

CULTURE, TOURISM AND LEISURE

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2008/09

Minute Text

The Director of Regeneration gave a presentation to the Committee on the Cultural Services review to initiate debate on a scrutiny programme for the year. He informed the meeting that cultural services in Wirral underpinned all the strategic objectives of the Council. There were very high levels of satisfaction with the cultural and leisure services which the Council provided, but there was also a continuing deterioration of buildings in which the services were provided. Cultural services were responsible for half of the buildings in the Council's portfolio. The service had competition from the private sector and there was increasing demand for improved services.

Following on from the review the Council would need to define its desired outcomes, priorities and have a clear vision, strategy and direction. Budget sustainability was also an issue which needed to be addressed and opportunities for partnerships with private, voluntary and community sectors needed to be developed.

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Minute Decision

Resolved -

(1) That this Committee notes the presentation given tonight and recognises the difficult problems outlined and the hard decisions which will have to be made to deal with these problems.

(2) That the officers bring forward possible solutions to a future meeting which can only be considered once the Committee is in possession of the Consultant's report.

The Cultural Services review was the dominant issue over the course of the year