

## **CULTURE COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT ON THE FIRST FOUR YEARS: 1999 - 2003**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1 Prior to the First Partnership Agreement of the National Assembly for Wales on the 6 October 2000, cultural matters came under the remit of the Post –16 Education and Training Committee (Post 16 Committee). The work of that committee's will be briefly covered in this report followed by that of the Culture Committee which subsequently inherited the sole responsibility for cultural matters.

#### **POST-16 EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE**

- 2 The Committee's remit mirrored that of the then Minister for Post-16 Education and Training, Tom Middlehurst. Responsibilities covered ranged from further and higher education, training, culture, sport and recreation to the Welsh Language. The portfolio also included oversight of nine Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies (ASPBs).
- 3 During its life the Committee completed a review of the recommendations in the Education and Training Action Plan. Notably, it endorsed the Education and Training Action Group's (ETAG) proposal to establish Careers Wales a National Council for Education and Training (ELWa). The Committee's report was endorsed by Plenary in February 2000. Both these organisations are now in full operation.
- 4 The Committee completed a brief review of the scope and activities of the National Library of Wales. This involved a wide consultation containing many constructive suggestions for improvement which the Committee was able to relay in a letter to the Librarian of the National Library .
- 5 The Committee also worked closely with the Welsh Language Board and formally endorsed the Board's paper setting out its vision for the future of the language. Three Committee members were also nominated to join a working group of officials to help create a Welsh Language Scheme for the Assembly,
- 6 One of the last acts of the Committee was to finalise its extensive report into arts and culture in Wales: 'A Culture in Common'. The report was the result of a six month consultation exercise and contained over a hundred recommendations. The Culture Committee inherited the report, but did not formally adopt its recommendations. Many of the report's recommendations were warmly welcomed by committee members though reservations were also expressed about some aspects of the report.

## **CULTURE COMMITTEE**

### **Commencement**

- 7 The Committee held its first meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2000 following the dissolution of the aforementioned committee. It inherited a broad remit and this was based on the portfolio of the new Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language, Jenny Randerson.
- 8 This report summarises our activities from November 2000 to the present. Copies of our reports, agendas, papers minutes and transcripts of meetings can be found on the National Assembly website (1)

### **Membership**

- 9 Our current membership is: Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Chair), Jenny Randerson (Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language), Lorraine Barrett, Rosemary Butler, Delyth Evans, Alison Halford, Glyn Davies, Owen John Thomas, and Dafydd Wigley.
- 10 There have been some changes to our membership during our life span:
  - Dafydd Wigley replaced Gareth Jones on 22 May 2001
  - Glyn Davies replaced Jonathan Morgan on 20 November 2001;

### **Remit and Responsibilities**

- 11 The Committee's remit mirrors that of the Assembly Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language, Jenny Randerson. The portfolio covers arts and culture, sport and recreation, the Welsh language and museums and libraries. The portfolio also includes oversight of nine Assembly sponsored (ASPBs) or grant aided public bodies.
- 12 The responsibilities of subject committees are set out in Standing Order 9 (see Annex 1).

### **Priorities**

- 13 Within its range of responsibilities, the Committee established a firm set of priorities. The Committee's work programme has sought to draw out the links between the Committee's priorities and the targets set in the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Plan for Wales' strategy. The Committee has developed a strategic approach to its work and has focused in depth on a small number of priority issues. Amongst other things, it has undertaken major policy reviews of the Welsh language and participation in sport.

## **Work and Achievements to Date**

- 14 We are committed to making our proceedings more accessible to the people of Wales. To this end, we have held meetings in Cardiff, Aberystwyth, Denbigh, Newport, Pontyberem, Pontypridd, and Swansea.
- 15 The Committee has met 49 times. Our principal achievements are as follows:

## **Policy Development - *standing order 9.7 (i)***

### **Policy Review of The Welsh Language**

- 16 The Committee inherited from the Post -16 Committee a Plenary request to conduct a comprehensive review into the Welsh language. We adopted terms of reference which sought to define more closely the National Assembly's established objective of creating a bilingual Wales and suggest a concrete strategy of actions for achieving that objective. The Committee subsequently decided to invite the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee to assess the whole lifelong learning agenda holistically– from early years to adult education.
- 17 This was the first time that two Assembly subject committees had undertaken a joint report. The report '*Our Language: Its Future*' (2) was launched and presented to Plenary on 9 July 2002. The Committees also held three highly successful question and answer sessions regarding the report during the National Eisteddfod week in St David's, Pembrokeshire.
- 18 This was a year-long review which entailed receiving 54 oral presentations, 175 written consultations and the hosting of six roadshows throughout Wales. The four Regional Committees of the National Assembly also held consultation sessions and all but one of the other subject committees discussed the review.
- 19 The Committee also welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's support in adopting the Committee's vision of a 'Bilingual Wales'.
- 20 The Welsh Assembly Government has recently issued an action plan '*laith Pawb*', incorporating many of the Committee's key recommendations. This has led to significant additional funding being made available for the Welsh Language Board and in such areas as the Twf project, Mentrau Iaith and local action plans and other initiatives aimed at increasing the use of Welsh.

## **Other activities relating to the Welsh language**

21 The Committee has had considerable input into the Welsh Language Scheme of the Welsh Assembly Government. Three Committee members (Owen John Thomas, Rosemary Butler and Jenny Randerson) were nominated to join a working group of officials to draw up the Scheme. The Committee considered a draft scheme in July 2001 and a final scheme was approved in October 2002.

## **Policy Review of Participation in Sport and Physical Exercise**

22 The Committee commenced its last policy review in July 2002. It aimed to review the levels of participation in sport in Wales and how they might be increased, looking in particular at: barriers to access; infrastructure and facilities; and elite sports.

23 The Committee has conducted an extensive consultation exercise and has received a number of responses as well as oral presentations. A vast range of sectors and organisations involved in sports provision have contributed: the Sports Council for Wales, sport governing bodies, local authorities, the private sector and voluntary bodies.

24 The Committee report is scheduled for a Plenary debate on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003.

## **Review of Expenditure and Administration – *standing order 9.7 (ii)***

25 The Minister has presented a report to the Committee for scrutiny each month on policy initiatives, consultations, budget issues and other matters. The topics to be covered in each report were discussed and agreed in advance by the Chair and the Minister, taking account of topics suggested by Committee Members.

26 The Committee has taken a keen interest in following up the recommendations made in the report 'A Culture in Common' (3). The Committee was regularly consulted in the formulation of the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Culture Strategy', following its progress from a project plan, to a draft and then a final action plan.

27 The Committee was also asked by the Finance Minister to consider the viability of the Wales Millennium Centre's (WMC) revised business plan. It met representatives of the WMC in May 2001 and concluded that it was content with the WMC's proposals and that the project should proceed.

28 The Committee has received bi-annual reports from the Assembly Minister on progress of the New Deal and has met representatives of the New Deal Taskforce in the past.

**Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies (ASPBs)/ Grant Aided Public Bodies  
- *standing order 9.7(iii)***

29 The Committee's portfolio includes five executive ASPBs:

- The Arts Council of Wales;
- The Sports Council for Wales;
- The National Library of Wales;
- The National Museums and Galleries of Wales; and
- The Welsh Language Board

30 The portfolio also includes three other public bodies which the Assembly funds:

- The Council of Museums in Wales
- The Welsh Books Council
- The Wales Millennium Centre

31 The portfolio includes two advisory ASPBs

- The Library and information Services Council (Wales)
- The Place Names Advisory Council

32 Apart from the two advisory ASPBs, the aforementioned have all appeared before the Committee in some capacity over the last two and a half years. The Committee has held valuable sessions to discuss annual reports, corporate plans and quinquennial review stages.

33 In addition, the Committee has held useful sessions with the National Museums and Galleries of Wales regarding its consultation on the 'Display of Art'.

34 These bodies have also worked very closely with the Committee in providing evidence and guidance during our policy reviews as well as providing progress reports on other reviews they have been undertaking.

35 The Committee is grateful for the support and advice of these organisations and look forward to working closely with them in the future.

**Legislation – *standing order 9.8 (i)***

36 Much of the Committee's early work focussed on the publication of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's Communications White Paper; 'A New Future for Communications' and its implication for Wales. The Committee took oral and written evidence from BBC Wales, S4C, HTV Wales and the Independent Television Commission. These sessions helped shape the Committee's thinking in this area and contribute to the Assembly Minister's subsequent response to the White Paper.

