



**Belfast City Council**

**Report to:** Development Committee

**Subject:** Consultation: DCAL's Review of Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI)

**Date:** 20 November 2012

**Reporting Officer:** John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

**Contact Officer:** Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Council have been asked to respond to the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure's (DCAL) review of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI). This is an initial survey of ACNI's main stakeholders and, at this stage, they are only fact finding to determine if there is a need for major policy change. If so, a formal consultation exercise will be carried out at a later date.
1.2	There is no policy or similar document to review. Instead there are several specific questions to respond to:
1.3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are the services / functions currently delivered by ACNI required?</li> <li>2. Are there additional services you would like to see ACNI deliver?</li> <li>3. Does ACNI provide Value for Money?</li> <li>4. Does ACNI deliver these functions / services effectively and efficiently?</li> <li>5. Please provide your views on how effectively ACNI communicates with its stakeholders.</li> <li>6. The Arts Council is an executive Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) with the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) as its sponsoring Department. It receives its principal core funding through public expenditure line. The Arts Council is also a National Lottery distributor. Is this the most appropriate model for the delivery of ACNI functions?</li> <li>7. Do you think some or all of the functions, currently delivered by ACNI, could be delivered more effectively by an alternative model? If so, please select one of the options below:</li> <li>8. We would appreciate any other general comments or suggestions you</li> </ol>

	<p>may have (taking into account the current economic climate, any reform programs / government initiatives or other relevant issues).</p> <p>9. Do you want your response to be treated as confidential?</p>
1.4	<p>The questionnaire is available online:  <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DhhEEf7CYcsHlz3pteDBGMBVV3UW4ICeW0gtWNeL%2fn0%3d">https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DhhEEf7CYcsHlz3pteDBGMBVV3UW4ICeW0gtWNeL%2fn0%3d</a></p>
1.5	<p>Tourism, Culture and Arts were made aware of the consultation on the 5 November and comments are required to be returned by the 23 November 2012.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>The response is required via an online form. Therefore there is limited scope to raise issues outside of the scope of the consultation, such as highlighting the range of culture and arts provision the Council makes.</p>
2.2	<p>The purpose of the survey is to determine if a full consultation needs to take place with regard to how the Arts Council operates. Officers would like the opportunity to raise issues via a full formal consultation. Some of these issues are highlighted in the draft survey response attached as Appendix 1.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p>There are no resource implications attached to this report.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	<p>There are no Equality and Good Relations implications attached to this report.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>Members are asked to approve the draft BCC response to the survey and raise any additional issues, relating to the consultation document, that they would like to be included.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Timeline:	23 November 2012
Reporting Officer:	Shirley McCay

<b>7</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
<p>Appendix 1 "Consultation: Draft Response DCAL's Review of Arts Council of Northern Ireland."</p>	