

**REPORT TO: ARTS & HERITAGE COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2001**

**REPORT ON: DEPARTMENTAL EDUCATION POLICY**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ARTS AND HERITAGE**

**REPORT NO: 87-2001**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To outline the Arts and Heritage Department's Education Policy in relation to city-wide provision of arts, cultural and heritage initiatives both directly delivered and in partnership with other local and national agencies.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:-

2.1 Agrees the Arts and Heritage Department's Education Policy (Appendix 1).

2.2 Agrees the policy be implemented with immediate effect.

**3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no financial implications in implementing this policy.

**4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The implementation of the Arts and Heritage Department's Education Policy will have a positive impact on many of the Local Agenda 21 key themes including:- ensuring opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all; local needs are met locally; and access to facilities, services, goods and people is not achieved at the expense of the environment and are accessible to all.

**5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The implementation of the Arts and Heritage Department's Education Policy will further the delivery of projects to the community ensuring services are delivered to the public equally and without discrimination.

**6.0 MAIN TEXT**

6.1 The development and definition of an Education Policy has clarified the department's involvement and approach in this area of work. This ensures that education in its broadest terms is at the core of service delivery.

6.2 The public programme of exhibitions and events now has a strong educational focus aimed at a number of target audiences covering different age groups, ability groups, ethnic communities, and geographic communities. This reflects the department's commitment to lifelong learning and social inclusion, which are central to the department's mainstream activity.

6.3 The policy will be achieved through the public programme and other projects created and delivered directly by the department, or in partnership with other departments, external arts providers and agencies.

**7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance, Director of Education, Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Director of Corporate Planning have been consulted on this report.

**8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

Director of Arts and Heritage \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION POLICY 2000 - 2003**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**DEFINITION**

Education

- includes Lifelong Learning, Outreach, Youth Work, Community Learning, Formal Education (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)
- engages people in a purposeful and dynamic process involving movement and change
- is a process that relies on planning and management, is dynamic, and promotes growth and development both in individuals and communities
- aims to encourage individuals and communities to take responsibility for their own learning
- should be more than the acquisition of skills and knowledge.

Education should

- be people-centred
- address real-life problems and issues
- broaden horizons
- develop critical judgement / awareness
- build confidence
- empower and enable
- create choice and develop opportunity.

**AIMS**

- To establish Education at the core of the Department's operation
- To encourage community participation in the delivery of services
- To promote equality of access, both physical and intellectual, to the range of facilities and learning programmes on offer
- To develop Life Long Learning and Social Inclusion initiatives through working jointly with a broad range of community and special interest groups, Council Departments and External Agencies.
- To provide a range of material, experiences and opportunities for participation and reflection in support of the Department's Public Programme
- To extend and develop new learning opportunities, both within Arts and Heritage facilities and community based venues.

**OBJECTIVES**

- The Department will develop ways of working that maximise community participation at all stages in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of services
- The Department will programme an innovative range of community and facility based exhibitions and displays, events and activities
- The Department will provide well informed, customer orientated staff
- The Department will ensure access to specialist knowledge, advice and information.

**EVALUATION**

Evaluation of the above Policy will ensure that aims and objectives are met through an ongoing cycle of monitoring and review that informs future planning.