- 37 Following on from this, the draft Communications Bill was published in May 2002 and the Assembly made a formal response to the public consultation following debate in the Committee, Plenary and wide consultation. The Committee has held a session to note the UK Government's response to the Assembly's recommendations.
- 38 The Committee considered the Minister's proposal to include 25 bodies in Assembly Subordinate legislation under Section 6(1)(o) of the Welsh Language Act 1993 in February 2001. Section 6 of the Act lists bodies and categories of bodies which are liable to be notified formally by the Welsh Language Board that they should prepare Welsh Language schemes

### **Budget – *standing order 9.8 (ii)***

- 39 Under standing orders each subject committee, within the relevant fields, is invited to provide advice to the Assembly Cabinet on matters relating to the allocation of the Assembly's budget.
- 40 In each financial year the Finance Minister has invited the Committee to submit its views on priorities for the Assembly's expenditure on cultural issues in the following three financial years, or for a period which the Finance Minister considers appropriate.
- 41 The Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language's budget priorities were set out each summer for the Committee's observations, and we commented on the subsequent draft budget each autumn term. The Committee discussed this year's budget planning round on 23 October 2002 and welcomed the overall increase in the budget provision for the Culture Minister's portfolio and an increase in funding for the Welsh language.
- 42 The Committee however, asked for more detailed information on certain aspects of the budget, in particular the use that is to be made of End Year Flexibility (EYF) provision and how that will affect the overall budget provision and the financial position of the National Botanic Garden. The Committee also called for greater support for traditional music. (4)
- 43 In the past the Committee has liaised closely with both the Finance and Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language Ministers to secure the establishment of a National Arts Fund as recommended in 'A Culture in Common'.

### **Equal Opportunities**

- 44 The Committee endeavours to promote the principle of equality of opportunity for all people in the exercise of its functions and the conduct of its business. The Committee has a strong interest in seeing that a dialogue with groups representing minority and disadvantaged interests takes place at all levels in the Assembly. Key stakeholders in the field are regularly consulted by the Committee.

- 45 The Committee has followed these principles in both its policy reviews. In its review of the Welsh language the Committee emphasised the language should be put in an equal opportunities context with public service provision being available in the language of people's choice. In its policy review of participation in sport and physical exercise the Committee identified barriers to access as one of its three main themes of the review and examined factors affecting participation of women, ethnic minorities and disabled people.
- 46 The Welsh Assembly Government and in particular the Arts Council of Wales have also developed cultural diversity strategies and funding schemes which have been influenced by recommendations in 'Culture in Common'.

### **Sustainable Development**

- 47 The Committee fully supports the National Assembly for Wales' commitment to promote development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Committee has aimed to take social, economic and environmental issues into account in everything it does.
- 48 To this end the Committee has closely monitored the recommendation in 'Culture in Common' that cultural ASPBs should be required to link their own strategic planning to support for community regeneration schemes – and that cultural activity should be regarded as an essential component of regeneration programmes. During its discussions on the Welsh Language the Committee also acknowledged that developing sustainable communities was a key priority. The Committee acknowledged that this was not limited to traditional Welsh speaking communities.

### **Complaints – standing order 9.8 (iii)**

- 49 The Permanent Secretary is required to ensure under standing orders that procedures are in place so that: complaints about the Assembly's actions or omissions are acknowledged and properly investigated; and complainants are kept informed about the progress of investigations and replied to, with remedies provided as appropriate.

50 To date, we have not had any complaints referred to us.

### **Public Appointments – *standing order 9.8 (iv)***

- 51 Our public appointments nominees were consulted on numerous appointments to public bodies during the reporting period (5). They have recently been involved in appointments to the National Museum and Galleries of Wales, Welsh Language Board, the National Library of Wales and the Arts Council for Wales.

## FORWARD PROGRAMME

52 A legacy paper for consideration by the successor to the Culture Committee is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

<sup>1</sup> See [www.wales.gov.uk](http://www.wales.gov.uk) pages for Culture Committee at the following address <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubassemculture/index.htm>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubassemculture/content/welshlanguagereview/home-e.htm> for copies of our report (ISBN 0 7504 2946 1)

<sup>3</sup> See [http://www.wales.gov.uk/servlet/DissolvedCommittee?area\\_code=37D6AD0F00074C1F0000123400000000&module=dynamicpages](http://www.wales.gov.uk/servlet/DissolvedCommittee?area_code=37D6AD0F00074C1F0000123400000000&module=dynamicpages) for copies of our report.

<sup>4</sup> See [www.wales.gov.uk](http://www.wales.gov.uk) budget and strategic planning pages for copies of our responses.

<sup>5</sup> Current nominees are Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Jenny Randerson and Rosemary Butler



## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUBJECT COMMITTEES**

Standing orders 9.7 and 9.8 set out the responsibilities of subject committees.

### **Responsibilities**

Each subject committee shall

- (i) contribute to the development of the Assembly's policies within the fields for which the relevant Minister is accountable to the Assembly;
- (ii) keep under review the expenditure and administration connected with their implementation; and
- (iii) keep under review the discharge of public functions in those fields by public, voluntary and private bodies.

