



**Prosperous Communities
Committee**

Tuesday, 19 March 2024

**Subject: Recommendation from Overview & Scrutiny Committee:
Cultural Strategy**

Report by:	Director of Planning, Regeneration & Communities
Contact Officer:	Ele Snow Senior Democratic and Civic Officer Ele.Snow@west-lindsey.gov.uk
Purpose / Summary:	To consider the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with regard to the progress of the Cultural Strategy

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommend to the Prosperous Communities Committee that:

1. The Cultural Strategy be included on the Prosperous Communities work plan for a future meeting; and
2. The terms of reference for the Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism Member Working Group be reviewed for approval by the Prosperous Communities Committee.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: There are no legal implications arising from this report, however Terms of reference for Working Groups do need to be signed off for approval by the parent Committee – in this case, Prosperous Communities Committee.

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.
FIN/164/24/VA

Staffing: There are no new or amended staffing implications as a result of this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: There are no implications of this kind arising from this report, however the background reports, and future reports, will consider this aspect.

Data Protection Implications: N/A

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: There are no implications of this kind arising from this report, however the background reports, and future reports, will consider this aspect.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: N/A

Health Implications: There are no implications of this kind arising from this report, however the background reports, and future reports, will consider this aspect.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :

Cultural Strategy – PCC September 2021 (and minutes) *viewable [here](#)*

Visitor Economy Strategy – PCC June 2022 (and minutes) *viewable [here](#)*

Risk Assessment:

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1 Background

- 1.1 At their meeting in January 2024, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee voted to receive an update on the progress of the Cultural Strategy. This was duly prepared and presented by the Director – Planning, Regeneration & Communities at the next meeting of the Committee, 20 February 2024.
- 1.2 The Committee heard that the Peer Challenge in 2020 had recommended:

“The Council should therefore consider a Cultural Strategy to understand the work that is needed in order to maximise the benefits and to achieve a clear strategic position.”
- 1.3 The Cultural Research Report in June 2021 identified cultural activity already taking place across the district and identified key themes for future work. The Cultural Strategy Action Plan in September 2021 identified five priority work streams and a Cultural Events and Marketing Officer fixed term role was established and recruited to.
- 1.4 The Director of the Centre for Culture and Creativity at the University of Lincoln, and the Midlands Chair of Arts Council England supported the Council to develop the brief to tender for the provision of services for the delivery of a Cultural Strategy. In the summer of 2022, Tom Flemming Consultancy was appointed after a competitive tender exercise.
- 1.5 In September 2023, a session was held for all Members to explain the background, development and purpose of the Cultural Strategy with the intention of it being presented to the Prosperous Communities Committee for final approval.

2 Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism Member Working Group (LCET)

- 2.1 The Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism Member Working Group (LCET) had oversight of the development of the Cultural Strategy. Objectives of LCET are:
 - To work together to actively promote the district’s strengths and to maximise opportunities.
 - To ensure the work undertaken across leisure, culture, events, and tourism is co-ordinated and aligned with corporate priorities.
 - To lobby, influence and challenge the wider organisation to highlight the importance of the work of the group.
 - To market the district as a location for major events and festivals.
 - To champion activities in relation to leisure, culture, heritage, events and tourism.

2.2 The Group meets monthly and is supported by Officers from across the relevant council service areas.

2.3 LCET falls under the parentage of the Prosperous Communities Committee and, as with all Working Groups, has no direct decision-making powers, instead feeding into the work plan of the parent committee.

3 Next Steps

3.1 Having received feedback from Members following the session in September 2023, and via LCET, the following steps have been identified:

- Strategy to be updated to reflect feedback
- Finalisation of an Executive Summary
- Final review by Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism Group
- Prosperous Communities Committee receive the Cultural Strategy for consideration and approval
- Funding secured for Cultural Development Officer – move to recruitment
- Delivery of action plan

4 Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 Following their meeting on 20 February 2024, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee made the following recommendations to the Prosperous Communities Committee:

4.1.1 The Cultural Strategy be included on the Prosperous Communities work plan for a future meeting; and

4.1.2 The terms of reference for the Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism Member Working Group be reviewed for approval by the Prosperous Communities Committee.