

# PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

22 June 2022

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR CULTURE AND SPORT- NEXT STEPS

### Report by Head of Culture and Communities Service

(Report No 22/140)

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report asks Council to approve the process during 2022 to develop new Culture and Sport Strategies for Perth and Kinross aligned to the Perth and Kinross Offer, the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan. It summarises work to date, drivers for change and next steps.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 2.1 | <p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notes work to date and national/local drivers for change and</li><li>• Approves the timescale, process and next steps to bring forward new Strategies for Council approval in December 2022.</li></ul> |
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#### 3. STRUCTURE OF REPORT

- 3.1 This report is structured over the following sections:

- Section 4: Background
- Section 5: Proposals
- Section 6: Conclusion

#### 4. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 4.1 Culture and sport are key public services for which Councils must make adequate provision as part of their wider statutory responsibilities. Councils must determine for the local authority area the extent and type of provision they make for the communities they serve; and have significant flexibility in how they provide services.
- 4.2 Both culture and sport are fundamental to civic identity, local pride and attachment to Place. They can be major contributors to preventative services and initiatives, particularly wellbeing. They support children and young people in formal learning and wider achievement and attainment; support adult learning and provide employability and employment chances for working age

people; support social cohesion and build life skills amongst communities of geography and interest; and support physical and mental wellbeing. The creative sector is one of the largest and fastest growing parts of the UK/Scottish economy. The links between sport, physical activity and health and wellbeing are more important now than at any time since the end of the Second World War.

4.3 Strategic frameworks for culture and sport are also important to build and maintain credibility for external funders and government. And they set clear frameworks and expectations of 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations from which the Council commissions culture and sport services, and the areas where we expect funded organisations to contribute to our wider strategic outcomes.

4.4 In Perth and Kinross our key funded organisations include:

- Culture Perth and Kinross (operates libraries, museums, archives and local studies on behalf of the Council).
- Horsecross Arts (operates Perth Theatre and Concert Hall).
- Live Active Leisure (operates all leisure centres and delivers a range of fitness and wellbeing programmes in different settings).
- Pitlochry Festival Theatre and Birman Arts (receive annual Council grant funding and are key component of the Highland economy and community life for many).
- Strathtay Harriers, Perthshire Rugby Club.
- Perth and Kinross Sports Council which disburses funding to local clubs and individuals on behalf of PKC, monitored by Live Active Leisure on behalf of the Council.

4.5 Our most recent strategic documents for culture and sport [Creative Perth and Kinross Strategic Priorities for Culture 2016-21](#) and [Strategic Priorities for Sport - Active Perth and Kinross 2016-21](#) expired at the end of 2021. These were 5-year plans which it is now proposed to renew for the period 2023-2027. To be effective, a strategy should be short, flexible and adaptable as the delivery context will certainly change during the lifetime of the strategy. Current drivers for change include:

### **National**

4.5.1 The National Culture Strategy [A Culture Strategy for Scotland - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#), published in Spring 2020 with a strong focus on the economic, social and community wellbeing contribution which culture should make to National Outcomes.

4.5.2 Active Scotland – the national physical activity strategy which focuses on health equality and supporting healthy independent lives for all.

4.5.3 Sportscotland's continued focus on school, club and community sport.

### **Local – strategic**

4.5.4 Ensuring alignment with wider corporate priorities for the Council as they are developed during 2022 and including:

- Mitigating the impact of poverty/cost of living for people and communities already facing barriers to participation in culture and sport.
- The climate emergency and how the Council, its funded partners and others adapt programmes and facilities in light of the 2030 Just Transition carbon reduction target and other consideration.
- Supporting health and wellbeing, including mental wellbeing.

4.5.5 Specifically, this means ensuring:-

- culture and sport services help to address inequalities in more strategic, integrated ways and include a focus on increasing diversity and participation;
- our culture and sport/leisure offer is effectively marketed as part of wider destination marketing for Perth and the area as a whole and its economic impact is maximised;
- our sports commissioning arrangements are well aligned with Health and Social Care priorities and services relating to physical/mental wellbeing.