Each subject committee shall also, within the relevant fields,

- (i) advise on proposed primary, secondary and European legislation affecting Wales, including performing its functions under standing order 22;
- (ii) provide advice to the Assembly Cabinet on matters relating to the allocation of the Assembly's budget in accordance with standing order 19;
- (iii) perform its functions under standing order 21 (complaints);
- (iv) perform any functions assigned to it under the Code of Practice on Public Appointments Procedure made by the Assembly under standing order 20; and
- (v) consider matters referred to it by the Assembly within its fields.

## **LEGACY PAPER FOR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE TO CULTURE COMMITTEE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The number and portfolios of subject committees after the May 2003 elections will be determined by the First Minister's allocation of portfolios to Assembly Ministers. The work programmes and priorities of the incoming committees will be a matter for their members to determine. However, the successor to the Culture Committee may wish to consider the following as possible future discussion topics.

#### **A) POLICY DEVELOPMENT - STANDING ORDER 9.7(I).**

2. The incoming Committee may wish to undertake policy reviews into the following topics:
  - English-medium Welsh Culture
  - Music
  - Arts and young people
  - Dance
3. More detailed information on these topics is at annexes A to D.

#### **B) REVIEW OF EXPENDITURE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES BY MINISTERS - STANDING ORDER 9.7(II)**

4. The incoming Committee may wish to scrutinise the Minister in the new session regarding the following topics.

##### **(i) Culture in Common / Creative Future Implementation**

5. The Post-16 Committee prepared an extensive report on art and culture in Wales entitled: "A Culture in Common". Whilst the Culture Committee inherited the report it did not formally adopt it. In response to the report, the Minister published a culture strategy: "Creative Future" which is intended to be implemented over a ten year period. The Culture Committee has received regular updates on progress in implementing the strategy. The incoming committee may wish to continue to monitor progress.

##### **(ii) Our Language: Its Future / Iaith Pawb**

6. The Culture Committee report “Our Language: Its Future” represented a detailed review of the Welsh Language and recommendations for achieving a bi-lingual Wales. In response the Minister produced the action plan “Iaith Pawb”. The incoming committee may wish to receive regular progress reports on its implementation.

**(iii) Policy Review of Sport and Physical Exercise**

7. The present Committee carried out an in-depth policy review into sport and physical exercise in Wales. The final report was debated in plenary on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The incoming Committee may wish to examine the Minister’s response to the report and regularly review the progress of the Minister in implementing the recommendations made by the Committee.

**(iv) Assembly Cabinet’s annual report**

8. The incoming Committee may wish to compare the actual budget out-turn and delivery of objectives, as shown in the annual report, with the original expenditure proposals and targets set out in the previous year’s plans and question the Minister regarding any shortfall. The annual report is usually published in November and covers the previous financial year.

**(v) Minister’s Monthly Report**

9. The Committee may wish to continue the practice of questioning the Minister each month on a written report which covers progress with ongoing initiatives, new developments, and specific issues of interest to committee members.

**(vi) Ad Hoc “themed” scrutiny sessions**

10. The incoming Committee may wish to arrange additional scrutiny sessions on specific topics which may arise unexpectedly during the lifetime of the Committee.

**C) BY ASSEMBLY SPONSORED PUBLIC BODIES (ASPBs) –  
STANDING ORDER 9.7(III)**

11. The incoming Committee may wish to develop a regular pattern of monitoring the ASPBs within its remit. The main elements of scrutiny of ASPBs are as follows.

**(i) Quinquennial Reviews**

12. Major reviews of ASPBs are undertaken on a 5 yearly basis. The incoming Committee will wish to comment on the draft terms of

reference for the review; the draft Stage I (strategic review of the need for the ASPB's functions) report; and the draft Stage II (review of ASPB's performance issues) report. The current programme of quinquennial reviews of ASPBs in the culture portfolio has been completed. Consideration will be given in the summer to the need for a quinquennial review of the Arts Council of Wales.

**(ii) Corporate plans, annual reports and remit letters**

13. The incoming Committee may wish to:
- comment on ASPBs' draft corporate plans before the proposed targets are agreed with the Minister each year (timing: June/July);
  - scrutinise ASPBs on their annual reports (timing: autumn);
  - comment on the Minister's remit letter to each ASPB before they are issued (timing: January).

**Ad hoc "themed" scrutiny sessions**

14. The Committee may wish to hold ad hoc sessions with ASPBs on specific developments in their areas.

**D) BUDGET – STANDING ORDER 9.8(I) AND S.O.19**

15. The Finance Minister is required to invite subject Committees to provide their views on priorities for the Assembly's expenditure by July 2003. Ministers are then required to consult committees on the draft budget laid before plenary during the autumn.

