



**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**  
**COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Bydd cyfarfod o'r GRŴP LLYWIO PWYLLGOR GWEITHREDU DIWYLLIANT A CHELFYDDYDAU STRATEGOL yn cael ei gynnal ar Dydd Mawrth, 17eg Ionawr, 2023 am 10.00 am**

Dolen gyswllt: Hannah Williams - Uned Busnes y Cyngor - Gwasanaethau Llywodraethol  
(Rhif ffôn. 07385401954)

**MATERION I'W TRAFOD**

**1. DATGAN BUDDIANT**

Derbyn datganiadau o fuddiannau personol gan Gyngorwyr, yn unol â gofynion Cod Ymddygiad y Cyngor.

**Nodwch:**

1. Mae gofyn i aelodau ddatgan rhif a phwnc yr agendwm mae eu buddiant yn ymwneud ag ef a mynegi natur y buddiant personol hwnnw; a
2. Lle bo Aelodau'n ymneilltuo o'r cyfarfod o ganlyniad i ddatgelu buddiant sy'n rhagfarnu, mae **rhaid** iddyn nhw roi gwybod i'r Cadeirydd pan fyddan nhw'n gadael.

**2. COFNODION**

Cadarnhau cofnodion cyfarfod y Grŵp Llywio Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol a gynhaliwyd ar 22 Tachwedd 2022 yn rhai cywir.

**(Tudalennau 3 - 6)**

**3. DARPARIAETH CERDDORIAETH IEUENCTID**

Derbyn diweddariad mewn perthynas â mentrau cerddoriaeth ieuencid.

**(Tudalennau 7 - 14)**

**4. PROSIECT TREFTADAETH DIWYGIO DELWEDDAU**

Derbyn gwybodaeth am brosiect Diwygio Delweddau, sy'n cael ei gefnogi gan grant Cronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri Genedlaethol a'i arwain gan Wasanaeth Llyfrgelloedd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf.

**(Tudalennau 15 - 26)**

## 5. AELODAETH Y GRŴP

Derbyn diweddariad mewn perthynas â'r newidiadau arfaethedig i aelodaeth Grŵp Llywio Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol, yn unol â blaenoriaethau Adolygiad Buddsoddi 2023 Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru.

(Tudalennau 27 - 32)

## 6. MATERION BRYG

Trafod unrhyw faterion sydd, yn ôl doethineb y Cadeirydd, yn rhai bryg yng ngoleuni amgylchiadau arbennig.



## Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu

### Cylchrediad:-

Y Cyngorydd B Harris (Cadeirydd)  
Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings (Is-gadeirydd)  
Y Cyngorydd R Lewis  
Y Cyngorydd J Brencher  
Y Cyngorydd D Grehan

Mr A Owen-Hicks - Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru

Louise Davies, Cyfarwyddwr – Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a Gwasanaethau'r Gymuned  
Christian Hanagan, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd a Chyfathrebu

Caroline O'Neill, Rheolwr Celfyddydau a Diwylliant

Adrian Williams, Rheolwr Datblygu a Gweithrediadau'r Theatrau

Angela Gould, Rheolwr Datblygu Rhaglenni'r Theatrau a Chynulleidfaoedd

Anne Hayes, Rheolwr y Celfyddydau a'r Diwydiannau Creadigol

Nick Kelland - Prif Lyfrgellydd

Alice Friel, Swyddog Graddedig



## CYNGOR RHONDDA CYNON TAF

### GRŴP LLYWIO PWYLLGOR GWEITHREDU DIWYLLIANT A CHELFYDDYDAU STRATEGOL

Cofnodion o gyfarfod y Grŵp Llywio Pwyllgor Gweithredu Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol a gynhaliwyd Dydd Mawrth, 22 Tachwedd 2022 am 10.00 am

### Y Cynghorwyr Bwrdeistref Sirol - Grŵp Llywio Pwyllgor Gweithredu Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol Aelodau oedd yn bresennol:-:-

Y Cyngorydd B Harris (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorydd A Crimmings    Y Cyngorydd R Lewis  
Y Cyngorydd J Brencher

### Aelodau cyfetholedig a oedd yn bresennol

### Swyddogion oedd yn bresennol

Ms C O'Neill, Rheolwr Celfyddydau a Diwylliant  
Mr A Williams, Rheolwr Datblygu a Gweithrediadau'r Theatrau  
Ms A Hayes, Rheolwr y Celfyddydau a'r Diwydiannau Creadigol  
Ms A Friel, Swyddog Graddedig  
Mr A Owen-Hicks, Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru

#### 1 Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau

Croesawodd y Cadeirydd bawb oedd yn bresennol i gyfarfod y Grŵp Llywio Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol a derbyniwyd ymddiheuriad am absenoldeb gan Gyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol D. Grehan.