**Local – Best Value and resource management**

- Maximising potential of new/planned investment including the City Hall and PH20 projects, UNESCO City of Craft status, the return of the Stone of Destiny.
- Growing and diversifying new income streams including commercialisation where appropriate for some services.
- Ensuring our delivery models and funding arrangements are fit for the future in line with our Best Value statutory duty.
- Ensuring corporate assets leased to Arms-Length External Organisations are effectively managed given increasing property costs and impeding low carbon targets and the culture/leisure estate is more effectively managed through co-location, shared services, community asset transfer and other approaches.

**5. PROPOSALS**

**Next Steps: Culture**

- 5.1 During Covid, the Council convened a Cultural Task Force of experts from across the UK. The Task Force identified a number of improvement opportunities for the Council relating to more effective collaboration between cultural partners, better integrated delivery structures for programmes and events, fostering grassroots cultural activity, strengthening co-production with communities and exploring more commercial models for delivering culture. A key issue common to both culture and sport is the need for complementary but differently focused approaches to provision in rural areas alongside Perth and our 6 major towns. Elected members and key cultural stakeholders

(local/regional/national) were briefed on the Task Force findings in March 2021.

- 5.2 It is now proposed to develop a set of new strategic priorities for culture for consultation and engagement with partners and wider communities during summer 2022. Key issues and themes including those identified by the Task Force alongside those summarised in 3.5 relating to alignment of culture and sport provision with the Council's wider strategic priorities.
- 5.3 Two other pieces of work will also be aligned with these emerging priorities:
- Outcomes from the current review of Library Services which is examining how library services need to change in response to new customer needs and priorities, reduce inequalities, make best use of the Council's corporate assets and find sustainable ways of maintaining smaller libraries in future.
  - UNESCO City of Craft Development Plan – the City status designation is permanent and work on a detailed Plan to maximise the benefits of this designation is now underway with key partners.

### **Sport – next steps**

- 5.4 The development of the PH20 project is a major change driver for our future planning and delivery of sports in Perth, with significant implications for how all city centre sports facilities are programmed and managed in future.
- 5.5 As outlined in 3.5, connections between Council policy, strategy and investment decisions for sport and physical activity need to be better aligned with wider health and wellbeing programmes commissioned or directly delivered by NHS Tayside, the Health and Social Care Partnership, the third sector and by communities. Sport and physical activity should be central to our public health and wider strategic response to current and future health challenges: Covid recovery, huge demand pressures on mental health services and the need for more effective preventative approaches, supporting our growing older population to stay active and independent.
- 5.6 Planning, managing, maintaining and developing indoor and outdoor sports facilities is also a key component of the new Strategy. A Facilities Audit to identify current provision, gaps and potential future needs will be required to inform the Local Development Plan as well as future investment in sport. This will be commissioned and carried out later in 2022.
- 5.7 Perth and Kinross has a particularly strong voluntary and volunteer asset base for sport with over a hundred local voluntary clubs and many adults and young people involved in coaching and mentoring clubs, groups and individuals. We currently have 13 Community Sports Hubs (CSH) across the area. This is a significant achievement, but there is a need to target future CSH development in areas where opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity have historically been more limited, and to address barriers to participation within some demographic groups and communities of interest.

- 5.8 As with culture, it is proposed to consult and engage with stakeholders and communities over the summer on our new strategic priorities. The consultation and engagement process will be coordinated with external support overseen/managed by the Head of Culture & Communities Services and Service Manager, Communities. Engagement will involve Local Action Partnerships, all local voluntary sports clubs, Perth and Kinross Sports Council, governing bodies, Public Health Scotland and **sportscotland**.
- 5.9 The Community Planning Partnership will be consulted in the development of both emerging strategies given the key connections with the new Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.
- 5.10 Feedback for our key delivery partners will be provided on the consultation and engagement findings in autumn 2022 and new draft Strategies together with outline Delivery Plans for 2023/24 will be brought to Council for consideration and approval in December 2022. This may include revised governance and accountability arrangements for delivery of culture and sport, in the context of wider governance and change within the Council which may also be underway as part of our wider Transformation Programme.