**E) OTHER ISSUES**

- 16. National Waterfront Museum** – It is suggested that the incoming committee invites the National Waterfront Museum to make a presentation on the progress with establishing the new museum.
- 17. National Museums and Galleries of Wales** – A proposed session with NMGW was postponed to allow the Committee time to question the National Botanic Garden about their long term funding position. The incoming committee may wish to hold a session with the NMGW on their draft corporate plan for 2004-05 in June/July.
- 18. Welsh Music Foundation** – The Minister made a commitment to the present Committee to provide a paper on the Welsh Music Foundation. The incoming committee may wish to pursue this matter.

**WORK PROGRAMME**

19. A possible work programme for the incoming committee is at annex E.



# POLICY REVIEW OF ENGLISH-MEDIUM WELSH CULTURE

## INTRODUCTION

1. A policy review of English-medium Welsh culture could potentially be very broad in its scope. In undertaking such a review, the incoming Committee will therefore need either to concentrate on one specific area, or to break down the review into a series of focused reports. Given the scale of the subject matter, a consultation exercise would need to be held over the summer recess and the first oral presentation sessions held in the autumn term, with the questioning of presenters informed by the consultation responses.

2. A possible structure for the review is outlined below.

### **Interim Report I : Welsh Books and Writing in English**

One meeting per month on the policy review is suggested, leaving the intervening meetings for the budget, scrutiny, ASPB annual reports etc.

- **October meeting: Raising the profile of Welsh books and writing in English:**
  - Publishing – barriers to publication for writers in Wales; discussions with Parthian, Seren, and if possible a London publisher; New Welsh Review, Planet.
  - Marketing - session with major bookshops on their marketing policy; if possible a newspaper book critic on how smaller publishers can get coverage; scope for expanding awards and prizes.
  - English medium Welsh literature in education (schools and FE/HE) – session with WJEC, possibly University of Wales. (Or take this item at November meeting.)
- **November meeting: Support for English language Welsh writers**
  - Session with Welsh Books Council
- **December meeting: discussion by Committee members of key issues and possible recommendations.** Consideration of whether further information is required (this will affect timing of the second report). Draft interim report to be discussed by Committee in New Year.

### **Interim Report II: English medium Welsh drama**

- **January meeting: theatre**
  - Building audiences: work with schools and community groups; support for local and national production companies; raising the profile of Welsh theatre; the concept of a national theatre and the current position.
  - Developing and supporting Welsh talent: support for playwrights, directors, performers, new productions.
- **February meeting: television and radio**
  - Platforms for Welsh talent: commissioning new writing; broadcasting policy; support for writers and performers.
- **March meeting: film**

- Defining and supporting Welsh film – funding sources; capacity issues; outlets and marketing; developing and supporting talent.
- **April meeting: discussion by Committee members of key issues and possible recommendations.** Consideration of whether further information is required (this will affect timing of the second report). Draft interim report to be discussed by Committee later in the summer term. Discussion of whether to pursue a third stage of the review (below) and what to include.

### **Interim Report III: Other Art Forms and New Media; Follow Up Issues**

Committee to consider whether a third stage in the review would be of benefit. This could cover either: other English medium art forms such as poetry and animation, and opportunities presented by new media and technologies; or new issues which have emerged during the previous two stages of the review. Alternatively animation and new media could be included in the March session on film.

## POLICY REVIEW OF MUSIC

### INTRODUCTION

3. A policy review of music could potentially be very broad in its scope. In undertaking such a review, the incoming committee would therefore need either to concentrate on one specific area (e.g. youth music), or to break down the review into a series of focused reports. In order to develop a clearly focused terms of reference for such a review, a preliminary “scoping study” would be of benefit. This would involve a single committee session on music, with presentations on a range of aspects of the field, in order to identify key issues for more in-depth examination.

### BACKGROUND

4. *Creative Future: Cymru Greadigol*, the Welsh Assembly Government’s Cultural Strategy (published in January 2002) acknowledges the strength in Wales’s musical tradition. It goes on to state that large areas of music are much more fragile than they should be with the infrastructure not sufficiently developed to support the development of this area of Welsh culture. *Creative Future* highlights that Scotland and Ireland are ahead of Wales in relation to traditional and folk music.

5. *Creative Future* recommends the following actions to help to rectify the current position:

- ◆ Ensure the financial viability of the key performing organisations, with specific reference to the classical sector;
- ◆ Invite Local Authorities to suggest modern venues for local and national needs;
- ◆ Increase the opportunities for professional musicians to earn a secure living in Wales;
- ◆ Re-invigorate amateur and semi-professional community music organisations;
- ◆ Improve research facilities and training in Wales’ traditional music;
- ◆ Help performers and composers reach international audiences;
- ◆ Develop proposals to strengthen the infrastructure of small venues;
- ◆ Develop training and business support mechanisms for performers.

