



Sandwell

Metropolitan Borough Council

Select Committee on Heritage and Culture

at 10.30am. on Monday 23rd May, 2005
in Committee Room 1
at the Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury

Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

“Evidence gathering”

3. Submission of Black Country Canals as a World Heritage Site. Penny Russell - Tourism Development Officer Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council; Sarah Middleton – Chief Executive Black Country Consortium and Clare Bamton - Marketing and Communications Manager British Waterways have been invited to attend during this item.
4. To receive a presentation from John Satchwell - Parks and Countryside Management, on Heritage Parks and Sites within Sandwell.
5. To receive a presentation from Henry Whitehorne - Planning and Development Services, on Conservation Areas.

Select Committee to break for lunch 12.45pm.

and re-convene at 2.00pm.

6. **Exclusion of the Public and Press:**

The Chair to move:

'That the public and press be excluded from the rest of the proceedings. This is to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

Agenda

(Not Open to Public and Press)

"What Next ?"

7. 1st Year Report of the Select Committee on Heritage and Culture - "Sandwell Heritage Trail" (exempt information relates to terms proposed for the disposal/ acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services and disclosure would be likely to prejudice the Council).

Date of Next Meeting - Monday 27th June, 2005 at 2.30 pm
(date re-arranged from 13th June, 2005)

F N Summers
Chief Executive

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution:

Councillor Mrs James (Chair);
Councillors Blyth, Evans, Mrs L R Horton, M Hughes and S L Smith.
Liberal Democrat Substitute Member - Councillor A Underhill.
Conservative Substitute Member - Councillor Ward.

Also sent to:

Councillor Thomas (Leader of the Council);
Councillors Eling and Mrs Hinton (Deputy Leaders of the Council);
Councillor Edwards (Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board);
Councillor R Price (Chair of the Youth and Community Services Scrutiny Panel);
Councillor S L Smith (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group of Councillors);
Councillor Bissell (Leader of the Conservative Group of Councillors).

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Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Select Committee on Heritage and Culture

Phase 1 Terms of Reference 2004/05 – Heritage

Scope

The following services will fall within the scope of the Select Committee on Heritage and Culture, these services being those which were inspected by the Audit Commission in its Regular Performance Assessment of Culture in March 2004, a process which impacts on the Council's Corporate Performance Assessment score: -

- * Museums & Art Gallery;
- * Libraries;
- * Heritage (e.g. canal infrastructure, building conservation, and the architecture of buildings)
- * Archives;
- * Visitors Centres.

The scope will also include services which contribute to the delivery of the above, such as:-

- * Service Level Agreement funded agencies e.g. THEpUBLIC and other voluntary sector agencies which are funded by the Council to deliver Heritage opportunities;
- * Other Heritage opportunities provided without financial support from the Council.

Purpose

To examine the Heritage provision in the Borough and to identify actions needed to improve the Council's RPA score from 2 to 3, specifically:-

- * To examine the current position in relation to the Council's provision and procurement of Heritage facilities and activities;
- * To consider the Council's plans for developing and improving its Heritage facilities, for the benefit of Sandwell's citizens and visitors to the Borough;
- * To make recommendations to the Council to secure improvement and development in its Heritage facilities;

- * To consider proposals for the heritage elements of the proposals for the development of the Learning and Cultural Quarter in West Bromwich.

Tasks

1. To examine services which were identified as under performing by the RPA, including Museums and Archives, and to consider plans already in place for improving these.
2. To examine the contribution of all Heritage services to the corporate priorities and to consider improvements that could be made to ensure cross cutting/ joined up working.
3. To examine the use of performance management tools to drive service improvement within the Council's Heritage services.
4. To identify all of the Borough's Heritage assets and how they can be best used for the benefit of Sandwells' citizens and visitors to the Borough.
5. To invite evidence from external organisations and individuals with specific knowledge, as appropriate.
6. To undertake site visits as appropriate, to obtain information on Council services or to benchmark Council services with those of other authorities.
7. To report to the Council on the above findings and to make recommendations to Council on any requirements to improve future provision of heritage services.

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Select Committee on Heritage and Culture

Phase 2 Terms of Reference 2005/06 – Culture

Scope

The following services will fall within the scope of the Select Committee on Heritage and Culture, these services being those which were inspected by the Audit Commission in its Regular Performance Assessment of Culture in March 2004, a process which impacts on the Council's Corporate Performance Assessment score:-

- * Arts;
- * Sport;
- * Parks & Open Spaces;
- * Shows & Events;
- * Tourism.

The scope will also include services which contribute to the delivery of the above, such as:-

- * Youth, Community & Play Service;
- * Service Level Agreement funded agencies e.g. THEpUBLIC, Leisure Trust; other voluntary sector agencies which are funded by the Council to deliver Cultural opportunities;
- * Other Cultural opportunities provided without financial support from the Council

Purpose

To examine the Cultural provision in the Borough and to identify actions needed to improve the Council's RPA score from 2 to 3, specifically:-

- * To examine the current position in relation to the Council's provision and procurement of Cultural facilities and activities;
- * To consider the extent of the "visitor economy" in Sandwell and the Council's plans for developing, improving and marketing its Cultural facilities for the benefit of Sandwell's citizens and visitors to the Borough;

- * To make recommendations to the Council to secure improvement and development in its Cultural facilities;
- * To consider proposals for the cultural elements of the proposals for the development of the Learning and Cultural Quarter in West Bromwich.

Tasks

1. To examine services which were identified as being appropriate for further inspection by the RPA in 2005, including the Leisure Trust, Parks and Open Spaces and to consider plans already in place for improving these.
2. To examine the contribution of all Cultural services to the corporate priorities and to consider improvements that could be made to ensure cross cutting/ joined up working.
3. To consider the how the diversity of cultural activity in the Borough can be integrated and how Extended Schools and education Academies can be used to contribute to cultural activities.
4. To identify all of the Borough's cultural assets and how they can be best used for the benefit of Sandwells' citizens and visitors to the Borough.
5. To invite evidence from external organisations and individuals with specific knowledge, as appropriate.
6. To undertake site visits as appropriate, to obtain information on Council services or to benchmark Council services with those of other authorities.
7. To report to the Council on the above findings and to make recommendations to Council on any requirements to improve future provision of cultural services.

SCOPE OF CULTURAL SERVICES

The Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) defines Cultural Services in its Guidance on Local Cultural Strategies, 2000, as follows:-

- The performing and visual arts, craft and fashion
- Media, film, television, video language
- Museums, artefacts, archives and design
- Libraries, literature, writing and publishing
- The built heritage, architecture, landscape and archaeology
- Sports events, facilities and development
- Parks, open spaces, wildlife habitats, water environment and countryside recreation
- Children's play, playgrounds and play activities
- Tourism, festivals and attractions
- Informal leisure pursuits.

The future scope will also include responsibility for licensing, which currently lies with the DCMS but is soon to become a local authority responsibility.

Cultural Services delivered by SMBC include:-

Arts, Sport, Museums, Libraries, Heritage, Archives, Parks, Tourism

A number of other Council services also deliver cultural opportunities, such as:-

Youth, Community & Play, Adult Education and Social Inclusion & Health's Creative Arts Unit.

In addition, the Council commissions cultural provision through:-

**Service level agreements with the Leisure Trust and THEpUBLIC
Grant aid arrangements with voluntary and community agencies.**

It also works in partnership with other agencies which contribute to cultural provision, such as Sandwell College, Primary Care Trusts, Black Country Learning & Skills Council and others.