

MEETING OF THE CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY COMMISSION

DATE: THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST 2024

TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street,

Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Members of the Committee

Councillor Dawood (Chair)
Councillor Mohammed (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Aldred, Chauhan, Halford, Haq, Joshi and Singh Johal

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

For Monitoring Officer

Officer contacts:

Information for members of the public

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- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they
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Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact: Ed Brown or Julie Bryant on edmund.brown@leicester.gov.uk or Julie.bryant@leicester.gov.uk Alternatively, email committees@leicester.gov.uk, or call in at City Hall.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151.

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION

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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To issue a welcome to those present, and to confirm if there are any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission held on 8th July 2024 have been circulated, and Members will be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair is invited to make any announcements as they see fit.

5. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

Any questions, representations and statements of case submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures will be reported.

6. PETITIONS

Any petitions received in accordance with Council procedures will be reported.

7. CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY STRATEGY Appendix B

The Director of Tourism, Culture and Investment submits a report updating the current position on the draft strategy and noting how it links to other major initiatives and emerging government policy.

8. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ASB INFORMAL RESPONSE

Appendix C

The Head of Safer Communities submits a presentation providing an overview of the structure of the combined Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Team (known as CRASBU) and Housing Anti-Social Behaviour Team (Known as HASBO) within the Community Safety Service and illustrating the performance of the team and it focus areas.

9. WORK PROGRAMME

Appendix D

Members of the Commission will be asked to consider the work programme and make suggestions for additional items as it considers necessary.

10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Appendix A



Minutes of the Meeting of the CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: MONDAY, 8 JULY 2024 at 5:30 pm

PRESENT:

<u>Councillor Dawood – Chair</u> Councillor Mohammed – Vice Chair

Councillor Aldred
Councillor Chauhan
Councillor Porter

Councillor Dr Barton Councillor Joshi Councillor Singh Johal

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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Halford – Cllr Dr Barton substituted.

Apologies were received form Cllr Haq due to Council business – Cllr Porter substituted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have had in the business to be discussed.

Councillor Dr Barton declared with relation to Item 10 on the agenda, that she had attended presentations from outside bodies regarding the café, however, these were non-decision-making, informal discussions, and she approached the issue with an open mind.

Councillor Porter declared with relation to Item 10 on the agenda, that he was a regular visitor to Leicester Museum and Art Gallery (LMAG) and had put forward the call-in.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission held on 25 April 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

5. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

The Monitoring Officer reported that none had been received.

6. PETITIONS

The Monitoring Officer reported that none had been received.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION 2024/25

The Membership of the Commission was confirmed as follows:

Cllr Dawood – Chair

Cllr Mohammed - Vice Chair

Cllr Aldred

Cllr Halford

Cllr Singh Johal

Cllr Chauhan

Cllr Joshi

Cllr Haq

8. DATES OF MEETINGS FOR THE COMMISSION 2024/25

The dates of the meetings for the Commission were confirmed as follows:

8 July 2024

22 August 2024

4 November 2024

16 January 2025

27 February 2025

3 April 2025

9. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Commission noted the Scrutiny Terms of Reference.

10. CALL-IN OF EXECUTIVE DECISION - LEICESTER MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report informing the Commission that the Executive decision taken by the City Mayor on 28 May 2024 relating to continuation of Phase 4 and 5 capital works programme at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery (LMAG) had been the subject of a 6 member call-in under the procedures at Rule 12 of Part 4D, City Mayor and Executive Procedure Rules, of the Council's Constitution.

The Chair clearly outlined the process that he would follow in determining how to resolve the call-in. The Commission was recommended to either:

- a) Note the report without further comment or recommendation. (If the report is noted the process continues and the call in will be considered at Council) or
- b) Comment on the specific issues raised by the call-in. (If comments are made the process continues and the comments and call in will be considered at Council); or
- c) Resolve that the call-in be withdrawn (If the committee wish for there to be no further action on the call-in, then they must actively withdraw it. If withdrawal is agreed the call-in process stops, the call-in will not be considered at Council and the original decision takes immediate affect without amendment).

The Chair invited the proposer of the call-in, Councillor Porter, to the table and allotted them five minutes to make their case. The proposer raised the following points:

- Reference was made to the precarious nature of the Council's finances and the issues faced by residents of the city as a result of poverty. This in mind it was suggested that there was a moral duty to challenge and scrutinise multi-million-pound proposals from the City Mayor. It was further noted that the plans had bypassed all scrutiny commissions and had not been presented at full council and as such elected members had not been given the normal opportunity to see the details and voice their views on the proposal and it was suggested that this was detrimental to the democratic process in the city and did nothing to help the poorest and most vulnerable in the city.
- The current financial crisis raised the question of whether, with a limited pot of money, a new café was a priority in the hierarchy of needs.
- It was suggested that on a local level, money could be better spent on projects in wards.
- It was further suggested Council should focus on high-quality public services since the private sector could deliver a new café.

The Chair invited the seconder of the call-in, Councillor Joshi (the original seconder, Cllr Osman, could not attend the meeting), to the table and allotted them five minutes to make their case. The seconder suggested that this was not aa priority given the economic issues faced in the city and the suffering it caused citizens.

The Chair invited Assistant City Mayor for Culture, Libraries and Community Centres, Councillor Dempster, to respond and the following points were raised:

- The Council were not spending £3.6m on the café alone, it was a complete project, a small part of which was the café.
- The stresses on Council funding were known and it was acknowledged that the revenue budget was in a precarious situation, however, the scheme being discussed was a capital scheme that would not affect the revenue budget.
- The previous café had not been fit for purpose, which had been why the
 private operators had pulled out. It was in the wrong part of the museum
 and could only be open when the museum was, which had made it
 financially unviable. The new café would be able to be run outside of
 museum hours and would be run and furnished by a private company.
 As such the Council were facilitating a situation whereby the operators
 could have a viable business.
- The museum was something that attracted people to the city. The
 national museum service had entrusted the museum with a painting by
 Renoir, showing that it was right to invest in the museum.
- Investment in the museum and café would bring jobs and generate money which in turn would increase revenue. This added to the range of reasons to improve the visitor experience.
- The programme aimed to redesign the ground floor of the building to allow items in storage to be displayed.
- When projects like this were invested in, it was often the case that match-funding was offered, which would mean that the experience would improve further.

The Director of Culture, Tourism and Inward Investment gave a presentation in response to the call-in (slides attached) and the following points in addition to those on the slides were raised:

- The Wildspace Gallery was being shut down and decanted as it was no longer fit for purpose, so the opportunity was being taken to move the café to this space as it was a better location for a private operator. It would also strip the building back to how it looked 100 years ago.
- New ventilation equipment would be installed, for which £1m of Arts Council funding would help to deliver.
- The money would need to be spent by March 2025 or there would be a risk of losing the Arts Council Funding.

- Since the previous café could only be open when the museum was, museum staff would need to be paid if the café needed to remain open.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) bid aimed to make the area around the entrance to the museum information about history which then pointed to other areas that the city had to offer.
- The operator of the café should have more capacity to sell food and drink and many potential operators were interested in the opportunity.
- Since the previous operators had pulled the service due to it being unprofitable, it was important to attract people who were keen to invest once they were given the lease. This would take some of the cost out of the project and there would be a more efficient model moving forwards.
- The Arts Council MEND fund would cover essential repairs.
- The bulk of the fit-out cost would be paid for by the operator.

The Committee were invited to ask questions and make comments. Key points included:

- When money was spent on capital projects it was an investment rather than a loss.
- It was wrong to connect this spend with a lack of spending on SEND Transport or adventure playgrounds as it was a different pot of money.
- The Café could provide jobs which could help to alleviate poverty in the city.
- Other cafés were not close to the museum and were often full, meaning that the new café would not take business from elsewhere.
- In a separate comment, it was suggested that the café at Soft Touch Arts could be affected.
- The project would help the energy efficiency of the building.
- Families with limited incomes looked forward to visiting the museums. Additionally, schools made trips to the museums, so it was important for them to be there. Museums also brought in tourists to the city.
- In terms of phasing, the project would take around a year, and many areas of the museum would remain open whilst the work was being undertaken.
- In response to a question about the figures for the project, Councillors were referred to the data in the papers.
- The whole spend, on the whole area of the café was around 10% of the budget.
- As the museum was a listed building, all improvements would be worked out with an architect and designed with environmental controls in mind to make the building more environmentally efficient than previously.
- Work would be undertaken on the Victorian Gallery to make it more welcoming.

The Chair asked if the proposer wished to withdraw the call-in. It was noted that the proposer wished for the call-in to proceed.

Councillor Dawood moved that, following the points raised during the meeting, the call-in be withdrawn.

This was seconded by Councillor Aldred and upon being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

That the call-in be withdrawn.

11. INTRODUCTION TO CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Directors gave a presentation providing an overview of the Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission.

The Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment gave a presentation using the slides attached with the agenda pack and noted that reports could be brought at the request of the Commission.

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services gave a presentation using the slides attached with the agenda pack, he added the following:

- The largest division of the department was Neighbourhoods as it was very diverse in the way it supported residents across the city such as through the library service, leisure centres, parks, which supported people's mental wellbeing, waste management services and bereavement services.
- Partners for Neighbourhoods included the police and fire service and the Council departments for Education and Adult Social Care were also closely worked with.
- Neighbourhoods Services supported volunteering and visitors.
- Many children used the library service and the Learn to Swim programme.
- Compliance visits helped to keep people safe.
- The Ward Funding Scheme helped to support over 600 projects.

The Committee were invited to ask questions and make comments. Key points included:

Waste management fell under the profile of the Deputy City Mayor for

- Housing, Economy and Neighbourhoods.
- With regard to waste management, contract arrangements were being considered. The government recycling programme was being considered in terms of how it could fit into the contract.
- One of the standout options with regard to waste management was food waste as it constituted around 37% of what gets put in household bins. There were possibilities for this to be composted or used to create gas which could generate power.
- The Ball Mill waste centre had been in place for 20 years. This centre separated out organics to be taken to an anaerobic digestion plant to create gas. In future it may become more effective to separate waste at source.

The Director of Corporate Services introduced himself and noted that his department was relatively new and managed Human Resources, emergency management, customer services, equalities and corporate communications.

AGREED:

- 1) That the presentation be noted.
- 2) That comments made by members of this commission to be taken into account by the lead officers.

During the consideration of this item the Chair needed to leave. The Vice-Chair took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

12. VCSE DELIVERY PLAN

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report providing an overview of the advancements and future direction of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Engagement Strategy.

The Assistant City Mayor for Communities, Adult Learning introduced the report.

Key points included:

- When the strategy was introduced, there were six pledges. This
 plan had a number of plans and actions to cover the six pledges.
- This was a four-year strategy.
- The first priority was to understand how the different departments could deliver as there was a large area of work which needed a clear picture of how much engagement existed between the departments.
- The second priority was to engage with the voluntary sector to establish which services were being delivered, what their needs were and how they could become sustainable.
- It was desirable to have a clear system in place whereby it should

- be possible to measure what was being delivered.
- There would be quarterly, six-monthly and annual reviews and there would be milestones and measurements along the process.
- There would be challenges, but this work would ensure that there was a sustainable VCSE sector in the city.
- An event to bring the business sector and voluntary sector together had been interrupted by the general election, but it was hoped that this would take place in August. Members were encouraged to attend.

The Committee were invited to ask questions and make comments. Key points included:

- The financial contribution made by the Council to voluntary organisations was small and covered the two staff in the engagement team and also infrastructure support such as Crowdfund Leicester and other necessary infrastructure support.
- These groups made an impact to the lives of people in the city and provided services that the Council could not. Therefore, such groups were important to support. They were very cost effective and do not take a large amount of the budget.
- Any money given to the organisations was purely for furthering the objectives of the organisations and was not given to individuals.
- Organisations needed initial support in order to be able to access crowdfunding.
- In response to a comment about the importance of benefitting smaller grassroots organisations, it was noted that it was hoped to create a service whereby organisations could contact the council directly so that they could be advised and guided in order to help them in terms of their basic infrastructure.
- It was recognised that it was important to focus on smaller organisations and it was hoped that Councillors could act as a bridge between organisations in their wards and the Council.
- In terms of the budget, members were directed to section 4.4 of the report which explained that the budget was not solely for Crowdfund Leicester. The cost to access Crowdfund Leicester was approximately £19-20k. This was specifically aimed to target people in the civic space. The money was used on different initiatives and money had been raised from communities and businesses to contribute to organisations through Crowdfund Leicester, so it was good that there was a platform in place.
- The Council wanted to focus more on smaller organisations.
 Therefore, information was needed on who these groups were on a ward-by-ward basis. This in mind, members were encouraged to make known to officers the organisations that need assistance to it could be seen how they could be supported.

- Organisations could be directed to materials online that could help them set themselves up.
- The engagement focussed on smaller organisations and whilst the Council could not do everything they would like, it was necessary to find the systems with which to engage, for example, workshops could be held whereby organisations could learn skills to help them move on.
- The pledge was referred to, which contained wording about supporting smaller organisations.

AGREED:

- 1) That the presentation be noted.
- 2) That comments made by members of this commission to be taken.

13. WORK PROGRAMME

A Grassland Maintenance Report was added to the workplan to include areas for sports and recreation.

The work programme was noted.

14. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There being no further items of urgent business, the meeting finished at 19:26.

Appendix B

Culture and Creative Industries Strategy Update

Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 22 August 2024

Lead director: Mike Dalzell



Useful information

■ Ward(s) affected: All

■ Report author: Mike Dalzell, Director Tourism, Culture and Investment

■ Author contact details: mike.dalzell@leicester.gov.uk

■ Report version number: 1

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report updates the current position on the draft strategy and notes how it links to other major initiatives and emerging government policy. It is nearing completion with regards to priority themes and objectives but remains a work in progress with some sections that still need to be fleshed out in more detail. So comments from Scrutiny members are particularly welcome. Work has only just started on the design of a document, imagery, infographics etc so the attached represents the current version of the draft text.
- 1.2 The intention is that the strategy be published in the autumn, perhaps launched via the Leicester Business Festival. It would be an interactive PDF document on the council website and elsewhere, with live links to other key documents and a series of video clips etc as well as having a small print run.