### The Arts Council for Wales and Music

6. The Arts Council most recent publication *Supporting Creativity* (March 2003) sets out the Arts Councils five-year development strategy. The Arts Development Strategy commits to developing specialist action plans to cover twelve areas including music.

7. Within the Arts Council’s general action plan, the following areas are highlighted in relation to music:

- ◆ Review of support for brass bands



- ◆ Review of Jazz
- ◆ Review of support for World Music
- ◆ Consolidation of support for World Music
- ◆ Develop a strategy for modern music

## **TIMING**

8. If the committee wished to undertake a policy review of music starting in the autumn term 2003 (instead of undertaking a review of English-medium Welsh culture), the scoping session would need to be undertaken at the second meeting in June. Alternatively the incoming committee may wish to identify a policy review of music as a possible topic for its May 2004 - April 2005 work programme.

## ARTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### BACKGROUND

1. The Arts Council of Wales published a framework document “*The Arts and Young People in Wales*” in [1998/9] as a result of discussions with the Welsh Office following publication of “*Setting the Scene*” in 1996, which set out government policy for arts and young people in England.

2. The framework document proposes the establishment of National Arts and Young People Task Force to implement a three year action plan (1999-00 to 2001-02) covering the following areas:

- **The curriculum** – to ensure that all schools in Wales adopt a policy for arts development; to enhance arts training opportunities for teachers and governors; to strengthen the position of arts within the school curriculum;
- **Extended curriculum** – to increase the opportunities for arts activity in the extended curriculum.
- **Artists in schools** – to ensure that all schools have access to information and advice on ongoing arts activity; to establish training provision for artists and others wishing to engage in arts in schools activity; to establish local and regional advice and brokerage services.
- **Youth arts** – to ensure that all young people have access to information about the availability of arts activities; to devise co-ordinated strategies for the development of youth arts at a local level; to increase the number of youth workers obtaining arts skills and knowledge; to increase the number of artists obtaining skills and knowledge of working with young people; to encourage good practice in participatory arts activity for young people.
- **Access to arts events** – to increase the number of productions exhibitions and other arts events created specifically to cater for the interests of young people; to develop strategies which increase opportunities for young people to attend performances, exhibitions and other arts events; all publicly funded arts organisations which promote arts events to have a policy for education and outreach work.

3. The Arts and Young People Task Force was created in 1999. In October 2001 it launched a series of youth arts pilot projects with the aim of increasing opportunities for young people to participate in the arts. Local strategies to co-ordinate the delivery of youth arts activities will be developed in four local authority areas – Anglesey, Gwynedd, Merthyr, and Newport.

4. The ACW’s five year arts development strategy mentions its cross-cutting action plan on arts and young people. This proposes:

- A review of the Arts and Young People Taskforce;
- Evaluate the pilot arts in schools projects;
- Develop regional strategies for youth arts provision in partnership with local authorities;
- Attendance and Participation Survey of Young People;

- Develop a training framework for working in the arts with young people;
- Support for the national youth arts programme;
- Introduce access schemes to encourage young audiences to attend arts events.

5. A more detailed action plan is currently in draft form and will be subject to consultation at the annual conference in May. A final version will be produced following the conference in order to feed into the draft corporate plan in July.

## **COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT**

6. Given that arts and young people has been a high priority area for the Arts Council of Wales for some years, the incoming committee may wish to undertake a scrutiny session with the Council on i) the progress made in implementing the recommendations contained in “The Arts and Young People in Wales” and the 1999-00 to 2001-02 action plan; ii) and their current plans for 2003-04 and subsequent years. If held in the summer term, this session would provide useful background to the committee’s considerations of the draft Assembly budget in July and October and of the ACW’s draft corporate plan during the same period.

7. Depending on the results of this scrutiny session, the incoming committee may then wish either to hold regular follow-up sessions with the Council on its progress with implementing its plans; or to undertake a more in-depth policy review of youth arts.

## DANCE

### BACKGROUND

1. Some committee members have suggested that dance has not been given a sufficiently high profile and that the successor committee should review this topic.
2. The Assembly Government's cultural strategy "Creative Future: Cymru Greadigol" (published in January 2002) recognised that dance was under-represented in Wales and required additional support. It called on the Arts Council of Wales to develop a new action plan for dance aimed at significantly raising the status and resource level available for this art form.
3. In April 2002 the Arts Council of Wales launched an 8 week consultation on its draft dance strategy, including public meetings. The results of the consultation exercise and the Arts Council's proposed response to them are available on the Arts Council's website. A summary is below.
4. This is the only single-issue action plan which is currently available under the ACW's five year arts development strategy. It should be noted that implementation of the action plan is dependent on additional funding from the Welsh Assembly Government.

### COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

5. The incoming committee will wish to avoid duplicating the work of other bodies and to undertake in depth reviews of topics where there has been only limited work to date and where there is scope for the committee to add maximum value.
6. In view of the work which is already in hand on dance, the committee may wish to adopt the following approach:
  - **Summer 2003** – invite the Arts Council of Wales' senior dance officer to give a presentation on the Council's action plan in relation to dance, focusing in particular on the estimated cost of implementing the action plan. This will provide useful background to the committee's considerations of the draft Assembly budget in July and October and of the ACW's draft corporate plan during the same period.
  - **January 2004** – examine the Minister's remit letter to ACW including any funding and targets related to dance.
  - **Summer 2004** – invite the ACW to give a progress report on the implementation of the action plan.

## OVERVIEW OF ACW DANCE ACTION PLAN

- **Funding:** continued funding of Diversions and Earthfall; proposed funding of India Dance Wales; proposed fixed term funding of selected independent artists in order to increase the number of securely funded independent companies operating within Wales.
  - **Platforms:** develop venues with a special responsibility for programming dance, to be known as “safe houses”. Use of non-traditional theatre spaces to be artist-led, with scope for ACW support for specific commissions.
  - A focus on **community dance and dance in education**, with further research and consultation being required. Work with local authorities to stabilise community dance organisations and then develop the role of CDOs. Support for Community Dance Wales’ training programme.
  - **Touring:** a need for increased quality dance touring, via support for work in Wales and dance touring into Wales, including partnerships with other UK Arts Councils.
  - **Traditional dance:** approach to be developed, possibly via a Traditional Arts action plan.
  - **Ballet:** a review of ballet to be undertaken.
  - **Training:** work with ELWa and WCMD to develop dance training further.
  - **Wider picture:** strengthening UK links.
7. The action plan will be finalised following the annual conference in May.

**STRATEGIC FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2003-04**

1. Standing order 9.9 requires subject committees to:
  - Maintain rolling programmes of work covering periods of at least 12 months;
  - Invite the views of other committees and the Assembly Cabinet on their draft programmes;
  - Have regard to the comments received in finalising their work programmes;
  - Notify plenary of their work programmes;
  - Report to plenary on progress in fulfilling work programmes.
  
2. Depending on committee members' views on the topics outlined at annexes A to D, a possible work programme for the incoming committee is as follows.

**Summer Term 2003**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Agenda Items</b>
June 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background briefing on the committee's portfolio (30 mins).</li> <li>• Discussion of predecessor committee's legacy paper; discussion and agreement of forward work programme (30 mins).</li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report (45 mins)</li> <li>• Paper and presentation on the Welsh Music Foundation (45 mins).</li> <li>• Appointment of subject committee nominees to Minister's public appointments panel (5 mins).</li> </ul>
June 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (If selected at 1<sup>st</sup> meeting) Discussion and agreement of terms of reference for policy review of English-medium Welsh culture. Agreement of consultation paper (30 mins). [OR scoping session on policy review of music (2 hours).]</li> <li>• (If not undertaking music scoping session) Session with Arts Council of Wales on "arts and young people"; OR Session with Arts Council of Wales on the dance action plan (60mins).</li> <li>• Assembly Minister's response to the predecessor committee's report on Participation in Sport and Physical Exercise (45 mins).</li> </ul>

July 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of draft 2004-05 to 2006-07 corporate plans of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Arts Council of Wales;</li> <li>– Sports Council of Wales;</li> <li>– National Museum and Gallery of Wales;</li> <li>– National Library of Wales;</li> </ul> [OR in-depth scrutiny of one of the above (90 mins).] </li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report (45 mins).</li> <li>• Discussion of budget priorities (15 mins)</li> <li>• [(If selected at 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and following scoping session) Agreement of terms of reference for policy review of music. Agreement of consultation paper on music (30 mins).]</li> </ul>
tbc	<p>(If additional Thursday afternoon slot available for informal committee activities: )</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit to National Waterfront Museum, Swansea and presentation.</li> </ul>