#### 2 Datgan Buddiant

Yn unol â'r Cod Ymddygiad, datganodd Cyngorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol J. Brencher y buddiant personol canlynol mewn perthynas ag eitem ar yr agenda: 'Rwy'n ymddiriedolwr yr YMCA ym Mhontypridd. Mae'n bosibl y caiff hyn ei gyfeirio ato mewn trafodaethau'.

#### 3 Cofnodion

**PENDERFYNODD** Aelodau gymeradwyo cofnodion cyfarfod y Grŵp Llywio Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol a gynhaliwyd ar 14 Chwefror 2022.

#### **4 Rhaglen Waith 2022-2023**

Rhoddodd Blaen Swyddog y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd y rhaglen waith ddrafft ar gyfer Blwyddyn 2022-2023 y Cyngor i'r Grŵp Llywio.

Cafodd Aelodau wybod bod yr Arweinydd wedi rhoi gwybod am sawl newid i'w Gynllun Dirprwyo yng nghyfarfod y Cabinet a gynhaliwyd ar 7 Tachwedd 2022. Un o'r newidiadau oedd y Cylch Gorchwyl diweddaraf ar gyfer y Grŵp Llywio. Esboniwyd bod gan y Grŵp Llywio gylch gwaith ehangach nawr, a hynny er mwyn trafod llyfrgelloedd a threftadaeth. Byddai hyn yn cael ei adlewyrchu mewn adroddiadau yn y dyfodol.

Nododd y Swyddog fod y rhaglen waith yn ddogfen hyblyg a byddai modd ei diwygio i adlewyrchu unrhyw newidiadau i anghenion busnes yn ystod y flwyddyn, a gofynnodd i Aelodau nodi ei chynnwys.

**PENDERFYNODD** Aelodau:

1. Rhoi sylwadau, fel y bo'n briodol, ar y rhaglen waith ddrafft;
2. Cymeradwyo'r rhaglen waith ddrafft, a bydd modd ei diwygio i adlewyrchu unrhyw flaenoriaethau sy'n newid yn ystod y flwyddyn.

#### **5 Adolygiad Buddsoddi a Chynllun Busnes Cyngor y Celfyddydau**

Rhoddodd y Rheolwr Strategol Dros Dro - Y Celfyddydau a Diwylliant wybod i Aelodau'r Grŵp Llywio Diwylliant a Chelfyddydau Strategol am y cais y mae Theatrau RhCT yn bwriadu ei gyflwyno i Adolygiad Buddsoddi 2023 Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, a'i ganolbwynt arfaethedig ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Nododd y Cadeirydd yr effaith y mae'r pandemig wedi'i chael ar wasanaeth y Celfyddydau a Diwylliant ond roedd yn falch o nodi'r uchelgeisiau sydd wedi'u hamlinellu yn yr adroddiad mewn perthynas â Hwb Diwylliannol Treorci a datblygiadau Theatr y Colisëwm.

Adleisiodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Addysg, Cyfranogiad Pobl Ifainc a'r Gymraeg sylwadau'r Cadeirydd ac roedd yn falch o nodi uchelgeisiau'r gwasanaeth. Roedd o'r farn y dylid canmol hyn. Siaradodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet am waith y gwasanaeth dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a gafodd ganmoliaeth ffafriol gan Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru a chafodd ei adlewyrchu yn y setliadau referniw a dderbyniwyd gan yr Awdurdod Lleol. Aeth yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ati i gydnabod y sefyllfa ariannol bresennol ond roedd wedi gobeithio y byddai cyllid yn parhau. Canmolodd y gwasanaeth mewnol sy'n gwneud cysylltiadau â phob gwasanaeth y Cyngor. Daeth yr Aelod o'r Cabinet i gasgliad trwy bwysleisio pa mor werthfawr oedd y gwasanaeth, a'i bwysigrwydd o ran yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, fyddai'n cael ei chynnal yn RhCT yn 2024.

Siaradodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion yr Amgylchedd a Hamdden yn gadarnhaol am gynnwys yr adroddiad a'r datblygiadau cyffrous. Canmolodd yr Aelod o'r Cabinet y garfan am feddwl yn rhagweithiol ac am wneud cysylltiadau â phynciau pwysig megis yr argyfwng hinsawdd.

Siaradodd un Aelod am y datblygiadau cadarnhaol ym Mhontypridd megis y llyfrgell, Canolfan Gelf y Miwni a'r YMCA, a chanmolodd Reolwr y Celfyddydau a'r Diwydiannau Creadigol am ei gwaith. Siaradodd yr Aelod am fywiogrwydd

yng nghanol y dref ac roedd yn falch o nodi bod y gwasanaeth mor groesawgar ac amrywiol wrth ymgysylltu â phobl ifainc a chydabod talent.