2. Overview

- 2.1 The work has been ongoing for some time but was paused early in 2024 while the council took stock of our own position and decided how to progress elements such as the investment at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, the future plans for Haymarket and the use of UKSPF in support of the strategy. These are all now much clearer.
- 2.2 The work has been overseen and funded by a partnership involving the Arts Council England (contributing £20k) and both city universities (contributing £5k each) alongside the council (£20k). Initial research and engagement work was led by consultancy Fifth Sector.

3. Report

- 3.1 The creative industries have been growing at more than twice the rate of the economy for many years and that their contribution to the UK economy (now more than £125bn) outstrips the combined value of the life sciences, aerospace and automotive sectors. The new government has an appetite to reform our skills system (a theme picked up in the draft strategy) and to prioritise creative and vocational subjects in the national curriculum.
- 3.2 Historically the significance of the creative industries to the UK economy has tended to be underplayed by central government, particularly the Treasury. However the Spring 2023 budget for the first time identified Creative Industries as

- one of five 'high growth' sectors. There is an increasing consensus that facilitating investment and developing appropriate skills programmes is needed to maintain the UK's global advantage in music, arts, advertising, literature and other parts of the wider digital economy (such as gaming).
- 3.3 More locally, various versions of economic strategy over the years have also tended to downplay the importance of the creative economy. This is something that should be reviewed in the next iteration of such strategies for growth and the launch of this Cultural and Creative Industries strategy will lend weight and help to evidence why that should happen.
- 3.4 The city council over the last decade has invested at scale to improve our own cultural offer at Jewry Wall, Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, KRIII Visitor Centre, Phoenix, Curve, via the Heritage Panels and Story of Leicester initiatives and via new festivals and events such as Bring the Paint And Light Up Leicester.. The council has also actively grown our creative economy offer, especially via investment in workspace (Makers Yard, LCB, Pilot House, DOCKs etc) and in business support programmes and promotional campaigns. This investment is considered a key lever to make our local economy more productive, create better paid employment opportunities and maximise graduate retention and talent attraction. All the above is referenced in the strategy.

8 Big Ideas

- 3.5 The strategy is for the city and the broad group of stakeholders who can help drive investment and activity. It isn't a 'council' strategy as such, though clearly we have a key role in driving it. Following the initial engagement and research exercise, a review concluded we could simplify and focus on a small number of key priorities. These crystallized as 8 Big Ideas and are summarised in the attached Appendix One. A focus on tackling inequalities in engagement, participation, governance, leadership and workforce is embedded throughout the draft text which is attached as Appendix Two.
- 3.6 At the heart of it is a recognition that whilst we are already a significant creative economy we have great scope to grow. A key objective is to grow the creative workforce by 25% over the next five years from 15,600 to 20,000.
- 3.7 The strategy is not an overly detailed work programme but concentrates on some key projects and measurable outcomes. Different implementation groups will be needed to drive the various themes and to review progress across the life of the strategy. That detail will be worked up to sit alongside the final version but the shape of much of it is already clear. The council itself will be key to driving several of the themes.
- 3.8 The strategy is also designed to lever resources and influence policy in other programmes. The Inclusive Heritage theme of the strategy sets out our ambitions for the National Heritage Lottery Fund 'Place' programme. The work on Creative Clusters will lay the ground for a substantial programme bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), now expected in spring 2025. Support for creative industry networks, initiated through the current UKSPF programme, will hopefully be strengthened by whatever replaces it and be a strand of future

economic growth policy. Work on the talent and skills pipeline theme will help to determine priorities for future skills programmes that can be tailored towards the creative sector via funding that is highly likely to be devolved. A new Arts Council funded Creative People and Place's programme opens in September 2024 with an opportunity for a consortium bid up to £3m.

- 3.9 More broadly, the new government's interest in the power of arts and drama and in supporting technical and vocational skills creates scope for the local educational and skills supply networks to reimagine course curriculums and how programmes are offered. DMU has already taken an initiative to fund research looking at the gaps between local learning supply and the needs of the cultural and creative economy. Historically Leicester has been a primary producer of talent for the cultural economy and the strategy has ambition to recapture that position and profile.
- 3.10 The government's plans to tackle economic inactivity herald a shift to a model championing closer integration of health services with those tackling worklessness. There is opportunity for the city to develop programmes building on the use of culture and arts experiences to improve life chances and the employability of key groups including offenders, refugees, the long term sick, SEND and care leavers.

5. Financial, legal and other implications

5.1 Financial implications
tbc
5.2 Legal implications
tbc
5.3 Climate Change and Carbon Reduction implications
tbc
5.4 Equalities Implications
tbc
5.5 Other Implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)
Not applicable

6. Background information and other papers:

Not applicable

7. Summary of appendices:

Appendix One: Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy - Summary 8 Big Ideas

Appendix Two: Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy Draft text

8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicated the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

No

9. Is this a "key decision"?

No

10. If a key decision please explain reason

Not applicable.

"Inclusive Heritage" communities creating and sharing heritage to create community cohesion

PLACE

"Inspirational Spaces" Spaces to work, perform and display

CELEBRATING EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND PROVIDING ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

new collaborations and best in class delivery

INDUSTRIES

CREATIVE

"Creative **Circuits**" Creative **Industry Networks Support**

"Empowering Talent" the performing arts sector

"Vision For **Growth**" innovation and investment

Appendix 2

Leicester Leading

A Strategy for the Cultural and Creative Economy 2025 -2030

Intro

The cultural and creative sector in Leicester is strong already but has massive potential for growth. A central objective of this strategy is to grow our creative workforce by 25% from 15,600 to 20,000 people by 2030.

The enthusiasm and ability of both city universities to invest in culture and to support creative businesses generates a permanent momentum and supply of talent whilst our freelancers and creative businesses keep the city at the forefront of innovation in artistic genres and creative industry applications. It is no surprise Leicester was recently identified the 5th most creative city in the UK.

The number of Leicester organisations who are core funded through the Arts Council England's National Portfolio has tripled since 2017, increasing resources to the sector and enabling more work with different communities across a wide range of art forms.

For the last decade Leicester City Council has championed culture, especially through capital investment in the city's prime cultural assets and in the public realm and in re-presenting the city's cultural heritage on the street, in gallery and online. More recently the council has committed significant capital investment at Leicester Museum and at Haymarket Theatre and to develop new creative industry workspace.

Our new city strategy sets out some stretching ambitions for the next five years that can

- establish and strengthen new partnerships, grow new leaders, ensure engagement with our diverse communities and tackle inequalities.
- promote community cohesion and improve engagement through our plans for 'Inclusive Heritage'.
- attract new audiences and showcase our collective cultural offer via greater data sharing and joint programming.
- use arts and culture as levers to tackle worklessness and economic inactivity
- drive innovation and creative business growth, including positioning the city for a new 'Creative Cluster'.
- deliver the talent to keep Leicester buzzing and be recognized as a leader in performing arts education by re-shaping our cultural and creative educational offer.
- attract investment and grow our knowledge economy by helping our creative businesses to work more closely with each other.
- deliver the positive city profile that our talent and track record deserves by promoting our expertise and shouting about it!