### **Consultation and engagement and delivery/monitoring/reporting**

- 5.11 There will be a number of strands to the consultation and engagement process:
- Early dialogue with elected members on the role of culture and sport in delivering our wider corporate priorities – July/August 2022.
  - Engagement with our culture and sport funded bodies and wider local partners including the Community Planning Partnership, Local Action Partnerships, PKAVS, NHS Tayside, schools, Perth College/the regional HE sector – Aug/Sept 2022.
  - Consultation with key national/regional bodies on specific policy issues including Creative Scotland and **sportscotland** – Sept 2022.
  - Wider community engagement via the Council's Citizen Space consultation hub and focus groups with key communities of interest including ethnic minority groups, carers' networks, young people including care experienced young people and others - Sept/Oct 2022.
  - Elected member engagement on emerging priorities: Nov 2022.
- 5.12 The wider community engagement will be framed in the context of the Perth and Kinross Offer. This is about co-creating a shared ambition and priorities for culture and sport with communities which reflect the unique identity, priorities and needs of localities; and setting out what the Council will do alongside the role of funded partners, wider partners and communities to deliver the ambition.
- 5.13 Delivery of strategic priorities will be guided via annual Action Plans with 2023/24 as the first delivery year and taking any Council budget decisions for 23/24 into account.

- 5.14 It is proposed that formal monitoring and reporting on delivery progress will be via:
- An annual report to the Community Planning Partnership Board, jointly presented by key funded partners.
  - Council Service Committees via Business Management and Improvement Plans.
  - Thematic Scrutiny and Performance Reviews.

## 6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This report summarises the key national and local change drivers for Council to consider in relation to culture and sport services. It asks Council to note these change drivers, progress to date and to approve work to commence on developing new strategic priorities for culture and sport which support delivery of wider outcomes for our people and communities, as part of the Perth and Kinross Offer.

### Author

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### Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Executive Director (Communities)	15 June 2022

## APPENDICES

- There are no appendices for this report.

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes / None</b>
Community Plan	Y
Corporate Plan	Y
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	N
Workforce	N
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	N
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	N
Strategic Environmental Assessment	N
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	N
Legal and Governance	N
Risk	N
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	Y
External	Y
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	Y

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan

- 1.1 This report relates to all priorities in the Community Plan.

#### Corporate Plan

- 1.2 This report relates to all priorities in the Corporate Plan.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### Workforce

- 2.2 There are no direct workforce implications arising from this report.

#### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 There are no direct asset management implications arising from this report, but a Facilities Audit of sports facilities and alignment with our wider Corporate Asset Management Strategy should be noted.

### 3. Assessments

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA. An EqIA will be completed on the draft Culture and Sport Strategies prior to final consideration and approval by Council.

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

#### Sustainability

- 3.4 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. Under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 the Council also has a duty relating to climate change and, in exercising its functions must act:
- in the way best calculated to delivery of the Act's emissions reduction targets;
  - in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programmes; and
  - in a way that it considers most sustainable.
- 3.5 The final draft Strategies will be assessed against the Council's duties and responsibilities for sustainable development.

#### Legal and Governance

- 3.6 There are no legal or risk implications arising from this report.



#### **4. Consultation**

##### Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Planning and Development, Head of Environmental and Consumer Services, Head of Housing, Head of Property Services and Chief Officer, Health and Social Care have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

##### External

- 4.2 Live Active Leisure, Horsecross Arts Limited and Culture Perth and Kinross have been consulted in the preparation of this report in their capacity as Arms Length External Organisations, of which the Council is sole member.

#### **5. Communication**

- 5.1 A Communication Plan to support and promote the consultation and engagement exercises for these Strategies will be prepared.

#### **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 Perth and Kinross Cultural Task Force: summary of key findings (presentation to elected members and cultural partners March 2021).