Nododd cynrychiolydd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru fod RhCT yn un o'r Awdurdodau Lleol mwyaf deinamig yn ddiwylliannol yng Nghymru a siaradodd am y sector diwylliannol bywiog yn broffesiynol ac yn wirfoddol. Mewn perthynas â'r adolygiad buddsoddi sydd ar y gweill, nododd CCC fod RhCT mewn sefyllfa dda o ystyried y gwaith sydd wedi'i gynnal dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ac esboniodd fod y theatrau yn bodloni nifer o flaenoriaethau CCC gyda'r Awdurdod Lleol yn dangos awydd i fodloni rhagor. Rhoddwyd sicrwydd i Aelodau y byddai trafodaethau mwy manwl yn cael eu cynnal rhwng CCC a swyddogion mewn perthynas â'r broses ymgeisio cyn gynted ag y bydd dogfennau a chanllawiau terfynol yn cael eu cyhoeddi.

Rhoddodd y Cadeirydd ddiolch i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru am y sylwadau a chyn dod â'r cyfarfod i ben, rhoddodd wybod i Aelodau mai dyhead Gŵyl Celfyddydau Cwm Rhondda, Treorci oedd rhannu'r achlysur ledled RhCT ac edrychodd ymlaen at weithio tuag at hynny yn y dyfodol.

**PENDERFYNODD** Aelodau:

1. Ystyried cynnwys yr adroddiad a gwneud sylwadau ar y blaenoriaethau allweddol arfaethedig.

**Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 10.28 am**

**Y Cynghorydd B Harris  
Cadeirydd.**

tudalen wag

## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING GROUP

17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

#### REPORT ON YOUTH MUSIC PROVISION WITHIN THE ARTS SERVICE

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES, COUNCILLOR BOB HARRIS

**Author(s):** Adrian Williams, Interim Strategic Arts & Culture Manager - 01443 570031

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members of the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group of Youth Music provision within the Arts Service

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group:

- 2.1 Consider the contents of the report and comment on the information provided.
- 2.2 That the feedback and comments of the Steering Group are reported to Cabinet to inform their decision.

#### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 This report provides an opportunity for the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group to consider the Youth Music provision within the Arts Service.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Arts Service's Youth Arts and SONIG Youth Music Industry (YAS) programmes are commissioned by the Resilient Families Services Families First programme.
- 4.2 The Arts Service's Youth Arts and SONIG programmes deliver a range of projects for young people between the ages of 8 and 25 which aim to:
- Raise Self Esteem & Wellbeing
  - Develop Resilience

- Build skills through the arts

## **5. KEY SONIG PROJECTS**

### **5.1 Fortitude through Music**

5.1.1 This eight-week pre-employability programme was delivered during 2022/23 for young people aged 16+ not in education, training or employment.

5.1.2 The programme engages participants in self-development techniques and music activity, from learning instruments to song-writing and performance, and in doing so, supports them to realise their potential, improve their confidence, work with others, be creative, and explore future career opportunities.

5.1.3 12 young people participated in the 2022/23 Fortitude through Music programme, with 7 young people showing improved emotional and mental wellbeing, showing positive changes to lifestyle-behaviour, and improved resilience.

5.1.4 This year Fortitude saw a transformation in confidence for all members and two members of the Fortitude group will be participating in peer tutor training in February. They have also been signposted onto new opportunities within the creative industries.

5.1.5 Fortitude also benefits from a successful partnership between YEPS and the Arts Service with two new referrals to the YEPS mental health workers, as well as new music projects planned for the final quarter of 2022-23.

5.1.6 This year's Fortitude was completed in December, with a sharing for friends and families at Jacs in Aberdare.

### **5.2 Hot Jam Rock Schools**

5.2.1 This three-day project was delivered at the Park & Dare Theatre in August 2022 for young musicians aged 11 – 18 years.

5.2.2 Participants were coached by Hot Jam's expert tutors on a variety of music techniques specific to their instrument, improvisation and song-writing.

5.2.3 Many of the young people who participated in 2022/23, reported improved emotional and mental wellbeing, as well as positive changes to lifestyle behaviour.



5.2.4 100% of participants indicated that they were proud of their involvement, whilst 80% said they felt better about life as a result of the project.

5.2.5 Hot Jam is planned to return to the Coliseum in February half term 2023

### **5.3 SONIG Rap collective Project Prosper**

5.3.1 In 2021 the Rap Collective wanted to create an identity for themselves and the name 'Project Prosper' was chosen and a logo designed

5.3.2 Project Prosper has been resident in Ty Gwyn working with 11 – 15 year olds. In collaboration with YEPS, the project has been working with Young Neets from the Step 4 programme (for young people with antisocial behaviours) at Treorchy Comp

5.3.3 Sonig commissioned the rap tutor for Ty Gwyn 13 – 15 year olds, which culminated in a recording session and the recording was sent out to RCT services and will be on the YAS website.