This strategy has been based on extensive engagement and research led initially by consultancy Fifth Sector. Their detailed analysis of Leicester's creative and cultural economy can be found here. (this will be a hyper link to the detailed research document)

A EXCELLENCE, EQUALITY AND TALENT 1 Leicester Leading

Why

This is our overall ambition. To be excellent in what we do, how we do it and with a view to the future. Much of our cultural and creative output already reflects excellence but our city challenge is to also be recognised as a leader in how we work and to keep a clear focus on who benefits.

As the first super diverse city in the UK there is a particular need not just to champion diversity but to lead the way in tackling the entrenched inequalities in jobs and careers, leadership positions and governance structures across both the cultural and creative economy. Genuine commitment to collaboration and partnership, anti racism, enabling access for all and to co creation is needed to make this work. Promoting these themes will be an integral thread of our 'Shouting' strand.

Excellence - What's already happening and what's the Plan

Many Leicester businesses and cultural organisations are already leading. Curve is one of the UK's leading producing theatres, making world-class work for audiences in Leicester and around the country. Creating possibilities for disabled children has made Bamboozle Theatre internationally famous. Let's Dance International brings the best talent in the world to the city every year. The King Richard III Visitor Centre has been identified by Trip Advisor as one of the top 10% visitor attractions in the world. The National Space Centre attracts 1/3 million paying visitors every year. In 2024 Soft Touch Arts and Navrang Arts were both national award winners for the 'Punks' and 'Re-building Lives' exhibitions.

Fifth Sector analysis confirmed the continuing legacy of design as a driver of employment, productivity and growth in Leicester's creative economy with the city and wider county economy showing highly similar patterns. It also found excellent examples of the development of new fusion and/or Createch learning In both FE and HE. Both the Institute of Creative Technologies at De Montfort University and the Institute for Digital Culture at University of Leicester are delivering cutting edge learning and research around new technologies. Both Universities have key cultural assets such as Attenborough Arts and The Gallery as part of their have superb new campus facilities.

The city was recently identified as the 5th most Creative city in the UK, no surprise given our longstanding entrepreneurial tradition. Ensuring Leicester continues to Lead will rely on multiple organisations and businesses being ambitious and other parts of this strategy being successful.

Outcomes

- Events, stories, seminars and conferences showcase Leicester regionally and nationally
- More Leicester based organisations are added to the Arts Council England National Portfolio
- More Leicester creative businesses are recognised as sector leaders and enabled to grow

Tackling Inequalities - What's already happening and what's the Plan

Opal Arts, 2 Funky Arts, Phizzical, Nupur Arts, Cosmopolitan and Inspirate were Leicester's new NPOs in the 2023 round and all lead work with global majority communities. Together with the broader NPO network they are making the Creative Case that includes targets to diversify their governance, leadership, workforce, programming and audiences.

Work is underway to review how the city's cultural offer can better reflect our Muslim communities, now a very significant proportion of the city population but currently underserved by the offer. The city's new 'All In' group is helping to improve the consistency of accessibility standards across our arts and cultural venues.

This strand dovetails with the 'Inclusive Heritage' work that will identify gaps and opportunities for working with underserved groups and with the 'Shouting' theme that will focus attention on work with global majority communities and others who are currently under-represented. The Plan is to ensure these topics are regularly discussed and reviewed while we implement this strategy.

The data clearly shows that the wider Creative economy remains disproportionately white and many parts are still less accessible for working class communities. Some sectors are already embracing that challenge. For example, work to develop our music sector can link to initiatives such as UK Music's Ten Point Plan to increase diversity and boost inclusion within industry trade bodies.

Arts and Cultural interventions and experiences play a crucial role supporting people to improve their life chances, confidence and employability. Tackling worklessness and increasing levels of economic inactivity is a national priority and levels of economic inactivity are particularly high in Leicester. The strategy seeks opportunities to graft such support on to more traditional skills, support and advice programmes that target vulnerable groups such as offenders, care leavers, the long term sick, young people not in education, training or employment (NEET) etc.

- New arts and cultural initiatives are co-created with Leicester communities
- Spaces, events and experiences enable genuine access for all regardless of abilities
- Better career opportunities, representation and leadership roles for global majority communities
- Leicester becomes known for effectively delivering inclusion
- Clear data platforms that enable us to track how we are doing which are regularly reviewed
- Programmes to tackle worklessness and economic inactivity use arts and cultural practitioners to work with vulnerable people to maximise their potential

2 Empowering Talent

Why

Although the power of arts, culture and creativity to inspire, improve personal confidence and develop teamwork skills is well known, the reality is a significant drop in the time apportioned to these subjects in the curriculum at all educational levels. Partly that reflects a lack of demand from students who have been directed to and are attracted to other subjects which can make it uneconomic for learning institutions to offer courses. Partly it reflects national requirements that have prioritised other STEM subjects.

The new creative economy is developing job roles that haven't previously existed and that often prize skills and knowledge combinations that aren't reflected in traditional study and learning programmes. This represents both a major challenge and opportunity.

What's already happening and what's the Plan

Leicester enjoyed a reputation, especially for performing arts training, for many years. That legacy remains strong and means there are healthy foundations to build on. For example Wyggston and QE sixth form college has one of the broadest creative arts offers in the country. De Montfort University remains a conveyor belt for talent in festivals and arts management and the broader design sector including fashion. The city has a particularly healthy dance sector including Addict Dance Academy, Studio 79, Nupur Arts, People Dancing and produces world class artists such as Aakash Odedra and Akram Khan.

Leicester University is world renowned for the quality of its Museum Studies and Space research. The Institute for Digital Culture is fusing technology and culture to generate new ideas in digital humanities, digital heritage, media studies, creative computing and data science.

De Montfort University has now commissioned research to answer the key question 'To what extent is the Creative Industries Sector in Leicester and Leicestershire supported by, aligned to or divorced from the local skills and talent pipelines?' The answers will help shape the detail of this part of the strategy.

- Successful new learning programmes that reflect the needs of the creative economy
- Education and learning institutions work together on a shared plan over the life of this strategy
- Leicester has a national reputation as a provider of high quality learning for the performing arts

B AUDIENCES 3 Shouting and Sharing

Why

Consistent feedback when developing this strategy has been

- Leicester undersells itself so we should shout louder and celebrate our expertise
- we can be better at sharing information and coordinating our plans
- diversity is our superpower BUT
- some communities and groups aren't engaged or getting enough access to opportunity, attention and resources

Shouting - What's Already Happening and What's the Plan

Many individual organisations and businesses are very effective promoting what they do but it is difficult to get a view of our collective city offer. The plan will create a specific communication platform dedicated to showcasing our cultural and creative offer which people sign up to and support. We want people to feel part of something bigger but also to sign up because it is interesting, informative, practically useful and fun. Otherwise they won't. We will establish the platform by March 2025.

This will be led by the LCB team who are already facilitating and supporting a wide range of creative industry networks and house many of our leading cultural organisations. The team will proactively reach out to showcase positive Leicester success stories not just locally but regionally and nationally. There will be a particular focus on how we strengthen the position of global majority communities and other under-represented groups across the sector.

The city boasts a unique set of assets including key cultural and heritage buildings across the Cultural Quarter, Old Town and the University campuses which will be promoted to attract more high profile events from the corporate, public and third sectors. This will also be a focus for the new Pilot House complex that will put a spotlight on our design sector.

