

REPORT TO: ARTS & HERITAGE COMMITTEE - 20 NOVEMBER 2000

REPORT ON: 'COMING TO OUR SENSES'

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ARTS AND HERITAGE

REPORT NO: 690-2000

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the committee of the success of the application to the Scottish Arts Council for support for the forthcoming exhibition 'Coming to our Senses'.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 That Committee agrees the establishment of a cross-departmental officer steering group involving the Education, Social Work, Leisure and Parks and Neighbourhood Resources and Development Departments to move the project forward.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of the exhibition, including the appointment of a temporary Project Officer, amounts to £31,000 and is sourced, as follows: £16,000 has been awarded from the Scottish Arts Council Crafts Department and the balance of £15,000 can be met from the Arts and Heritage Department's revenue budget, £10,000 from 2000/2001 and £5,000 from 2001/2002.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The funding for this exhibition and associated education and outreach programme will enable delivery of specific arts projects targeted at specific community groups relevant to the exhibition themes, where "local needs are met locally" and "opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all".

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The exhibition directly targets the senses and individual works/pieces operate on more than one sensory level with a high percentage of interactivity specifically designed for those with sensory disabilities.
- 5.2 Groups who work with people of all disabilities will be identified through an audit and given the opportunity to work and comment on the project, create some of the activities and take part in the outreach for the exhibition scheduled for March - June 2001.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 The exhibition has been created in partnership with Craftspace Touring, Birmingham and the McManus Galleries will be the only Scottish venue for this prestigious and innovative show.
- 6.2 All the works included will be physically and intellectually accessible and the majority are designed to be touched, tried on, and manipulated by the visitors. The exhibition will be more of an interactive experience than a viewing one and does not rely solely on sight for the experience.
- 6.3 The opportunities for the education and outreach are enormous, and this potential can now be realised through the appointment of a Project Officer to work specifically with the target audience and participants prior to and during the exhibition.

6.4 A further report will be brought forward at a future date detailing the education and outreach programme along with details of the outcome of further funding applications.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance, Director of Corporate Planning, Director of Education, Director of Social Work, Director of Leisure and Parks and Director of Neighbourhood Resources have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Director of Arts and Heritage _____ Date _____