this actually means. It does not tell me what you are proposing to do exactly, how, and how I will experience the results of this...</p>
<b>Other</b>	<p>Please reconsider your decision about closure of 6 local libraries. These are potentially fantastic centres for arts activity - you can work with the local communities to make them second to none and a popular draw for those inside and outside the borough.</p>
	<p>Fairtrade and sustainability</p>
	<p>The cultural landscape within Brent is certainly very dynamic and diverse. But surely we should spend our time getting people into work. I also thought this is a Christian country and therefore where is the justification for getting rid of any association with Xmas yet retaining Diwali. Its proposals like this which just add fuel to the fire of Daily Mail readers gathering round the public services carcass.</p>
	<p>Support all existing proven successful community projects and kindly manage your own wastage expenditure as outlined (few examples given previously) eg duplicate post sent out to people, n which wastes postage fees, envelopes n manpower and thus their wages! Making mistakes which cause council to issue compensations , this is waste of money which can also easily be reduced considerably. Pls budget wisely, before refusing to continue funding postive festivals with proven successful track record which boost sales in local businesses and thus help economy.</p>
	<p>Please see comments re Tower Hamlets support for its arts &amp; festivals. Check out weekly Eastendlife paper. Its full of incentives, programmes, strategies, development priorities. T.H.B. are way ahead of Brent! and They have more social diverse, disadvantaged communities groups than Brent!</p>

	<p>Now is not the time to turn your back on arts/cultural activities - community needs a sense of pride and opportunities to integrate and enjoy - otherwise it's all doom and gloom, people don't care about their communities, because they feel that their communities don't care about them - leading to more anti-social behaviour and crime - a downward spiral</p>
	<p>It seems that the central problem with developing the arts strategy is that funding is in short supply. I think that Brent's decision to close libraries will have a very negative effect on the cultural life of the borough. I also think that spending a large proportion of available resources on a very expensive new civic centre is a ludicrous idea, which will inevitably impoverish other services.</p>
	<p>Following the successful project, 'UK Gharana', showcasing Classical Dances (Bharat Natyam, Kathak, Odissi etc.), Theatre work and music all funded by the Arts Council of England and spread over 3 months with over 20 performances and artists from all backgrounds. One show 'Colour of my Skin' featured performances by non Asian artists and the only Black Kathak Dancer in UK. Tie up with Surrey University. All professional performances who have performed on major stage. Art Council impressed with the project by bringing leading artist to the local community. UNFORTNATELY - Encee lost out on Core Funding from ACE because there was no funding from the local borough. ACE wants to make Patidar House a UK Centre of South Asian dance - surely this would benefit Brent and its local people. Encee has celebrated many South Asian festivals and have used these to educate young people by involving them in the performances and workshops. There is a lot more that can be done. Encee has been part of Brent consultation for festivals in Brent including Diwali. Encee has supported Brent in the Mayor making ceremony, Respect Week event, Diwali Event and many more.</p>
	<p>Health and Safety is important, but is surely not relevant for funding decisions - whichever are supported should be safe.</p>

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