We will also be shouting about the advantages and opportunities for living in the city. The city centre residential population has grown from 5,000 in 2004 to 22,000 in 2022 and is forecast to grow rapidly in the next decade. Creating a new city centre neighbourhood with a vibrant economy day and night, quality leisure and cultural assets and high quality accommodation will help drive new investment and encourage new creatives and businesses to locate here.

- More than 10,000 people sign up to the Leicester Leading communications platform
- Leicester has a national profile as a cultural and creative hub
- People feel proud and talk up Leicester
- More organisers choose Leicester for events about cultural and creative issues
- Talented people want to move here or stay

Sharing - What's Already Happening and What's the Plan

'Sharing' information and data about who we are (and aren't) working with, co-ordinating our ideas and joining up our programming can lever more resources, engage more people, create business opportunities and attract more attention to what we are doing. But it is also essential to shine a light on groups who are under-served, who we need to engage with and who need to be directing activity in the future.

Many organisations are already doing this work individually, much of it prompted by Arts Council England support. The opportunity is to join it up more effectively.

Sharing experiences and ideas is also a key plank of the plan for creative industry growth. That includes support to grow creative business networks that work for their members in practical ways that share skills, lever resources and build new supply chains. It also means ensuring learning institutions and business support agencies work together and agree priorities, particularly for attracting new investment. This theme of sharing and joint working is also developed in the plans for Inclusive Heritage and Creative Industries.

- A clear picture of who isn't engaged or benefiting from our cultural and heritage work now and a clear plan to address it
- Visibility of progress against this strategy and a commitment to discuss what is and isn't working well
- More opportunities for under-represented groups to deliver and direct the ideas contained in this strategy

AUDIENCES 4 A Signature Festival

SIGNATURE FESTIVALS

WHY

Festivals and events deliver demonstrable economic and social benefits for local communities, promoting access, inclusivity and civic participation, and creating excitement. They animate venues, public spaces and parks, fostering opportunities for new artistic and industry partnerships. They are a key tool in civic place-making and for cultural tourism. For 21st century cities, signature festivals and events provide a platform to showcase a city's creativity, diversity and unique cultural offer. Extensive consultation for this Strategy identified a new signature festival as one of 8 'Big Ideas'.

Leicester enjoys many secular and non-secular artform/theme-specific festivals, some with a national / international profile such as *Bring The Paint*, *Leicester Comedy Festival* and annual *Diwali* celebrations. However, despite our 20+ Arts Council recognised National Portfolio Organisations, many creatives of (inter)national repute and multiple events that take place throughout the year, the city still lacks a signature arts festival. Nor do we have any established annual major commercial music festivals. Previous attempts, notably *CityFest* and *Summer Sundae* both proved unsustainable.

A previous festivals review noted that economic and social benefits to Leicester citizens were greatest where festivals attract people from across the whole city and beyond and when the festival is not targeted at one specific group but is accessible to all citizens. Expanding events that deliver this approach is a key objective going forward. Some examples are included below.

WHATS ALREADY HAPPENING AND WHATS THE PLAN?

Light Up Leicester – A Collaborative Approach

The popular biennial *Light Up Leicester* will return in March 2025 for a secular four-day event designed to engage all communities across the city and beyond. Led by Leicester City Council, working with core partners BID Leicester, ArtReach and Leicester Cathedral, delivering significant visitor footfall and economic impact. Participating NPO arts organisations include Inspirate, Nupur Arts, Darbar Arts and MBD Ltd, with additional opportunities for local artist commissions. Other local partners will include City Retreat / Ramadan FM, Highcross, DMU, Visit Leicester and major local businesses and employers. Programme accessibility, with advice secured through All In, is a key programme aim as is environmental sustainability.

Leicester Music Conference & Festival

Familia HQ, PPL PRS, DMU, 2FunkyArts, TiME, UMC and Leicestershire Music Hub, are collaborating as a new Leicester Music Board to build upon the successful delivery of the inaugural Leicester Music Conference in February 2024. The plan is to expand it from a single-day conference and showcase into a dynamic two-day music and culture festival. That will incorporate cutting-edge music technology, educational workshops, and high-quality multi-genre and multi-ethnic performances, alongside a brandnew Leicester Music Awards element. The ambition for LMB is to establish an industry-relevant network for established and emerging music and creative industry professionals, positioning Leicester as a central destination for music, culture, and innovation.

The LMB will also explore commercial music festival models such as a variation of Brighton's successful *The Great Escape*, presenting artists in the city's array of music venues that reflects and builds upon its diversity. The city council, with the support of LMB partners, will continue to make approaches to UK music festival

producers to deliver major outdoor events that build upon the recent successes of *Radio 2 in the Park* and *Kasabian Summer Solstice II* events in Victoria Park, with the aim of establishing a regular annual event with commercial providers.

The Signature Festival Opportunity - 'This Is Leicester'

The proposition for a new signature festival for the city is one celebrates the city's growing creative and cultural offer showcasing its global artists, creativity, arts venues, Universities, heritage, fashion, public realm, food and drink. The ambition is to create a multi-artform festival platform for the 20+ NPO's, invited inter/national artists, HE/FE organisations, city arts and heritage venues, community groups and Leicester's flourishing independent creative sector to offer audiences a mix of live performance, installations, exhibitions, film, talks, workshops, free and ticketed events. The festival programme would be designed specifically to be reflective of and responsive to the city's communities and super diverse status.

A key element will entail promotion of aligned activity by partners. In other words performances, exhibitions, talks etc that match the festivals 'showcasing Leicester' objectives but that are already planned and part of organisational core programme budgets. This should include planned youth / community-based activity as well as work by professional artists. Also, training opportunities for aspiring young artists, producers and event production staff should be built in alongside volunteering options.

Event dates need to be confirmed however there is scope for the festival to sit between major UK arts festivals in Brighton (May) and Edinburgh (Aug), potentially benefitting from (inter)national touring artists/companies, new partnerships, collaborative projects and co-commissioning opportunities. Placing the festival in June would also coincide with the end of the University year, offering the potential for significant and wide-ranging FE/HE student and academic engagement via course modules (e.g. Arts & Festivals; Fashion; History; Media & Comms; Film; Music Production).

One options is to build out from an existing festival brand and platform – i.e. *Riverside Festival*. Increasingly designed to provide a platform for local artists / NPOs and a programme offer that is reflective of and appealing to all city's communities, in 2024 the festival attracted an audience in excess of 75,000 and for the first time included DMU as a partner. Further, plans are now in place to include DMU's *Cultural Exchanges* festival within *Riverside Festival 2025*.

The new signature festival would be led and curated by a new Steering Group of individuals and young producers representative of Leicester's NPO's and independent artists. Make-up of the steering group would be time specific to enable refreshed membership as the festival evolves. To deliver the new festival in June 2026 the steering group will submit an Arts Council England application and seek further buy-in and support from key University partners, NPO's and local businesses / sponsors.

OUTCOMES

- Supporting and showcasing Leicester's artistic and cultural diversity.
- Greater collaboration, co-design and new partnership working between Leicester's creative / artistic community, public, private and 3rd sectors.
- Create economic benefit and attract external investment.
- Promotion of social cohesion, engagement and participation, civic identity and pride.
- Provide opportunities for local artistic and creative talent.
- Promote environmentally responsible and sustainable festivals and events.
- Programming and activity that is reflective of and accessible to all Leicester's communities.
- Delivery of Leicester Music Conference & Festival Feb'25; Light Up Leicester Mar'25; This Is Leicester Jun'26.

C PLACE 5 Inspirational Spaces

Why

Iconic spaces and buildings create pride, generate awareness of place and enable culture to be celebrated and businesses to grow. Leicester is already home to many such as Curve theatre, Attenborough Arts, the King Richard III visitor centre, Space City, the LCB Depot and a network of parks and squares that support events, festivals and celebrations. However, across the cultural arts, visitor economy and the wider creative business sector some elements are missing or insufficient.

There is a need to expand our city centre residential population, create new green infrastructure and adjust to the ways people now shop, live, move and use their leisure time. These themes will be developed in the city council's new Heart of Leicester plan to create a fully functioning city centre neighbourhood.

High quality spaces with the right technical infrastructure, aesthetic qualities and net zero credentials can also help us attract investment and new businesses, generate new collaborations and move us to the next level as a creative economy. This strategy will be used to seek other resource that can help us deliver on this ambition.

What's already happening and what's the Plan

The Jewry Wall Roman Experience visitor attraction will open in 2025. The final element of the Cathedral Revealed project, a new Heritage Learning centre, will open in late 2024 while the Cathedral itself has already re-opened after a major overhaul. Both will add to the compelling offer of the city's Old Town. You can read more about the city's Old Town offer here. (will be a hyper link to a new brochure promoting the Leicester Old Town)

Further investment at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery will create new display spaces for art, for social history and that reflect the Climate Emergency we face. At Haymarket Theatre new investment will support additional learning and rehearsal space for the performing arts, especially dance, underpinned by a new long term deal with the Addict Dance Academy. Feasibility work is investigating the scope to enlarge seating capacity at Curve. A major opportunity has emerged to use the recently cleared area in front of the Corn Exchange as a high profile new events space at the centre of the city.

Across the city the growing number of Arts Council National Portfolio Organisations continues to drive investment in cultural assets whilst the legacy of successive Bring the Paint events has made Leicester the stand out city in the UK for street art.

Infrastructure to support the growth of the broader creative economy is also set to expand. More than 50,000 sq ft of Grade A space is available from autumn 2024 in three new DOCK workspaces that will further strengthen the success of Space City, a critical strand of the city's knowledge economy. Another 40,000 sq ft will support the growth of Leicester's Creative and Design sector at the Pilot House complex from spring 2025. Combined they deliver a £30m investment in new infrastructure that will enable businesses to grow and house hundreds of new jobs. Scope for further capital investment in new commercial workspace is referenced in the Creative Clusters strand.

- Leicester's 'Old Town' offer is celebrated as a visitor destination by Trip Advisor and similar
- More bespoke, occupied workspace for creative businesses
- More creative business relocate to the city

6 Inclusive Heritage

Why

This builds on imaginative work done in recent years to tell new stories that engage communities and groups who are typically left out of standard 'culture'. The specific opportunity for Leicester is as a pilot for the National Lottery Heritage Fund's new 'Place' programme. This new funding stream could be worth £10m over the next decade.

What's Already Happening and What's the Plan

Exploration and celebration of city Heritage has been central to cultural investment over the last decade in Leicester including the development of the Story of Leicester online; a network of more than 300 Heritage Panels on street; a new permanent gallery at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery co-curated with local communities. It includes extensive capital investment in Heritage buildings such as Leicester Castle, now home to the De Montfort University business school and the Heritage Action Zone programme that helped re-invigorate the old Georgian quarter of the city. Our Heritage talent and organisational infrastructure is strong including University of Leicester's recently launched Heritage Hub.

Recent initiatives include the Punks exhibition led by Soft Touch and partners and the Rebuilding Lives Ugandan Asian exhibition led by Navrang Arts and partners which both won national awards. Serendipity secured one of the largest Heritage Fund grants ever awarded to a black arts and heritage organisation for the Unearthed project to develop an archive to celebrate the diversity of African and African Caribbean communities across the Midlands.

Much new work is already planned by many of the arts and cultural organisations in the city that will support Inclusive Heritage so the focus for the strategy is the Place programme. The diversity of our communities distinguishes Leicester and is easily demonstrated. But diversity does not necessarily deliver inclusion, community cohesion and equality. The proposition is an 'Inclusive Heritage' programme that specifically promotes community cohesion, equality and inclusion.

Communities will be supported to identify what heritage means for them and to celebrate it but also to move beyond themselves in ways that engage others and bring people together. That means people with visual impairments or who cherish the built environment as well as communities based on geography, faith and ethnicity. Genuine inclusion must be meaningful for all.

Working in partnership with the Audience Agency we will consult extensively to summer 2025 to generate this plan.

- New stories and ideas develop that are prioritised by Leicester communities, based on engagement and co creation principles
- Greater mutual appreciation between communities about 'shared' heritage themes (food / family / music / sport / stories / places of worship / transport or whatever)
- Initiatives that engage and involve everyone regardless of their abilities

D. Creative Industries 7 Creative Circuits

Why

Creative businesses grow faster when they are close to supply chains, can access expertise and skills, develop partnerships, access market opportunities, peer support, premises, finance and inspiration. This is particularly important for the disproportionately large number of creative businesses that are freelancers and who can't so easily access information and opportunity.

The above can be enabled by strong sector networks where businesses share information, set up new collaborations, share promotion and create greater visibility of opportunities. They are also assisted by the co-location of businesses in specific premises when informal contacts and conversations are made easier and by events that bring people together.

What's already happening and what's the Plan

Leicester is already home to creative hubs where businesses share locations such as the LCB Depot which already operates as a creative agency facilitating contacts, conversations and new partnerships. In the next few years Pilot House will create a further expanded hub for a spectrum of design related businesses and the growth of Space City will do likewise for tech and innovation businesses.

There are a host of networks that operate now to support music, film and tv, tech start ups etc. The Plan is to encourage these networks to be more sustainable, grow their memberships and engagement, develop awareness of business opportunities, attract other resources, create services that benefit their members and position the city to attract investment.

Resource from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will support four sector networks in 2024/25 that cover music; socially engaged artists; creative digital art and film and a new black arts forum. The Plan is that whatever replaces UKSPF will continue this and that support for sector networks will be embedded within other strategies and programmes for business support and economic growth.

- Sector networks extend membership and lever new resources
- New shared spaces encourage networks to grow, new partnerships are developed and new business opportunities identified
- Other economic strategies and business support programmes have a clear focus on supporting creative industry networks

8 Vision for Growth

Why

Alongside bespoke premises and support for sector specific networks we need a broader plan to drive innovation and the necessary investment across the whole of the creative industry spectrum. This strategy supports the analysis and direction of the Creative Industry Sector Vision, launched by DCMS in June 2023 which sets out both the rationale, the opportunity and many of the specific interventions that are needed. Find out more about that here. (this will be a hyper link to the Sector Vision document)

The partners to this strategy will actively work together to increase investment in research and innovation, design bespoke business and talent support programmes and maximise opportunities for exporting and international trade.