### **Autumn term 2003**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Agenda items</b>
Oct 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of draft budget (60 mins)</li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report (45 mins)</li> <li>• Summary of responses to consultation exercise on English-medium Welsh culture [or music] policy review (30 mins).</li> <li>• Assembly Minister's subordinate legislation programme for 2003-04 (30 mins).</li> </ul>
Oct 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of English-medium Welsh culture: Raising the profile of Welsh books and writing in English (3 hours): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Publishing – barriers to publication for writers in Wales; discussions with Parthian, Seren, and if possible a London publisher; New Welsh Review, Planet.</li> <li>– Marketing - session with major bookshops on their marketing policy; if possible a newspaper book critic on how smaller publishers can get coverage; scope for expanding awards and prizes.</li> <li>– English medium Welsh literature in education (schools and FE/HE) – session with WJEC, possibly University of Wales. (Or take this item at November meeting.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• [or 1<sup>st</sup> session on music policy review]</li> </ul>
Nov 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of English-medium Welsh culture (2 hours): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Raising the profile of Welsh books and writing in English contd: English medium Welsh literature in education (schools and FE/HE) – session with WJEC, possibly University of Wales.</li> <li>– Support for English language Welsh writers: session with Welsh Books Council.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister on implementation of Creative Future.</li> </ul>
Nov 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of 2002-03 annual reports of:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Arts Council of Wales;</li> <li>– Sports Council of Wales (including implementation of quinquennial review report);</li> <li>– National Museum and Gallery of Wales;</li> <li>– National Library of Wales</li> <li>– [OR in-depth scrutiny of one of the above (90 mins).</li> <li>• Scrutiny of Assembly Minister on 2002-03 annual report of Welsh Assembly Government (60 mins). OR Minister’s monthly report.</li> </ul>
Dec 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of English-medium Welsh culture: discussion of key issues and possible recommendations in relation to Welsh books and writing in English (60 mins).</li> </ul>
tba	Additional Thursday afternoon slot for informal committee activities (e.g. visit or off-site meeting), if agreed by Business Committee. (e.g. session with Cymal)

### Spring term 2004

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Agenda items</b>
Jan 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review of English-medium Welsh culture: English-medium Welsh drama: theatre (2 hours)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Building audiences: work with schools and community groups; support for local and national production companies; raising the profile of Welsh theatre; the concept of a national theatre and the current position.</li> <li>– Developing and supporting Welsh talent: support for playwrights, directors, performers, new productions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister’s monthly report (45 mins)</li> </ul>
Jan 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discussion of 1<sup>st</sup> draft committee report on Stage I of policy review: Welsh books and writing in English (1 hour).</b></li> <li>• <b>Scrutiny of Minister’s draft remit letters to ASPBs for 2004-05 (1 hour).</b></li> <li>• <b>Scrutiny of Minister on progress with implementing “Iaith Pawb” (1 hour).</b></li> </ul>
Feb 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review of English-medium Welsh culture: English-medium Welsh drama: television and radio (2 hours)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Platforms for Welsh talent: commissioning new writing; broadcasting policy; support for writers and performers.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Scrutiny of Minister’s monthly report (45 mins)</b></li> </ul>
Feb 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion and agreement of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of committee report on Welsh books and writing in English (60 mins).</li> </ul>
Mar 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of English-medium Welsh culture: English-medium Welsh drama: film (90 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Defining and supporting Welsh film – funding sources; capacity issues; outlets and marketing; developing and supporting talent.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Scrutiny of Minister’s monthly report (45 mins)</b></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discussion of draft annual report to plenary on 2003-04 and strategic forward work programme for 2004-05 (30 mins).</b></li> </ul>
Mar 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (OR April meeting) Discussion of key issues and possible recommendations in relation to English-medium Welsh drama.</li> <li>• Agreement of final annual report to plenary on 2003-04 and strategic forward work programme for 2004-05.</li> </ul>

### **Summer term 2004**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Agenda items</b>
May 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report</li> <li>• Discussion of 1<sup>st</sup> draft committee report on English-medium Welsh drama.</li> <li>• English-medium Welsh culture: other art forms and new media: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Poetry</li> <li>– New media and technology.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
May 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of Assembly Minister on progress with implementing Welsh Assembly Government's strategy on increasing participation in sport and physical exercise.</li> <li>• Discussion of key issues and possible recommendations in relation to new media and other art forms.</li> </ul>
June 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoping study for policy review of music [or other agreed topic].</li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report</li> <li>• Discussion and agreement of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft committee report on English Medium Welsh drama.</li> </ul>
June 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of draft committee report on new media and other art forms.</li> <li>• Discussion and agreement of terms of reference and consultation paper for policy review of music [or other agreed topic].</li> </ul>
July 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny of ASPBs corporate plans for 2005-06 to 2007-08.</li> <li>• Scrutiny of Minister's monthly report.</li> <li>• Discussion of budget priorities.</li> </ul>