

REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 13TH NOVEMBER 2006

REPORT ON: 6 CITIES DESIGN FESTIVAL

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REPORT NO: 627-2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on Dundee's involvement in this project and outline the progress to date.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the dates of the Festival in 2007 and the progress being made in developing the Dundee Contribution.
- 2.2 To remit the Director of Economic Development to oversee the local budget.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Each of the participating cities is to be allocated £90,000 to run their local programmes. This will be administered by the City Council on behalf of the steering group and will be paid in three tranches between now and the festival taking place. Other events will be funded from nationally held funds that may result in further local activity during the festival.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 UPDATE ON 6 CITIES DESIGN FESTIVAL

- 6.1 This is an update on Report 321- 2005. That report gave an overview of the Festival and the announcement by the First Minister on the initiative to celebrate Creative Design in each of Scotland's 6 cities.
- 6.2 Theme - A Dundee steering group was set up at the end of 2005 to progress Dundee's theme for the festival and engage with relevant local organisations. A workshop with over 30 participants was held in the Apex Hotel in early 2006 and an overall theme agreed of "visual storytelling" Dundee through its comics, computer games development and medical imaging could claim a world class strength in this area of design.
- 6.3 City Co-ordinator - A city co-ordinator has been appointed on a fixed term contract until 30th June 2007 and has been in post since beginning of July (the post is employed by the Lighthouse but is managed on a day to day basis by Dundee City Council and based locally). The city co-ordinator is currently developing an exciting and innovative programme for Dundee which will take place over 3 weeks in various locations in the city. Dundee is currently at the most advanced stage of all the 6 cities in its programme development.
- 6.4 Date of Festival - The Festival will run concurrently in each of the cities from 17th May 2007 - 3rd June 2007. If successful it is anticipated funding will be sought from the Scottish Executive to run the festival biennially in 2009 and 2011.

6.5 Marketing of Festival - The Festival will be marketed nationally and internationally as one Festival across the 6 Scottish Cities. There is a central budget for this marketing activity, however some of this budget will also be spend locally in promoting the event to the public in Dundee.

6.6 There will be an International Design Conference as a centrepiece off the Design Festival that is expected to attract over 250 delegates from the international design community. Dundee, Glasgow and Aberdeen were considered as locations for this conference and it has now been confirmed that the conference will take place in Dundee from Wednesday 30th May to Friday 1st June 2007.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have been consulted on this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

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DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 6TH NOVEMBER 2006