What's already happening and what's the Plan

Leicester creative businesses with growth potential are already benefiting from the Create Growth programme designed to help them scale up and become investment ready.

Work is being coordinated by the three universities in the region for an overarching Innovation Strategy that can drive productivity and innovation throughout the sector. The new University Civic Partnership has created a vehicle through which this work can be developed.

This work will also include developing a compelling proposition for the Creative Clusters funding opportunity set to be invited in spring 2025. In previous rounds of the programme no allocations have been made to any midlands based groups. It is likely the bid opportunity will be for circa £5-£10m. Previous allocations from this programme have proved an extremely effective way to lever investment and to build stronger links between higher education research and development activities and creative businesses that can deliver economic growth. You can find out more about it here (hyper link to a document summarising the Creative Clusters programme)

The preparation work for the Creative Clusters bid and the broader Innovation strategy will include a major sector engagement exercise over the autumn and winter of 2024/25 to ensure both properly reflect the needs, priorities and opportunities of our creative businesses. The legacy of that engagement will be a new partnership that can strengthen collaboration and be an effective advocate for policy and programmes that support our creative sector.

- A new Creative Cluster programme driven by a partnership of Higher Education institutions and creative businesses
- An innovation strategy that clearly articulates interventions needed to drive productivity and investment
- A new Creative Industries partnership that guides the above and advocates for new policy and programmes that grow the sector

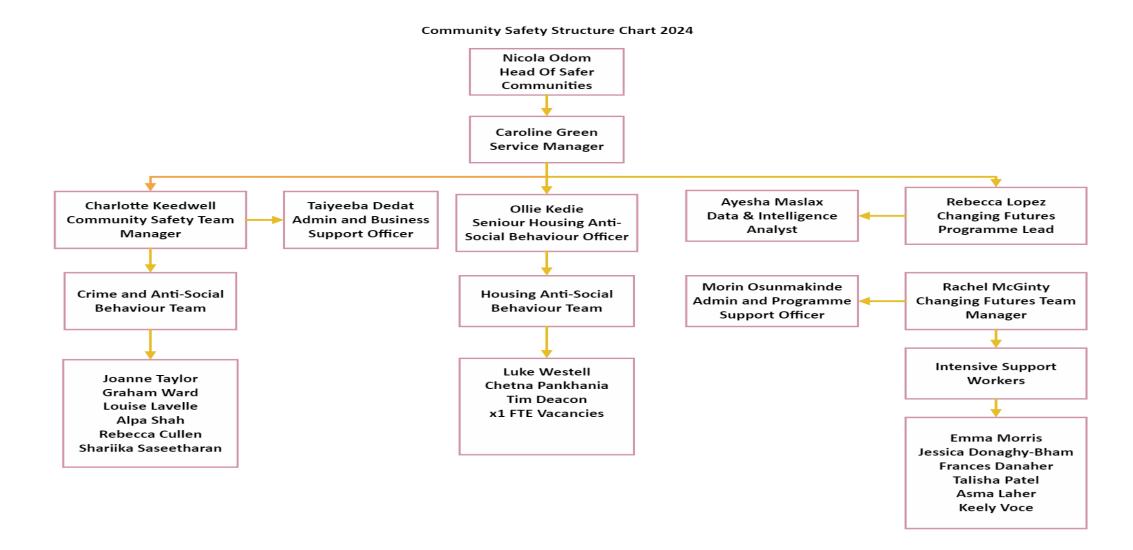
Community Safety and Anti-social behaviour informal response

Neighbourhoods Scrutiny August 2024

_∞ Purpose

- To provide an overview of the structure of the combined Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Team (known as CRASBU) and Housing Anti-Social Behaviour Team (Known as HASBO) within the Community Safety Service
- Illustrate the performance of the team and it focus areas
- To explain pressure on the team and its response to these

Community Safety Service Structure

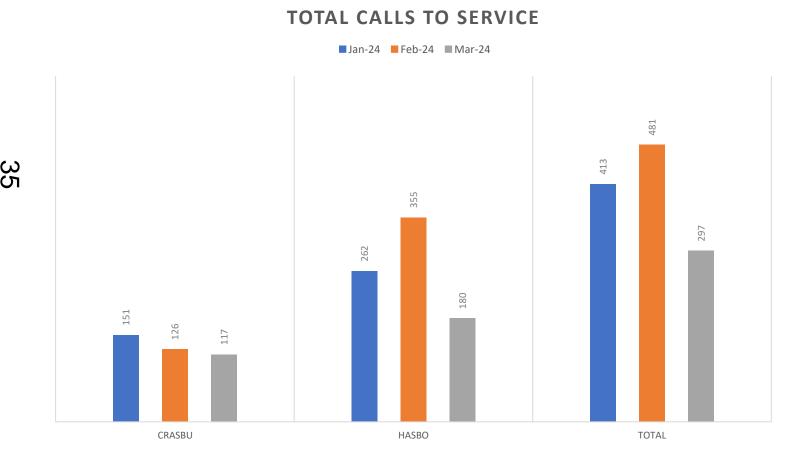


Performance Metrics

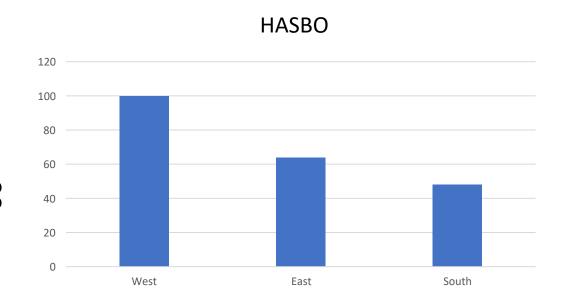
All performance metrics are split into two interdepartmental sections: Crime and Anti-Social

Behaviour Team (CRASBU) and Housing Anti-Social Behaviour Team (HASBO)

Item	Title	Description
1	Calls to Service for both teams	Calls to service defines all contacts into the service, where not all contacts require case management by an officer. All contacts are picked up by two duty officers per day and managed based on content/risk and next steps.
2	Number of ASB cases opened to officers for case management	Total number of cases monitored and targets set to reduce this figure. Also to include a reduction in repeat victims and perpetrators.
3	Average time to close cases from date opened to date closed	This total includes time taken to review and manage the case, for the case to be considered by a senior officer for review and closure.
4	Types of ASB is the national indicator	Three types of ASB as defined by the government. These three ASB coding is used by all local authorities and Police across the country.
5	Actions taken to resolve cases includes action on cases already open	The disposal type (actions taken) is taken from the period and includes action taken across all open cases not just cases opened during the period. All cases before closure must have a satisfactory disposal type completed.
6.	Community Trigger (AKA ASB case reviews)	As the community safety team for the local authority we are responsible for leading on the statutory response to all community triggers raised within the authority area. Often we are not the lead agency for the cases being managed and includes cases where Registered Social Landlords are also the leads.

