

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **CABINET**

**21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

#### **THE WORKS OF THE ARTS SERVICE IN SUPPORTING THE DELIVERY OF THE WELLBEING OF THE FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT'S 7 WELLBEING GOALS**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CABINET & PUBLIC RELATIONS IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR A CRIMMINGS.**

Author: Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Arts and Culture Manager - 07786 523614

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the works of the Arts Service in relation to the seven wellbeing goals within the Wellbeing of the Future Generations Act 2015.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note the contents of the report regarding the works of the Arts Service.

#### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That Members awareness is raised on the works of the Arts Service in relation to supporting the delivery of the seven wellbeing goals within the Wellbeing of the Future Generations Act.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 In 2015, the National Assembly for Wales passed the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, setting out a shared purpose and drivers to achieve a better and lasting quality of life for us all.
- 4.2 The Act introduces seven well-being goals:
- A Prosperous Wales
  - A Resilient Wales
  - A Healthier Wales
  - A More Equal Wales
  - A Wales of Cohesive Communities
  - A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
  - A Globally Responsible Wales

- 4.3 The Arts Council of Wales recognises that Art is central to our everyday quality of life and the wellbeing of our nations in their [‘Wellbeing of Future Generations’](#) brochure published in January 2017.
- 4.4 The Welsh Government’s Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure published [‘Light Springs through the Dark – a Vision for Culture in Wales’](#) in December 2016, urging local authorities to use the duties within the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015) as the basis for developing a local strategy for culture.
- 4.5 Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council’s Arts Service’s Arts & Creative Industries Team’s projects and its theatres’ programme support the delivery of the seven wellbeing goals, enabling residents to be creatively active, and positively impacting on their quality of life and wellbeing.

## **5. WELLBEING AND THE ARTS**

### **5.1 Fortitude through the Arts Project**

- 5.1.1 Fortitude is an innovative project that supports people into education, training and employment through building confidence and using the arts and creative industries as a tool to build transferable skills.
- 5.1.2 During 2016/17, the project was piloted in the Lower Cynon Communities First area, and then commissioned centrally by Communities First as part of its core cultural provision within its clusters.
- 5.1.3 Participants have benefitted from a variety of low level training courses, such as First Aid, employment advice, creative industries study visits and skills development, such as film making.
- 5.1.4 One individual’s case study captures that “by the end of the 8 weeks the change in AJ was remarkable...The new found confidence led AJ to approach Communities First staff to sign up for the Life Coaching Programme...AJ wants to work and although he has not reached this yet, he has made huge steps along the pathway towards this.”

### **5.2 Art & Artefact**

- 5.2.1 Art & Artefact is a creative heritage project delivered in museums and galleries, supporting people living with mild to moderate mental health to build confidence, learn new skills through shared experiences, develop resilience and mental wellbeing.
- 5.2.2 Learning from the Art & Artefact delivery by local authorities in North Wales, the project was delivered as part of the Communities First core cultural offer in 2016/17 in Cynon Valley Museum and Rhondda Heritage Park : Museum of Welsh Mining.

5.2.3 Participants have benefitted from museum and gallery tours, insight into collections, arts activities, such as sculpting.

5.2.4 One individuals' case study captures that "GB suffers from Fibromyalgia and was very cautious at first especially when moving around the museum. As she got more involved in the art making with the artist GB was able to relax physically. GB recognised that this relaxation lessened her awareness of her pain and she expressed that she generally felt better than she had for a long time while the art sessions ran."

### 5.3 Young Promoters Network

5.3.1 The Young Promoters Network supports young people aspiring to work in the music industry as artists, promoters, event managers, photographers, graphic designers and more.

5.3.2 The project is funded through the Arts Services commission by Families First, and has been since its conception in 2010. Additional external funding has been levered on a project-by-project basis from the Arts Council of Wales and Arts & Business Cymru's Culture Step programme.

5.3.3 Young people have benefitted from performance opportunities and local and national live events, creative industries skills development, including shadowing opportunities and mentoring.

5.3.4 One individuals response highlights its value: "It's helped me so much, I was definitely a lot quieter and less outspoken before joining the Young Promoters Network...It's given me a lot more confidence to just go for stuff like apply for jobs and stuff like that."

### 5.4 HYNT

5.4.1 Hynt, led by the Arts Council of Wales, is a national access card scheme that works with theatres to enables a disabled visitor to get the same deal on concessionary tickets across the country.

5.4.2 The Coliseum Theatre and the Park and Dare Theatre are a member of the Hynt scheme, removing some access barriers for our audiences that prevent them from enjoying the arts on offer within the boroughs professional theatres.

5.4.3 Nationally, over 6,000 membership cards have been issued, and the scheme presents our theatres as equal and cohesive cultural venues accessible to all.

## 6. SUPPORTING THE DELIVERY OF THE SEVEN WELLBEING GOALS

6.1 Residents of Rhondda Cynon Taf are supported to:

- develop their employability skills (transferrable and creative industries specific) and prosper
- be resilient in their outlook on life
- be physically and mentally creatively active

- fulfil their potential no matter what their background
- be active citizens within their communities
- participate in culture, heritage and Welsh language
- be globally responsible in their actions

6.2 The Arts Service supports the Council's delivery of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 through supporting the development of:

- a skilled population
- a resilient economy
- healthier residents
- equality of opportunity
- cohesive communities
- opportunities for its residents to be creatively active through English and Welsh
- a positive contribution to global well-being.

6.3 The Arts Service senior management team represents culture on the Cwm Taf Wellbeing Plan Working Group, and have presented ['A Cultural Manifesto for Wellbeing'](#), published by Halton NHS, as an example of how culture delivers on the delivery of the Act.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

7.2 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

8.1 No consultation exercise has been required.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

9.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

10.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report.

## **11. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP / FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

11.1 A Creatively Active Rhondda Cynon Taf links directly to the Health and Prosperity priorities in the Corporate Plan and the Single Integrated Plan (SIP), as well as contributing to the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 seven well-being goals.

11.2 The Arts Services' Arts and Creative Industries Team and theatres provides creative opportunities for all that support prosperity, increase resilience, encourage positive physical and mental health, cohesive communities, and raises awareness of global responsibility.

## 12. **CONCLUSION**

12.1 Art achieves great things in Rhondda Cynon Taf. A variety of exciting, prosperous and dynamic opportunities are provided through the Arts Service and its strategic partnerships internally and externally, that highlights its centrality in our everyday quality of life and physical and mental wellbeing.

### **Other Information:-**

#### ***Relevant Scrutiny Committees***

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee  
Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee  
Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee