

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**Subject:**       **INSPIRING ACTIVE LIVES – A CULTURE AND SPORT STRATEGY  
FOR FALKIRK 2013 - 2023**  
**Meeting:**       **EXECUTIVE**  
**Date:**           **18 JUNE 2013**  
**Author:**       **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1.       INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

- 1.1       A draft Culture and Sport Strategy for the Falkirk area from 2013-2023 has been developed for the Council to consider by the Falkirk Community Trust. The Trust acts as the Council's policy adviser on issues and services within its remit.
- 1.2       The draft strategy aims to ensure that we understand the key role that culture and sport can and should play in addressing the key priorities and achieving the primary outcomes of the Council and our partners. This strategy is focused at the part culture and sport plays in our area and, rather than being about the delivery of one organisation, positions these within a strategic context. This is an area strategy rather than an organisational strategy.
- 1.3       The draft strategy sets out a vision for culture and sport within the Falkirk Council area, the key themes that we have to take forward to achieve that vision, our current position with regard to those and, in looking ahead, the key areas for action. It will provide a strategic direction that will guide the Council, the Trust and partners over the coming years. A short report outlining the purpose and scope of the strategy and the process surrounding this is attached to this report as appendix one as included in the volume of appendices.
- 1.4       As the policy advisers to the Council, the Trust have developed this strategy with a view to seeking wider engagement and comments from a variety of stakeholders with a revised strategy coming back to the Council for final approval in the Autumn.

**2.       POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL**

- 2.1       Given the new Governance structure adopted by the Council, it is proposed that the Executive establishes a Policy Development Panel to consider the strategy. Such a panel would consist of the Portfolio Holder for culture, leisure and tourism and such other members of the Council as the Executive decides up to a maximum of five in number including the Portfolio Holder. In establishing the Panel, the Executive will include within its members a member or members not drawn from the Administration. The Executive is required to set the Terms of Reference of the Panel. It is suggested that the Executive may wish to ask the Panel to:

- Reflect on the draft strategy and propose changes;

- Look at how the strategy will progress to implementation beyond the broad intent set out within the strategy; and then
- Reflect on this in recommending the final strategy to the Executive.

2.2 It is suggested that the Panel established will wish to consider, in early course, how it will conduct its business i.e. what meetings it will have, who would be invited to take part and, if needed, what other work the Panel would want undertaken to arrive at conclusions. The initial work and obviously the Policy Development Panel itself would be supported by Officers of the Council and also in this instance the Trust.

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The draft culture and sport strategy provides a valuable vision for the delivery of services over the coming 10 years. It highlights and firmly positions these within the context of key priorities and outcomes. The timing of the development of the strategy allows the Council to consider this in a new and innovative way and to ensure that it fully meets the needs and expectations of the Council and importantly our communities.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

**It is recommended that the Executive:-**

- 4.1 **notes the draft Culture and Sport Strategy - Inspiring Active Lives;**
- 4.2 **asks the Trust to consult on the draft strategy; and**
- 4.3 **establishes a Policy Development Panel to review the draft strategy with a view to making recommendations on the final strategy and its implementation to an Executive meeting after the recess.**

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Date: 6 June 2013  
 Ref: ABB0613FC – Culture and Sport Strategy  
 Contact Name: Fiona Campbell

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Culture and Leisure Strategy – Inspiring Active Lives 2013 – 2023

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506002 and ask for Mary Pitcaithly