5.3.4 Sonig were successful in an application for funding from Ty Cerdd to focus on the development of a project for the younger age group, 11 – 13 years, to provide a safe and age appropriate context for them.

5.3.5 These young people participated and performed as part of the project and expressed outcomes of improved emotional and mental wellbeing as well as indicating they had made positive changes to lifestyle behaviours.

### **5.4 Young Promoters Network (YPN)**

5.4.1 This network creates opportunities for aspiring young promoters, photographers and music artists aged 14-25 years old to develop their skills and knowledge of careers within the music industry through providing supported live experiences in performance, photography and event promotion.

5.4.2 A significant feature of YPN is that it has always been run by young people who have come up through the range of pathways created by Sonig and/or the Forté Project

5.4.3 During the COVID lockdown with no opportunity for Live gigs, Callum Lewis and Ethan Duck worked with Rob Jones the Arts Service's Technical Manager to design "The Box", a mobile recording kit which could be loaned to young people at home to record their songs and music. The recordings were then returned to Callum for upload onto the website

- 5.4.4 At the age of 14, Callum and Ethan first engaged with Sonig on a Hot Jam workshop and as a result, with two others, set up a band, The Pitchforks, who later journeyed through YPN and the Forté Project.
- 5.4.5 Whilst participating in the YPN, Callum also followed an interest in Sound Tech and joined the RCT Tech Team. Later, both Callum and Ethan attended college (Cardiff & Bristol respectively) and took over a job-share running YPN. They have now moved on into further employment.

## **6. Partnership Projects**

### **6.1 Forté Project**

- 6.1.1 Forté project supports the development of emerging young music artists aged 16-25 years old throughout Wales with major funding from Arts Council Wales (ACW)
- 6.1.2 From its inception within, and with support from, RCT Arts Service, the Forté Project has now expanded to play an integral part in shaping a new future for the arts in Wales. The project operates in the context of Beacons Cymru which is in its second year of funding from Creative Wales (WG) and continues to be managed by Spike Griffiths. The service is utilising its project skills and expertise in order to nurture our young people and help them to identify career pathways within the music sector.
- 6.1.3 Forté is now in its eighth year, and 10 young artists/bands participate in the project each year. They access sessions led by experts in areas such as personal development, interview techniques, professional identity and songwriting.
- 6.1.4 One of the sessions held focuses on mental health, and a band member reported that it was “good to learn how to relax, what to do if things got too stressful...nice to connect with everyone.”
- 6.1.5 Many artists have the opportunity to perform at Young Promoters Network events, high-profile festivals such as Green Man, and have also succeeded in being selected for Arts Council of Wales / BBC Wales Launchpad funding and/or becoming a Horizons 12 artist.
- 6.1.6 Future ambitions include the use Stiwdio 1 at the Park and Dare and YMa in Pontypridd

## **6.2 Beacons Cymru**

6.2.1 Beacons is now in its second year of funding from Creative Wales (WG) and is a Wales-wide organisation supporting the next generation of young people aspiring to work in the music industry.

6.2.2 Beacons has recently created a new, bilingual, music industry magazine (Crwth) with a focus on Welsh music industry news, profiles and opportunity. Crwth is designed and delivered by young emerging industry personnel, and shines a light on the music industry, culture and art in modern Wales.

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

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

## **8. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

8.1 No consultation exercise has been required.

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

9.1 There are no financial implications aligned to the recommendations in this report.

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

10.1 There are no legal implications aligned to the recommendations in this report.

## **11. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.**

11.1 As the projects are funded by Families First, we are supported to not only contribute to the delivery of the Wales Government priorities but also the Council's corporate priorities, 'Economy', 'People' and 'Place'.

11.2 The Arts Service contributes to the seven national wellbeing goals, particularly:

- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;
- A prosperous Wales;
- A healthier Wales;
- A Wales of cohesive communities.

11.3 The programme and our involvement is consistent with the sustainable approach promoted by the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act through the five ways of working:

- Long-term – enabling us to co-create work, engage with our communities and build partnerships that seek to achieve a more resilient and sustainable arts and creative industries provision within the County Borough;
- Prevention – by understanding our community’s needs, concerns, opportunities and aspiration, we can provide engagement, participation and performance opportunities that address the early intervention and prevention agenda;
- Integrated – through community engagement work with key partners and contributing more effectively to a range of local, regional and national strategic priorities in an integrated and coherent way;
- Collaboration – through creating and working with our communities in collaboration with key artists and arts organisations whose values align with ours and with whom we can work in partnership to achieve our goals;
- Involvement – developing our creativity and community engagement through consultation, feedback, advisory groups and professional networks.

