

To: Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine Local Area Committee

On: 22 February 2017

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

Heading: UK City of Culture 2021- Launch of the Guidance for Bidding Cities

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Local Area Committees have previously requested that they are kept up-to-date with Paisley's bid to become UK City of Culture in 2021. On Thursday 12 January 2017 the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) formally launched the 2021 competition. This short report is intended to update the Local Area Committee on the key dates for the bidding process during 2017.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of this report.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 The launch of the 2021 UK City of Culture competition has been much anticipated. On 12 January 2017 at an event in Hull, the 2017 UK City of Culture, the Minister for Digital and Culture announced the timetable and revised guidance for bidders. The new guidance can be seen on the Government web site - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/competition-launches-to-find-uk-city-of-culture-2021>.
- 3.2 At the launch the Minister emphasised that the UK City of Culture is a prestigious title providing a very significant opportunity to use culture as a catalyst for economic and social regeneration, to help boost tourism and raises

the profile of art and culture. Bids are encouraged to be ambitious, exciting and innovative.

4. Competition process and timetable

- 4.1 The competition is a two stage process. Initial Bids are to be submitted by midnight on the 28 April 2017. There will be a period of clarifications and supplementary questioning during May. A shortlist will be announced in June with full and final Bids to be submitted by 29 September 2017. The assessment process of the final Bid will involve the hosting of a visit by an Independent Advisory Panel, under the chairmanship of Phil Redmond CBE, in October 2017. The final announcement of the UK City of Culture 2021 will take place in Hull in December 2017. The full timetable is set out in the Table below.

Date / Month	Assessment Process	Requirement from bidders
28 February 2017		Deadline for registration
28 April 2017		Deadline for submission of initial bids
May - June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial assessment of bids - Development of clarification questions - Presentations from bidders (tbc) - Further assessment and advice to Minister on bids - Decision on shortlist - Feedback on initial bids 	Responses to clarification questions
July 2017	Further guidance on full and final bids issued	
29 September 2017		Deadline for submission of full and final bids
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial assessment of bids - Development of clarification questions - Visits to shortlisted cities/towns 	Responses to clarification questions Host visit from Independent Advisory Panel member(s) and DCMS Project Team
November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further assessment of bids, and advice to 	

Date / Month	Assessment Process	Requirement from bidders
	Minister - Final decision on winner	
December 2017	- Announcement of winner - Feedback on final bids	

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial – N/A**
2. **HR & Organisational Development - N/A**
3. **Community Planning – N/A**
4. **Legal - N/A**
5. **Property/Assets - N/A**
6. **Information Technology – - N/A**
7. **Equality & Human Rights**

The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report

8. **Health & Safety - N/A**
9. **Procurement - N/A**
10. **Risk - N/A**
11. **Privacy Impact - N/A**

Author: Stuart McMillan, Paisley 2021 Bid Manager, Development and Housing Services
stuart.mcmillan@renfrewshire.gov.uk 0141 618 7850