BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES

CULTURE, TOURISM & ENTERPRISE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

25 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair of the Scrutiny Panel, Councillor Melanie Davis, introduced the report. She expressed her thanks to her fellow Councillors and the Scrutiny Officer. She explained that the drivers behind the Panel were how important this area of provision was for young people and exploring ways to extend that, plus the fact that funding for the Express Strategy for the arts had not been forthcoming. The Panel discovered that whilst there were many great events and activities, it was not always easy to find out about this and to access them. The recommendations in the report were aimed at including as many children as possible and encouraging more joined-up working. A more coherent approach to helping all young people to engage in arts and cultural activities across the city was required. Cllr Davis also welcomed the recent audit undertaken by Children's Services that had occurred during the Panel's inquiry.

As a Panel Member, Councillor Carol Theobald expressed her support for the report and gave her thanks to all those who had been involved in the Inquiry. She commented that there was a lot going on in the city, but often not enough schools were involved. More publicity and a new website could help. There was also a recommendation that there should be a visible central notice board in the Jubilee Library.

Other Councillors on the Committee welcomed the report and agreed with the recommendations. They remarked on the need to work more closely with schools, the value of arts and cultural events, and the theme of inclusion.

The report would also be forwarded to both the Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Tourism and for Children and Young People for executive response.

The Chair informed the Committee that there would be a report back in 12 months time.

RESOLVED – the Committee endorsed the Scrutiny Panel Report on Cultural Provision for Children and Young People.