## 12. **CONCLUSION**

12.1 This report informs members of the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group on Youth Music provision within the Arts Service

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING GROUP**

**17<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CABINET MEMBER  
FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES, COUNCILLOR BOB HARRIS**

**Report on Youth Music Provision within the Arts Service**

**Officer to contact:** Mr Adrian Williams, Interim Strategic Arts & Culture  
Manager

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## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING GROUP

17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023

#### UPDATE ON THE 'ALTERED IMAGES' HERITAGE PROJECT

#### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES, COUNCILLOR BOB HARRIS

Author(s): Nick Kelland, Principal Librarian

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To receive information on the 'Altered Images' project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) grant and led by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Library Service.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group:

- 2.1 Note the contents of this report regarding the project, progress so far and next steps.
- 2.2 Consider whether they would like any further information.

#### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the members are updated on the project.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As a NLHF Priority Area, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council received a solicited invitation to apply to the NLHF for grant funding towards a project of our selection, that would look to rebuild capacity within Rhondda Cynon Taf and the community in relation to heritage. The 'Altered Images' project was developed as a result of this

approach, and was awarded a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £250,000 for a three-year project in August 2021.

4.2 There are two main parts to the project:

- The first involves working with volunteers of all ages and abilities, providing them with an opportunity to develop their skills to enable them to photograph and record memorials and monuments, and capture the stories and memories of local people;
- The second part involves the development and formalisation of a Cultural Heritage Strategy for Rhondda Cynon Taf, creating connections with the sector to gain a fuller understanding of the borough's heritage and those involved in its management.

## **5. THE PROJECT PURPOSES**

5.1 Prior to the commencement of the project discussions were held with the NLHF and the following project purposes were agreed upon:

- Improved partnership working both internally within RCTCBC and externally with community volunteers and groups across the 7 neighbourhood networks, involving a wider range of people in heritage
- Development of a formalised heritage strategy that will build upon both existing and new partnerships within the heritage and cultural sectors
- Merge the Library Service's existing heritage websites to create one all-encompassing website that showcases, records, preserves and promotes the culture, history, and heritage of Rhondda Cynon Taf, thereby making the collections more accessible and attracting more and a wider range of people online
- Identify, provide narrative text and photograph RCT memorials and statues to produce a comprehensive, accessible online resource
- Produce an oral and visual history resource recording the stories of a diversity of older people throughout RCT
- Deliver a range of activities including workshops, surgeries, training sessions and performance/interpretation opportunities to engage diverse audiences
- Contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of target groups of local people through their participation in the project



- Enthuse and motivate a wider range of people throughout RCT to get involved with their local heritage, thereby widening horizons, raising aspirations, and challenging our assumptions about the past
- Create enhanced opportunities for volunteering and learning.
- High visibility acknowledgement of the NHLF on site, online and in all activities
- Create an evaluation plan at the start of the project, hold evaluation reviews throughout the duration and provide an Evaluation Report on project completion

## 6. **PROGRESS SO FAR**

6.1 Following a recruitment process Hannah Buckmaster was appointed as the Heritage Project Co-ordinator in February 2022.

6.2 Following advice from the NHLF, it was agreed that an external Evaluation Consultant should be appointed. In May 2022 a number of identified people known to have experience and knowledge in writing Evaluation Plans and reports for the delivery phase of a National Heritage Fund Project were contacted and invited to submit an evaluation proposal. Each potential candidate was supplied with an evaluation brief outlining the background of the project and the scope

of

the work. The brief also outlined the requirements of their submission and the skills required by the successful applicant. At the end of the application period and following an evaluation process Ruth Garnault was appointed as the project Evaluation Consultant.

6.3 Several community conversations, workshops/creative sessions and activities that align with the project purposes have been held throughout the County Borough. These have resulted in 21 volunteers being recruited; 299 people engaging in workshops and creative activities; and 19 schools and community groups engaging with the project. For a more detailed progress report on these sessions and activities, see Appendix 1.

## 7. **FUTURE PLANS**

7.1 To widen the range of people engaging in heritage by developing new heritage-based activities, immediate plans for January 2023 include two new workshops:

**My Own Story** – Family History workshops that incorporate local history to give personal stories a national context. Participants will

produce presentations to share the information they have learnt during the workshops.

**History Detectives** – The following 3 workshops fall under this banner:

- Members of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Equality and Diversity Youth Forum will research local and national LGBTQIA+ history before working with a local artist to produce pieces of art which will be exhibited at the Cynon Valley Museum during LGBTQIA+ History Month
- A group of young people from Treorchy Comprehensive School will research the people behind some of the Blue Plaques within their catchment area and bring them to life in a short film.
- A group of children will research some of the borough's archaeological sites and work with an animator to produce a short film using the information they've learnt.

