

Working title: Engagement with Culture and Leisure - widening social participation in Portsmouth

Background

The Scrutiny Management Panel prioritised this topic for review at its meeting held on 18 September 2019, recognising the social value of increasing cultural audiences. National research has also suggested that access to culture and leisure can have significant social and economic impacts and offer life opportunities to those who not always accessing these services.

Scope of review:

The review will look at ways to increase social participation via the following objectives:

1. Consider the wider social value and health benefits of involvement in culture and leisure.
2. Review the existing provision, take-up and support given to lower income families (such as the Portsmouth Leisure Card)
3. Investigate the barriers to engagement (such as pricing, transport to and siting of venues and activities)
4. Hear how external providers seek to increase participation
5. Examine 1-3 possible pilot initiatives linked to funding opportunities to address barriers and encourage increased participation

Possible witnesses:

The Audience Agency - Adrienne Pye

BH Live - Rob Cunningham

Portsmouth Sports Council

PCC Museums Service (Jane Mee)

PCC Libraries (Lindy Elliot)

PCC Recreation (Mark Woolnough)

Independent cultural organisations such as the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and the Mary Rose (Helen Bonsor-Wilton)

Portsmouth Creates - Tim Rusby (Portsmouth Creates will be launching imminently so any input would be forward looking as opposed to evaluating current practice)

Residents - via Paulsgrove Housing Consortium/Resident's Association

Meeting timings/venues:

Suitable timings to be discussed by the panel

One meeting at Southsea Library

One meeting in Paulsgrove