

**Report of the Area Leader**

**Report to South Leeds (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013**

**Subject: Morley Literature Festival 2013 – Evaluation Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  Morley North  Morley South
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. The Area Committee approved £10,000 revenue Wellbeing Funding to Morley Literature Festival Committee to support the delivery of the eighth Morley Literature Festival in 2013. This report presents the Evaluation Report of the 2013 festival to the Area Committee as part of the Well being monitoring process and asks Members to note funding agreed for the 2014 festival and consider a funding recommendation to support the 2015 festival.

**Recommendations**

2. Members of the Outer South Area Committee are requested to:

- § Note contents of Report and make comment as appropriate
- § confirm funding already ringfenced for the 2014 festival, subject to Executive Board approval of the 2014/15 revenue Well being Budget
- § Area Committee to consider ringfencing 2014/15 Well being funding for the 2015 festival, subject to Executive Board approval of the 2014/15 revenue Well being Budget

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce the 2013 Evaluation Report of the Morley Literature Festival as part of the Well being funding monitoring process. This information will also be used to confirm funding already agreed for the 2014 festival and to consider Wellbeing funding in 2014/15 to support the festival in 2015.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 In September 2006 the inaugural Morley Literature Festival took place and following its success the Area Committee agreed to support the festival to become an annual event. Since 2006, the Area Committee have annually approved revenue funding from the Wellbeing budget to support the festival.
- 2.2 In line with the Morley Literature Festival constitution, the Area Committee nominated Cllr Bob Gettings, Cllr Shirley Varley and Cllr Judith Elliott to the Morley Literature Festival Committee. Cllr Varley was elected as Chair of the 2013 Festival Committee.

## **3 Main issues**

### **3.1 Area Committee Links**

- 3.1.1 In the 2012-15 Outer South Area Committee Area Business Plan, Members have identified supporting community events that offer the opportunity for residents to be involved with cultural and sporting activities as a key priority under the theme of 'Culture' to contribute towards the City Priority Plan outcome 'Get more people involved in the city's cultural opportunities through increasing the proportion of adults and children who regularly participate in cultural activities'
- 3.1.2 Members identified Morley Literature Festival as a strong vehicle for community engagement and an opportunity to develop further the strong community spirit in Morley. The festival is now a prestigious event which alongside other initiatives provides the town with a strong annual calendar of events, supported by all partners.
- 3.1.3 The Area Committee have three representatives on the Morley Literature Festival Committee Councillor Bob Gettings, Councillor Judith Elliott and Councillor Shirley Varley.

### **3.2 Evaluation Report**

- 3.2.1 The attached evaluation report has been written by the Festival Director in conjunction with the Chair and the Festival Committee Executive Members. The report structure covers all key aspects of the festival and provides recommendations for each section that will form the basis of the framework for the Festival Committee to consider the future organisation of the event.
- 3.2.2 The 2013 Morley Literature Festival continued its success for the town, with a 10-day programme of 26 high profile events, with new commissions, new and

ongoing partnerships and considerable media coverage. Events were held in Morley Town Hall, Tingley Methodist Church, St Peter's Church, Churwell Community Centre, Morley Library, Ardsley Library, Gildersome Library, Trinity Leeds, St Peter's Church, La Cucina, Gildersome Conservative Club and Leeds Town Hall. The festival continued to benefit from the patronage of Gervase Phinn who was installed as the festival patron in 2010 and headlined the festival event this year. Other headline authors include Kate Adie and Andy Kershaw.

- 3.2.3 The Literary Luncheon with Colin Brown the author of the acclaimed 'Whitehall – The Street that Shaped the Nation' was held at The Village Hotel Tingley. This year's event was slightly less well attended than in previous years, and it has been agreed to look at potential alternative venues for next 2014 to refresh the lunch proposition.
- 3.2.4 This year's programme was enhanced by a poet-in-residence which was funded by Leeds Inspired. The poet, Becky Cherriman trialed a number of different ways to introduce poetry into this year's festival. There was two major outcomes the first was 'Word on the Street' this was a poetry trail around Morley Town Centre, a number of poets donated text which were printed on to felted shoddy by artist Bryony Pritchard. During the festival the trail was sited in different locations including Dartmouth Park and Groundwork. The second major outcome was 'New poem for Morley' which was a poem written for the festival by Becky which was inspired by Morley and by using words crowd sourced from local people.
- 3.2.5 As detailed in the attached evaluation report, improvements to the delivery of the festival were made in 2013. Further areas for improvement have been identified through the evaluation process that will enhance the future delivery of the festival.
- 3.2.6 The committee are confident of continuing to deliver a successful festival next year and would like to thank the Area Committee for approving funding in this year's budget for 2014. The Festival Committee would also ask the Area Committee to consider providing the same funding arrangement for 2015. Area Committee Wellbeing Funding will provide a secure foundation for the delivery of the ninth festival in 2014; in particular it will allow the committee to secure the services of the Director at this crucial time. The Area Committee are asked to note that any funding will be subject to Leeds City Council Executive Board approval of the 2014/15 revenue Wellbeing Budget and beyond.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 All projects developed are in consultation with Elected Members and local communities. Approval for a contribution from the Wellbeing budget is secured at Area Committee.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.2 Groups submitting a project proposal requesting funding from the Well being budget have an equal opportunities policy and as part of the application process,

complete a section outlining which equality groups the project will work with and how equality and cohesion issues have been considered.

- 4.2.3 Internal and statutory partners are committed to equality and cohesion and all projects they are involved with will have considered these issues.

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 The projects outlined in this report contribute to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies:

- Vision For Leeds
- Children and Young Peoples Plan
- Health and Well being City Priority Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 This report introduces the evaluation report for the 2013 festival which demonstrates how the Area Committee Wellbeing funding was used.
- 4.4.2 The Area Committee has already agreed to support the festival in 2014 with funding from this years budget. This will ensure the Festival Director is in place to prepare for a successful 2014 festival, any delay could threaten the festival and would not be the best use of resources.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are eligible for Call In.
- 4.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.
- 4.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

### **4.6 Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 This report introduces the evaluation report for the 2013 Morley Literature Festival and as such there are no risks are identifiable. Any projects funded through Wellbeing budget complete a section identifying risks and solutions as part of the application process.

## **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 This report introduces the 2013 Morley Literature Festival Evaluation Report.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Members of the Outer South Area Committee are requested to:
- Note contents of Report and make comment as appropriate.

- confirm funding already ringfenced for the 2014 festival, subject to Executive Board approval of the 2014/15 revenue Well being Budget
- Area Committee to consider ringfencing 2014/15 Well being funding for the 2014 festival, subject to Executive Board approval of the 2014/154 revenue Well being Budget

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

### **7.1 Morley Literature Festival 2013 – Evaluation Report (4 - 13 October 2013)**

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.