7.2 Work will be undertaken with the NLHF to re-draft the Cultural Heritage Strategy Brief to allow the Operational Manager of the Council's Heritage Service to engage with key stakeholders, communities across the borough, and develop a formalised Cultural Heritage Strategy.

7.3 Evaluate the proposals submitted in response to the Digitisation Activity Brief, and appoint a supplier who will work with the Project Team to merge the Library Service's existing heritage websites to create one all-encompassing website.

7.4 Continue to create opportunities for volunteering and engagement with community groups to further our intended purpose of:

- Identifying, providing narrative text, and photographing RCT memorials and statues to produce a comprehensive, accessible on-line resource;
- Producing an oral and visual history resource recording the stories of a diversity of older people throughout RCT.

## **8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment including the socio-economic duty is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only.

## **9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no Welsh Language implications arising from the content of this report.

## **10. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

10.1 There are no consultation implications arising from this report.

**11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

11.1 There are no financial implications aligned to the proposal in this report.

**12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

12.1 There are no legal implications aligned to the proposal in this report.

**13. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.**

13.1 This project further supports the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities: 'Prosperity', 'People' and 'Place'.

13.2 The Library Service will be further enabled to contribute to the seven national wellbeing goals, particularly:

- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;
- A prosperous Wales;
- A healthier Wales;
- A Wales of cohesive communities.

13.3 The proposal is consistent with the sustainable approach promoted by the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act through the five ways of working:

- Long-term – providing volunteering, learning and heritage engagement opportunities that look to rebuild capacity within Rhondda Cynon Taf and the community in relation to heritage;
- Prevention – by understanding our heritage, sense of place and belonging, alongside our community's knowledge, understanding and needs, we can provide engagement, participation and volunteering opportunities that address the early intervention and prevention agenda;
- Integrated – through community engagement work with key partners and contributing more effectively to a range of local, regional and national strategic priorities in an integrated and coherent way;
- Collaboration – through creating and working with our communities and heritage professionals with whom we can work in partnership to achieve our goals;
- Involvement – developing opportunities to learn, record, understand and experience the rich heritage of the borough.

## 14. **CONCLUSION**

- 14.1 This report provides information on the 'Altered Images' project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF) grant and led by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Library Service.
- 14.2 The project provides the opportunity to rebuild capacity within Rhondda Cynon Taf and the community in relation to heritage.
- 14.3 The programme activity seeks to work to deliver the project purposes through engaging with a wide range of partners and individuals across within the borough.

## Appendix 1

<b>Altered Images – Progress Report (Period covered: 01/09/2022 to 16/12/2022)</b>	
Approved Purposes	Summary of Progress
Improved partnership working other Council Services and externally with community volunteers and groups across the seven Neighbourhood Networks, involving a wider range of people in heritage.	The Heritage Project Co-ordinator has continued to engage with groups across the seven Neighbourhood Networks. Community Conversation workshops have continued to be held with community groups across Rhondda Cynon Taf. A total of 299 individuals have taken part in these workshops since December 2021. To widen the range of people engaging in heritage, the Co-ordinator has worked in partnership with the Council's Youth Engagement and Participation Service and the Cynon Valley Museum, to set up a project specifically aimed at young people within the LGBTQIA+ community. The project aims to research the 'hidden history' of the community which will culminate in an exhibition of the art the group produces in response to the information they gather. The project sessions will continue into 2023.
Development of a formalised Cultural Heritage Strategy that will build upon both existing and new partnerships within the heritage and cultural sectors.	A meeting was held with the NLHF in August, where it was proposed that the development of a community-led Cultural Heritage Strategy would be led by the Operational Manager of the Council's Heritage Service. The proposal was agreed in principle, pending the re-drafting of the Cultural Heritage Strategy brief, the submission of the Heritage Service Team's CVs, and a plan outlining budget commitment. The Chair of the Project Board plans to meet with the

	project's NLHF Consultant to clarify statutory obligations which may include conservation and planning before the brief is re-drafted.
Merge the Library Service's existing heritage websites to create one all-encompassing website that showcases, records, preserves and promotes the culture, history, and heritage of Rhondda Cynon Taf; thereby, making the collections more accessible and attracting more, and a wider range, of people online.	The Digitisation Activity Brief has been completed and approved by NLHF. Eight Digital Asset Management Solution suppliers have been approached. Two suppliers have expressed an interest in submitting a proposal for the work and have confirmed that they are able to offer a solution for both the front and back end of the new website. The deadline for proposals has been set as 20 January 2023.
<b>Approved Purposes</b>	<b>Summary of Progress</b>
Produce an oral and visual history resource recording the stories of a diversity of older people throughout RCT.	Following their attendance at an Introduction to Oral History course in June 2022, six of twelve volunteers have now undertaken at least one interview, with the project being in receipt of nine interviews. Edited clips of the interviews have been used to publicise the project via the RCT Libraries Facebook page. They will also be featured on local radio. A refresher course has been held for volunteers who still felt nervous about using the recording equipment. One new volunteer attended an online Introduction to Oral History course in November 2022. They are now practicing with the recording equipment and will begin interviewing in 2023. Three members of Taffs Well and Nantgarw History Group have put themselves forward to volunteer for the project and will attend a bespoke introductory course in February 2023.