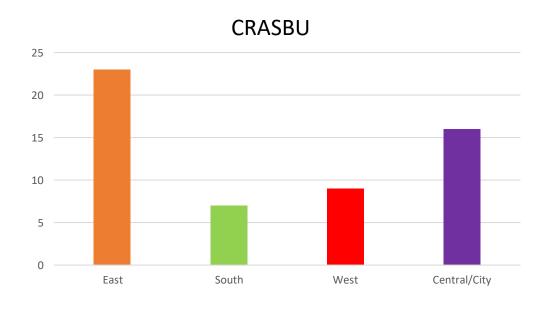


- A total of 1190 calls to service were made dealt with during Q4.
- February saw the highest month for calls to service in this period Consistently there are higher calls to service for the HASBO team.



 The HASBO team have managed 212 new cases in the last quarter.





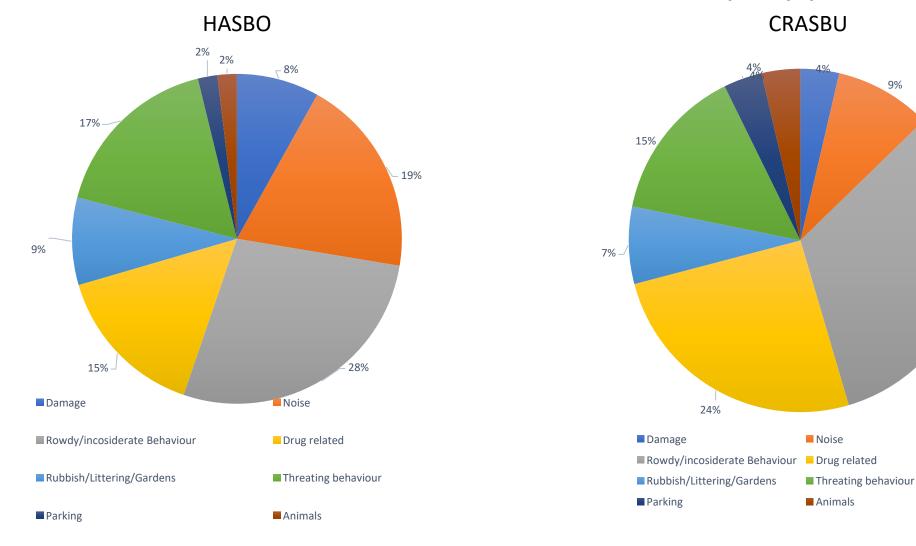
 A total of 55 complex and high-risk new cases were managed by the team within this period.

Average number of days to close cases 132

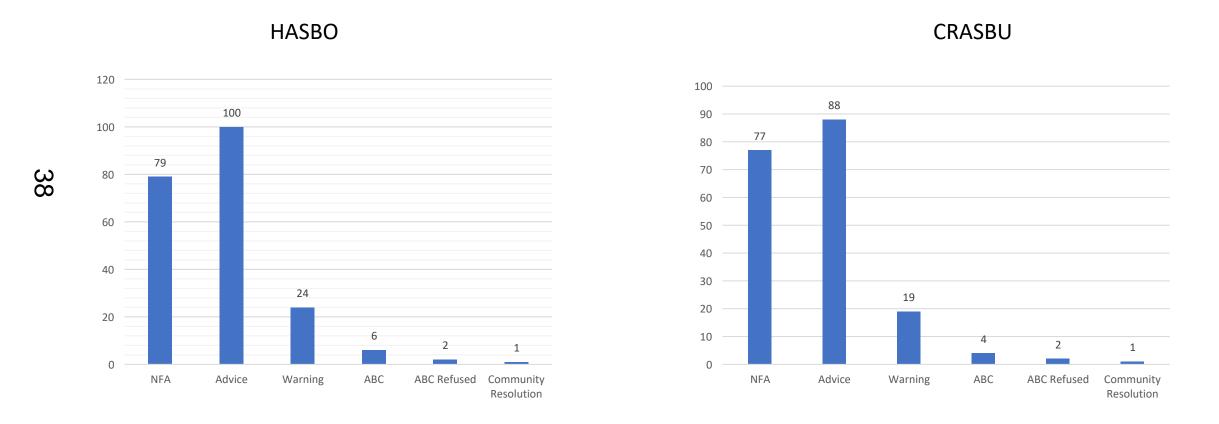
HASBO and CRASBU cases by type of ASB

9%

33%



HASBO and CRASBU by disposal



^{*}NFA – Where a case has required no formal intervention within the means of the incremental approach, for example cases where there hasn't been enough evidence to pursue, or where the complainant hasn't wanted to take any further action, or where the case has been closed due to no further incidents

Community Triggers

A community trigger is the formal process which allows a victim to request a review of their ASB case and investigation. There is a formal threshold of which must be met before a victim can apply for this review.

Threshold: The victim must have reported at least three separate incidents of ASB within the last 3 months, and or, have reported an incident where they are the victim of a hate related incident

In Q4 a total of 5 Community Triggers were received within Community Safety

Of the 5 received 3 were accepted and reviewed in full

2 were declined due to not meeting the threshold.

Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2024 – 2025

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
8 July 2024	 Terms of Reference Leicester Museum and Art Gallery – Call-in Introduction to Culture and Neighbourhoods Services Scrutiny Commission VCSE Delivery Plan 	4) A) Members encouraged to attend VCSE event. B) Members to let officers know of any small organisations in their ward that could benefit from the VCSE strategy.	4) A) Invitation will be sent out when ready B) Meetings being worked through with Cllrs to discuss their wards and groups within them.
22 August 2024	 Culture and Creative Industry Strategy Community Safety and ASB informal response. 		

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
4 November 2024	 Burial Strategy – Annual Report Museum Strategy - Engagement in Museum Teams Heritage Lottery Fund (Place Programme Funding) CCTV Overview Study Zones Fly-tipping strategy Ward Funding Annual Report – Including policy update. 	4) Information report on study desks in libraries that allow people to use the WiFi and study. It also shows how this links to the other services provided by the library.	

Meeting Date	ltem	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
16 January 2025	 Waste Strategy Update Sports Strategy – Including Active Leicester and Women in Sport – Annual Update Grassland Maintenance Report Growing spaces strategy 	 Following discussion at the meeting of 5 December, it was requested that the report come back to the commission around 6-months later when it was fuller and the findings of the seminar were known. It was later decided to combine this with the report on Women in Sport, To include indicators of success, information on bodies that can help promote Women's engagement in sport, other groups with protected characteristics such as disability sport and data broken down into, for example, age and ethnicity, as suggested at the meeting on 24 October 2023, with a possibility of a Board looking at this. To include areas for recreation and sports. To include seed and produce exchange. 	
27 February 2025	Engagement of Community Organisations Tree Strategy	Report on how community organisations could be engaged to help the Council run services as requested at the meeting of 29 January.	

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Meeting Date	ltem	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
3 April 2025	1) Tourism Strategy Update		

Forward Plan Items (suggested)

Topic	Detail	Proposed Date
Festivals and Events Review update		
Museum Strategy Capital Investment - Jewry Wall/LMAG		
Selective Licensing Update		
Discretionary Licensing		
Library and Community Needs Assessment		
Heritage panels, inviting members suggestions for new panels		
Food Service Plan Update		

	To include info on how community organisations could be	
VCSE Engagement Strategy - delivery items	engaged to help the Council run services as requested at the	
of particular interest for further update	meeting of 29 January. Also including a view of volunteer effort	
	and the opportunities that volunteers were taking part in.	