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**PROVISION OF CULTURE REVIEW GROUP – FINAL REPORT**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Nick Wallis,  
Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio**

**Responsible Director - Paul Wildsmith,  
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

**Ian Williams, Director of Economic Growth**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To report the final findings of the Provision of Culture Review Group undertaken by Place Scrutiny Committee to understand the issues around provision of culture for Darlington and to identify potential solutions.

**Summary**

2. At a meeting of the former Economy and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 8 September 2011 it was agreed to establish an Arts Task and Finish Review Group which was subsequently re-named Cultural Provision Review Group. Terms of Reference were developed and approved by Place Scrutiny Committee and all Members of that Committee were invited to participate in the Review.
3. The Review Group has met on eight occasions and a wide number of issues have been discussed and considered at those meetings.
4. At its meeting held on 3 September 2014 Place Scrutiny Committee approved the following recommendations for submission to Cabinet.

**Recommendation**

5. Cabinet are requested to
  - (a) Note the findings of the Cultural Review Group.
  - (b) Note the plan of Place Scrutiny Committee to review the work of Creative Darlington.

## Reason

6. The recommendations are supported to conclude the work undertaken by the Place Scrutiny Committee Review Group

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Director of Neighbourhood Services**  
**and Resources**

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth**

## Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Karen Graves : Extension 2364

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no specific implications for Crime and Disorder.
Health and Well Being	There are no specific implications for the health and well-being of residents.
Carbon Impact	There are no carbon impact implications in this report
Diversity	There are no specific diversity issues in this report.
Wards Affected	There are no specific Wards which are affected by this report.
Groups Affected	All groups
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This report does not constitute a Key Decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not considered an Urgent Decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	
Efficiency	The outcome of this report does not impact on the Council efficiency agenda.

## **MAIN REPORT**

### **Information and Analysis**

7. The Provision of Culture Review Group was established to understand the issues around the provision of culture for Darlington and to identify potential solutions.
8. A wide number of issues were discussed and considered at the meetings.
9. The Place Scrutiny Committee agreed to accept and endorse the following recommendations :
  - (a) The Cultural Review Group did have value as a conduit for information and were kept informed on developments in relation to the future of the Arts provision in Darlington; and
  - (b) The Cultural Review Group notes that the strategic roles for arts within the Town has now passed to Creative Darlington and is within the remit of the Director of Economic Growth however, it is important that a close interest in Creative Darlington and its governance model be taken and it is recommended that this be done via regular reporting to the Place Scrutiny Committee.

### **Financial Implications**

10. There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

### **Equalities Considerations**

11. There is no impact on any groups with protected characteristics as a result of the recommendations in this report.