<p>Deliver a range of activities including workshops, surgeries, training sessions and performance/interpretation opportunities to engage diverse audiences</p>	<p>A 'Community Collection' pilot session took place at Lee Gardens Pool, Penrhiwceiber, which invited community members to bring along personal objects which could also tell us something about the history of the area. The objects were photographed and the stories behind them recorded for a potential online exhibition. Further sessions will take place across Rhondda Cynon Taf in the year ahead. Under the 'History Detectives' umbrella, members of the Council's Equality and Diversity Youth Forum are undertaking research into the history of the LGBTQIA+ community. They will then move on to work with a local LGBTQIA+ artist to create pieces of art inspired by their research, which will produce an exhibition at the Cynon Valley Museum to celebrate LGBTQIA+ History Month in February 2023. A further two projects for children and young people will begin in 2023, e.g. a group of pupils from Treorchy Comprehensive School will research the people behind the Blue Plaques within their catchment area, to produce a short film.</p>
<p><b>Approved Purposes</b></p>	<p><b>Summary of Progress</b></p>
<p>Create enhanced opportunities for volunteering and learning.</p>	<p>The project is developing learning opportunities for individuals and groups of people through the offer of training and educational courses. A</p>

	<p>free, short local history course took place in August and September which encouraged participants to discuss, research and explore the historical significance of the memorials, statues, and monuments of Pontypridd. The LGBTQIA+ Creative Heritage Project is giving a group of young people the necessary tools to research the history of the LGBTQIA+ community, from a local and national perspective. Library staff have been on hand to support their research. An introductory course to oral history was attended by a new volunteer. A course for another group of volunteers is scheduled for 2023.</p>
<p>High visibility acknowledgment of the National Lottery Heritage Fund on site, online and in all activities.</p>	<p>The Heritage Fund logo is being used on all documents, (email signature, registration form, volunteer log, advertising posters, confirmation letters, etc.), and all articles associated with the project. New marketing materials - A5 flyers and pop-up banners - have been designed and include the NLHF logo.</p>
<p>Create an evaluation plan at the start of the project, hold evaluation reviews throughout the duration and provide an Evaluation Report on project completion.</p>	<p>Ruth Garnault, the project's Evaluation Consultant, has produced a Baseline Report and an Evaluation Framework. The Baseline Report concluded that there is a limited amount of baseline information against which to measure progress, and therefore, the project will build a body of information as it progresses and will measure each year's achievements against previous ones. The Evaluation Framework has provided a structured approach to data gathering for each indicator. Data gathering tools including Google Forms and Wellbeing Umbrellas are being utilised to capture participant feedback. A project visit and focus group session will take place early 2023 and feed into the interim report which is due in</p>



March 2023.
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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**UPDATE ON THE 'ALTERED IMAGES' HERITAGE PROJECT**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CABINET  
MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES, COUNCILLOR BOB  
HARRIS**

**17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**Background Papers:**

[National Heritage Lottery Fund Projects Update, Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group Meeting, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022](#)

**Officer to contact:**

Nick Kelland, Principal Librarian

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee:**

None

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

### **STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING GROUP**

**17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**A REPORT OUTLINING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING GROUP.**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES, COUNCILLOR BOB HARRIS**

**Author(s):** Adrian Williams, Interim Strategic Arts & Culture Manager - 01443 570031

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

- 1.1 To receive a report in respect of the proposed changes to the membership of the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group, in line with the priorities of the Arts Council of Wales Investment Review 2023.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group:

- 2.1 Approve the proposal for changes to the membership of the Steering Group.

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

- 3.1 Increasing community involvement in the service builds upon the service's work with Lisa Baxter of The Experience Business following participation in her 'Designing Public Value with Purpose' programme funded by the Arts Council Wales, , supporting arts venues, artist and communities to develop a deeper understanding of their locality and realise the potential of creativity in helping local communities to flourish.
- 3.2 These proposed changes to the membership of the Steering Group will ensure that the service and its offer consider the communities needs, with a particular focus on the Park & Dare Theatre, and the Cultural Hub, fully embedding the service within its communities, involving audiences and individuals in its decision making, and are seen as exemplars and leaders in their field.

