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	CHAIRMAN	PLAN/OHP APPENDICES/ PRIVATE SESSION		BACKGROUND/ PRESS RELEASE/LEADER	
	VICE-CHAIRMAN				

**WARDS: ALL**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.**

**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**SELECT COMMITTEE - CULTURE AND RECREATION - 26 JANUARY 2004**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT**

**DUDLEY BOROUGH FESTIVAL**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 To allow the Select Committee to make recommendations to the Lead Member for Leisure in relation to the 2004 Dudley Borough Festival.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 Members will recall that the 2003 Dudley Borough Festival was reviewed by the Select Committee for Culture and Recreation at its October meeting and a number of proposals for the next festival were discussed.

2.2 As was noted in the previous report given the preparation, planning and lead in times for the Festival it is vital to have budget certainty in order that major events can be organised and appropriate processes put in place to enable community and arts groups to plan and arrange events by accessing festival funding.

- 2.3 A further recommendation of the report was that the Lead Member for Leisure should consider all requests for funding and approve under a Decision Sheet process with the Select Committee for Culture and Recreation able to scrutinise such funding allocations.
- 2.4 As Members will be aware for the 2004-05 financial year there is a desire for the Council to agree a consensus budget and as such there is still an element of uncertainty over budgetary allocations within the current budget review process
- 2.5 At the Executive meeting on 17 December 2003 efficiency savings were proposed for further discussion. These included a proposal that the net allocation to the Borough Festival for the 2004-05 financial year be £75,000 (subject to consensus budget review process), a reduction of approximately £30,000 on the 2003-04 budget.
- 2.6 Attached at appendix 1 are the details of expenditure on the 2003-04 Borough Festival for Members information. In addition to the actual costs/contribution of Festival funds for the event are the audience/participant numbers, where known, the admission costs to the event and subsidy per person, to give Members a wider perspective on the value and benefits gained from these events.
- 2.7 As noted in the report to the Select committee on 2 October 2003 over 50% of expenditure was spent on 2 major events (see appendix 1), which in cost terms is not unreasonable given the scale of these events. However members are invited to consider this level of financial support to these two events in relation to all of the other demands for Festival funding. As suggested at the previous Select Committee meeting the options of charging admission and seeking external grant aid for these events would need a policy decision to enable this to be incorporated within any plans for 2004-05.
- 2.8 However, any grants received would be for one year only and if successful, would in the short term assist in developing the events. Furthermore external grant aid cannot be taken as guaranteed, and the issue of financial sustainability of these events in the longer term will remain an issue.
- 2.9 Given the foregoing there are clear difficulties to be faced in determining how the proposed £75,000 (subject to consensus budget review process) Festival budget is to be allocated. In order to provide officers with some direction in this regard Members are asked to consider the following issues:-
- 1) How much of the budget is to be earmarked for both the Caribbean Festival and Asian Mela events?
  - 2) Should events that would otherwise take place without any contribution from the Festival budget be supported?

- 3) Do Members wish to see some of the Festival budget being reserved for use on an Area Committee basis to ensure a geographic spread of events?
- 4) Are there any particular types of event that the Committee do not consider to be an appropriate use of the Festival budget.
- 5) What are the Committees priorities for Festival events in 2004?
- 6) Is there a minimum scale/size of event that the Committee considers to be inappropriate for Festival funding?
- 7) Should events that are not open to the general public to attend be supported from the Festival budget?
- 8) Should events that are part-financed from other Council budgets be eligible for support from the Festival budget?
- 9) What is the maximum grant, as a percentage of a projects costs, that is eligible from the Festival grants budget?
- 10) Should there be an upper limit on the amount of grant that can be awarded from the Festival grants budget?

2.10 Members are asked to consider these issues in light of the proposed Festival budget for 2004-05 to advise both the Lead member for Leisure and Officers of the approach that they would wish to follow.

### **3.0 PROPOSAL**

3.1 That the Committee consider the issues raised in this report and identifies suitable criteria for the appropriation of the 2004-05 Borough Festival budget.

3.2 That the criteria identified at 3.1 above be referred to the Lead Member for Leisure for consideration.

3.3 That an outline budget for the 2004 Borough Festival be presented to the next meeting of the Select Committee taking account of the proposals contained in this report.

### **4.0 FINANCE**

4.1 The 2003 Dudley Borough Festival budget was £102,400, however, the net costs incurred were £111,425. The overspend has been contained within other Events and Arts budgets within Culture and Community Services.

### **5.0 LAW**

5.1 Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976, empowers the Council to provide recreational facilities in its area.

5.2 Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972, enables the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its statutory functions.

## **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

6.1 This report contains proposals which accord with the equal opportunities of the Council.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 That the Committee approves the proposals highlighted in Section 3 of the report.

**Director of the Urban Environment:** .....

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### Background papers Used in the Compilation of this Report

- Report to Select Committee Culture and Recreation 2.10.03
- Report to Executive Meeting 17.12.03

**DUDLEY BOROUGH FESTIVAL 2003  
EVENT FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

<b>LARGE SCALE EVENTS</b>	<b>£ Expenditure</b>	<b>No of Part/ Audience</b>	<b>Admission Fees</b>	<b>Subsidy Per Participant</b>
Under 5's Day	1000	3500		£0.29
Summer XS	3902	13500		£0.29
Music and Fireworks	5000	1000		£5.00
Castle Festival	9000	15890		£0.57
Asian Mela	33897	3000		£11.30
Caribbean Festival	30179	5500		£5.49
Visual Artists Roadshow	3000	500		£6.00
<b>AREA EVENTS</b>				
<b>STOURBRIDGE</b>				
Band Concerts (MSP)	592	200		£2.96
Stourbridge Carnival	250	Not Known		?
Orchestral Concert	450	130		£3.46
Art Workshops (Living Gallery)	200	18		£11.11
<b>BRIERLEY HILL</b>				
Band Concerts (Quarry Bank)	383	100		£3.83
Wordsley Festival	1500	Not Known		?
Fun Day (Hawbush Urban Farm)	100	250		£0.25
Dudley Recognition Event (DCVS)	1000	200		£5.00
Woodlands Alive (Saltwells Nature Res.)	1890	200		£9.45
Asian Single Parent Conference	250	Not Known		?
<b>NORTH DUDLEY</b>				
Wheels Event (Wallbrook)	910	300		£3.03
Upper Gornal Fun Day	250	1000		£0.25
<b>CENTRAL DUDLEY</b>				
Puppet Project (Dudley Castle)	500	20		£25.00
Wheels Event (Buffrey Park)	447	650		£0.69
Wheels Event (Hillcrest)	345	40		£8.62
Central Youth Arts Festival	1000	113		£8.85
Disability Arts Forum	1005	197		£5.10
Dudley Pageant	500	3000		£0.17
Emancipation From Slavery Exhibition	275	Not Known		£
Summer Serenade (Bumble Hole)	500	91		£5.50
Netherton Park Festival	500	600		£0.83
Cultural Identity Event	300	700		£0.43
Community Steel Drum Project	500	20		£25.00
<b>HALESOWEN</b>				
Summer Music (Leasowes)	1000	1000		£1.00
Victorian Street Fayre	250	Not Known		?
Orchestral Concert (Cornbow Hall)	450	180		£2.50
Flower Festival	350	700		£0.50
Cradley Fun Day	250	600		£0.40
<b>MARKETING</b>	14500			

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>116425</b>	<b>53349</b>		
Sponsorship Income	£ 5000	5000			
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>£ 111425</b>	111425			

**DRAFT**