

**REPORT TO:** Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board  
**DATE:** 19 November 2008  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Health and Community  
**SUBJECT:** Public Art  
**WARDS:** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present the draft Public Art Strategy for comment by the PPB (attached as Appendix 1).

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- (1) The PPB comment on the content of the draft strategy; and**
- (2) The PPB considers a recommendation to Executive Board.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The Urban Renewal PPB has previously received a presentation from consultants employed by the Council, funded by the Arts Council, to develop an approach to public art in Halton.

3.2 At that presentation, the value of public art was discussed. It was recognised that Halton had no overall approach to public art, tending to be re-active to opportunities, but probably missing funding opportunities to develop public art.

3.3 The brief of the consultants was to produce a practical, working document, which considered planning and funding issues.

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The report is currently at draft stage. The Urban Renewal PPB are asked to suggest any changes and then recommend a report to Executive Board that can be adopted as Council policy.

## **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The strategy suggests the creation of a post to kick-start the development of public art. The Arts Council have indicated that they will fund a part-time post for 2 years. As such there is no financial risk to the Council.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

**6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

Public Art through workshops and involvement offer the opportunity to acquire and develop many skills.

**6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

Opportunities will be developed for Halton's Cultural Industries, and employment opportunities for local artists/designers.

**6.3 Halton's Urban Renewal**

Public Art will make a strong contribution to the continued regeneration of the Borough, and will attract visitors into Borough.

**7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 In not moving forward, external funding from Arts Council would be lost.

**8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None.

**9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 None