- 3.3 The Arts Council of Wales is due to commence an Investment Review of its Arts Portfolio programme in early 2023. RCT Theatres is currently an Arts Portfolio Wales client and is intending to apply for continued funding to strengthen its engagement work with communities and increase the public value of its theatres in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 At its inception in 2019, the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group membership included two co-opted members: one from the Arts Council of Wales and one openly-recruited from the wider arts world working externally to the council.
- 4.2 Following a staff work programme review at the Arts Council of Wales, this co-opted member has changed; and due to personal reasons, the other co-opted member has taken the decision to resign from the membership of the Steering Group.
- 4.3 As part of the next Arts Council Wales Investment Review of its portfolio clients, commencing January 2023, the Arts Council have proposed focusing on the following six priorities: Creativity; Equity, Diversity and, Inclusion; Welsh Language; Climate Justice; Nurturing Talent; and Transformation.
- 4.4 Central to the Arts Council thinking, informed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the events leading to the Black Lives Matter protests, and the We Shall Not be Removed campaign, there is now an increased emphasis on art that is representative of local communities and, that leads to communities having access to pathways and resources to make and experience art on their own terms.
- 4.5 The Investment Review is also requesting that their funded organisations are responsive, innovative, relevant, and accountable, and will look to interrogate organisations on how they make decisions, who they involve, and the inclusiveness of those decisions.

#### **5. RATIONALE FOR CHANGE**

- 5.1 In response to the forthcoming Arts Council of Wales Investment Review, and following the resignation of one of the co-opted members, the Steering Group has the opportunity to consider its membership and either change the role of its external co-opted member or increase the membership of the group to include one or more community voices.

## **6. PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 6.1 It is proposed that a member of the borough's Citizens' Panel, RCT Wide Youth Forum and Older People Advisory Group be invited to join the Steering Group, with consideration given to the ways in which additional community representation can be sought in the future.
- 6.2 The Arts Service is exploring the development of a Community Panel that will include many community voices. It is proposed that the Chair of this panel, once established, also become a member of the Steering Group.
- 6.2 It is also proposed that an external arts professional is openly-recruited as a member of the Steering Group, following the resignation of the co-opted member who undertook this role.
- 6.3 The Arts Council of Wales member will continue to be co-opted to the membership of the Steering Group.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 7.1 This report provides a proposal for the Steering Group to agree the change of membership, seeking to ensure it is representative of the communities of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

## **8. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no Welsh Language implications arising from the content of this report.

## **9. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 9.1 There are no consultation implications arising from this report.

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

- 10.1 There are no financial implications aligned to the proposal in this report.

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

- 11.1 There are no legal implications aligned to the proposal in this report.

## **12. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.**

- 12.1 As an Arts Portfolio Wales client, we are supported to not only contribute to the delivery of the Arts Council of Wales' priorities but also the Council's corporate priorities, 'Prosperity', 'People' and 'Place'.
- 12.2 RCT Theatres will be further enabled to contribute to the seven national wellbeing goals, particularly:
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;
  - A prosperous Wales;
  - A healthier Wales;
  - A Wales of cohesive communities.
- 12.3 The proposal is consistent with the sustainable approach promoted by the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act through the five ways of working:
- Long-term – enabling us to co-create work, engage with our communities and build audiences that seek to achieve a more resilient and sustainable arts and creative industries provision within the County Borough;
  - Prevention – by understanding our community's needs, concerns, opportunities and aspiration, we can provide engagement, participation and performance opportunities that address the early intervention and prevention agenda;
  - Integrated – through community engagement work with key partners and contributing more effectively to a range of local, regional and national strategic priorities in an integrated and coherent way;
  - Collaboration – through creating and working with our communities in collaboration with key artists and arts organisations whose values align with ours and with whom we can work in partnership to achieve our goals;
  - Involvement – developing our creativity and community engagement through consultation, feedback, advisory groups and professional networks.

### **13. CONCLUSION**

- 13.1 This report proposes changes to the membership of the Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group, in line with the priorities of the Arts Council of Wales Investment Review 2023.
- 13.2 It is proposed that a member of the borough's Citizens' Panel, RCT Wide Youth Forum and Older People Advisory Group be invited to join the Steering Group, followed by the Chair of the, yet to be established Arts Service Community Panel.

- 13.3 It is also proposed that an external arts professional is openly-recruited as a member of the Steering Group, following the resignation of the co-opted member who undertook this role.
- 13.4 The Arts Council of Wales member will continue to be co-opted to the membership of the Steering Group.

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**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**A REPORT OUTLINING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE  
MEMBERSHIP OF THE STRATEGIC CULTURE AND ARTS STEERING  
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**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH COUNCILLOR BOB  
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**17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**Background Papers:**

[Arts Council Investment Review and Business Plan, Strategic Culture and Arts Steering Group Meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.](#)

**Officer to contact:**

Adrian Williams, Strategic Arts & Culture Manager

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee:**

None