

04 June 2018

Culture-led Regeneration Update

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction.

Summary

The CTS Board commissioned a piece of research into culture-led regeneration at its meeting in September 2017. The board was updated on this work at its January 2018 meeting, and this paper provides board members with a further update on progress and an opportunity to steer the work.

Recommendation

That the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board Members discuss progress and provide direction, with particular regard to paragraphs 10, 12 and 16.

Action

Officers to progress as directed.

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Culture-led regeneration

Background

1. At its September 2017 meeting, the Board identified culture-led regeneration as one of its three priorities. As part of this, it requested that research was carried out into areas that were felt to have achieved significant culture-led regeneration for the benefit of those councils with ambitions to do the same.
2. The focus of the publication will be on making the case for culture-led regeneration and identifying practical steps for undertaking culture-led regeneration, illustrated by case studies, and producing an outline template for the creation of a cultural strategy that can help drive regeneration.
3. The primary audience is intended to be councillors, with a secondary audience of senior officers in councils and local enterprise partnerships.
4. Regeneris, who are experienced in engaging with, appraising, writing funding bids for, and evaluating culture-led regeneration projects across England and Wales, were appointed in January as the supplier for the work following a full LGA procurement process.
5. The project is being co-funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK branch), who have contributed £7 000.

Outline proposal

6. Regeneris has proposed developing case studies based on a series of four typologies of culture-led regeneration, with an aim to complete three case studies for each.
7. The proposed typologies are:
 - 7.1. Individual cultural institutions/attractions as a hub and driver for regeneration, such as The Storyhouse in Chester;
 - 7.2. Community focused cultural programmes, such as the Arts Council England's Creative People and Places areas;
 - 7.3. Recurring arts festivals as a focal point for regeneration;
 - 7.4. Strategic organisation to co-ordinate and promote cultural activity, such as the co-ordinated collaboration between Newcastle and Gateshead Councils
8. Regeneris identified the following case studies, and the table below provides an update on the progress of each:

Case Study	Update
Margate	Completed.
The Storyhouse (Chester)	Completed.
Manchester International Festival	Completed.
Appetite (Stoke-on-Trent)	Completed.
Mostyn Gallery	Consultation arranged for 8 June.
Walthamstow	Completed.
Cornwall 365	Completed.
New Anglia Culture Drives Growth Strategy	Completed.
Portsmouth Harbour	First draft received.
Newcastle Gateshead Initiative (Great Northern Exhibition)	Completed.
Green Man Festival	Completed.
Hampshire Food Festival	Contact made - consultation being arranged.
Peckham Levels	Completed.
West Midlands Combined Authority	Consultation arranged for 8 June.
Great Yarmouth Arts Festival	Awaiting contacts.
Culture Works (North East Lincolnshire)	Completed – consultation being arranged.
First Art Programme (Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire)	Unable to make contact, and an alternative is being sought.
Coventry City of Culture	Awaiting contacts.

9. The individual case studies are being drafted. It is apparent that, while case studies often have quite good economic data on investment and return, there is less information available on the social impact of a culture-led regeneration approach. Regeneris are returning to some of the case study areas to see if there is more information available on this.
10. Regeneris have proposed the following structure for the report:
- 10.1. Foreword – Cllr Vernon-Jackson, and Chair of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. A ministerial foreword has also been discussed, but we believe would make it too long.
 - 10.2. Executive Summary
 - 10.3. Introduction
 - 10.4. The Economic and Social Impacts of Culture-led Regeneration – this would include a typology of approach, as well as the areas where a cultural approach was found to have a specific approach, e.g. cohesion, health, type of investment.
 - 10.5. Case studies – broken down into the four categories. Each case study is expected to be about 650 words, including illustrations and tables.

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- 10.6. Lessons learnt and relevance for local authorities – covering the common themes and conclusions; and implications for council cultural strategies.
- 10.7. Conclusions - This would draw together the findings and summarise lessons for other partners, including Local Enterprise Partnerships and Business Improvement Districts. It would also identify any next steps for the LGA in this area.
- 10.8. Further Reading – Links to LGA publications and relevant research.
- 10.9. Acknowledgements

Communicating the findings

11. To conclude the research, we are proposing a series of regional roundtables following the publication of the report, to communicate the findings to councillors, officers, local enterprise partnerships, business improvement districts and other relevant stakeholders.
12. A launch event is planned in Newcastle to coincide with the Great Exhibition of the North. The Director of Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums has expressed support, and the Minister's office has expressed an interest in attending, subject to availability.

Implications for Wales

13. The WLGA does not commission us to work on wider improvement issues. This service is provided directly by WLGA. However, the publication will be available to all interested councils.

Financial Implications

14. There is a total of £20,000 available for this work. Up to £13,000 of this is from the LGA improvement budget. The remaining £7,000 has been provided as a grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK branch).

Next steps

15. CTS Board Members are invited to comment on and note the progress made with each case study, and the proposed structure. A first draft of the full report is due on 25 June.
16. We will liaise with Regeneris on progress and with the Great Northern Exhibition on a suitable launch date. We anticipate this will be either late July or early September.