

Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny

Guidance on the use of this form:

This form is for use by councillors and members of the public who want to request that an item joins an Overview and Scrutiny agenda. Any issue may be suggested, provided it affects the BCP area or the inhabitants of the area in some way. Scrutiny of the issue can only be requested once in a 12 month period.

The form may also be used for the reporting of a referral item to Overview and Scrutiny by another body of the council, such as Cabinet or Council.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee receiving the request will make an assessment of the issue using the detail provided in this form and determine whether to add it to its forward plan of work.

They may take a variety of steps to progress the issue, including requesting more information on it from officers of the council, asking for a member of the overview and scrutiny committee to 'champion' the issue and report back, or establishing a small working group of councillors to look at the issue in more detail.

If the Committee does not agree to progress the issue it will set out reasons for this and they will be provided to the person submitting this form.

More information can be found at Part 4.C of the BCP Council Constitution
<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info=1&bcr=1>

Please complete all sections as fully as possible

1. Issue requested for scrutiny

The importance of Arts & Culture in Wellbeing.

2. Desired outcome resulting from Overview and Scrutiny engagement, including the value to be added to the Council, the BCP area or its inhabitants.

To examine this issue through Key Lines of Enquiry:

- What is the evidence base around the effectiveness of arts and culture interventions
- What work is currently ongoing to promote arts & culture as a means of advancing health and wellbeing?

- Can steps be taken to establish a Creative Council in BCP?
- Can LGA/Arts Council assist?
- Is there capacity to look at this within BCP following the disaggregation of Public Health?

3. Background to the issue

A recent joint LGA/Arts council Webinar highlighted the importance of Arts and Culture in Health and Wellbeing. It mentioned pieces of work in other Local Authorities including East Sussex which agreed the approach of being a Creative Council and also how this had been applied in Wigan.

The National Centre for Creative Health defines creative health as 'creating the conditions and opportunities for arts, creativity and culture to be embedded in the health of the public'

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/lets-create/delivery-plan-2021-2024/introduction#:~:text=%27Creativity%27%20describes%20the%20process%20through,that%20wasn%27t%20there%20before.>

University College London, as “creating the conditions and opportunities for arts, creativity, and culture to be embedded in the health of the public. It is concerned with how community assets and resources, and other non-clinical approaches to health (such as social prescribing) can support health and wellbeing.”

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/creative-health-masc>

4. Proposed method of scrutiny - (for example, a committee report or a working group investigation)

I would suggest a one-day seminar on this.

5. Key dates and anticipated timescale for the scrutiny work

To be completed the end of this year.

6. Notes/ additional guidance

N/A

Document last reviewed – January 2022

Contact – democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk