

LOCAL AUTHORITY ARTS PROVISION COMPARATORS

1. ADEC, Arts Development in East Cambridgeshire

District council, pop 78500, 97.5% white

Jane Wilson,
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<http://www.adec.org.uk/>

Legal Status and age

Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered charity

Existing arts organisation (Ely Arts Association) was developed to become ADEC 14 years ago.

Contract with Local Authority

Reviewed annually on a 3 year cycle

One trustee nominated by ECDC - it is down to the individual whether they actually take up the role of trustee or sit as an observer.

One officer of the Council in attendance at board meetings (six times a year)

Portfolio

- Babylon Gallery
- gigs, classical and world music concerts,
- touring theatre,
- children's theatre,
- poetry,
- dance events
- Ely Cinema based at the Maltings, Ely,
- [act] arts in cambs on tour programme
- financial support and advice to other art groups in East Cambridgeshire.
- What's on guide including arts events taking place throughout East Cambridgeshire

Number of staff

8 in office
8-12 casual
various artists as required
50 volunteers
10 trustees

Turnover

£400,000 2006/07

Council spend on arts per capita

£1.80

Organisational spend on arts per capita

£4.00

% of income from local authority

48% now. Previously they were main funders but lower percentage due to development of income and cuts in their funding

Benefits

Flexibility – able to make decisions and react very quickly to situations. EG ADEC able to take over running of Ely cinema within 6 weeks of news of its closure

Funding flexibility – able to source funding from a variety of sources.

Able to be more entrepreneurial in thinking

Different perceptions from funders and from members of public – ADEC feel that they are able to develop volunteer base more easily than if they were still at Council

Access to wider range of networks

Negatives

Have to work to maintain relationship with different parts of council eg Planning, and to remain in the loop.

Other information

No large scale arts organisations in region
ECDC did not formerly have an arts service

2. Link4Life - Rochdale

Beate Mielemeier – Arts officer, 01706 866 238 beatemielemeier@link4life.org
<http://www.link4life.org>

Metropolitan Borough Council, pop 205, 233 – ethnically mixed

Legal Status and age

New Trust Created 1st April 2007

Contract with Local Authority

Rochdale has created this new, independent company, under an initial 15 year Partnership Agreement, to operate as a Cultural Trust. It pays the Trust a contract charge for the delivery of services in line with an agreed standard of performance.

- Arts and Heritage
- Entertainment
- Fitness and Health
- Sport and Leisure

May be joined by libraries

Decision arrived at after feasibility report commissioned by consultants

Portfolio

9 clients, programme and small grants

Number of staff

1 Arts development
50 in total Cultural Services

Size of arts budget

£180,00 for revenue clients

£5,800 for programme

£4,800 for small grants

Council spend on arts per capita

50p per head

Benefits

- Freedom from council bureaucracy
- Great flexibility
- Admin and finance are in house
- Encourages council to look at Cultural Services in terms of real worth

Negatives

Actual process of change has taken since 2004

Process not communicated well to staff so low staff morale and high staff turnover

Other points

Process driven very much by sports centres and their associated financial structures

3. Braintree Cultural Services

Jean Grices – Cultural Services Manager 01376 325 266 jean.grice@braintree.gov.uk

Braintree explored the possibility of putting Cultural Services out to Trust by sourcing staff to run the trust. To include Arts Development post and Tourism.. Heritage Services has been in Trust since 1992. Decision was taken not to follow this avenue because of implications of transferring responsibility for Grade II listed Town Hall Centre to Trust. It was also felt that it is illogical to outsource on their own, and the Leisure Centres had already been outsourced. BDC are now developed Tourism within the Cultural Services BDC do not provide Community Arts.

Number of staff 2

Turnover not known

Council spend on arts per capita less than £3

Cultural Services spend on arts per capita .51p

4. Chelmsford Council

CC had planned to put whole of leisure dept, including 2 Theatres, Arts Development, 4 sports centres and sports development out in 1st April 2008 to a new Trust.

However this has now been put on hold to enable CC to prioritise a new sports facility in the town.

5. Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust

Wigan, pop of 81,203, administrative centre of the [Metropolitan Borough of Wigan](#)

Some challenges from Charity Commission re: charitable status generally

Chris Wyatt – Community Regeneration manager for Wigan Leisure Tours
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<http://www.wlct.org/>

What is Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust?

Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust (WLCT) was formed in 2003. The organisation is a charitable trust working on behalf of Wigan Council to manage and support Leisure and Cultural facilities, initiatives and events for over 300,000 residents across the Wigan Borough.

Has external funding and income generation, including an annual grant from Wigan Council. The Trust is a registered charity and a social enterprise

A trading arm exists for services that are deemed not to be charitable. These are the catering services at Haigh, Leisure Venues and Grounds Maintenance. Each of these services come under the banner of Wigan Leisure & Culture Enterprises.

Responsible for: Leisure inc parks, leisure venues, biodiversity, grounds maintenance, playing fields, cemeteries and crematoria

Culture inc Local History services, archives, young people's services, play section

Tourism inc events, festivals, tourist information

Sport inc sports development, sports centres, active life services

Arts inc festivals, gallery, arts development

Libraries

6. Hounslow – Culture and Community Services Ltd CIP

Harkirat Assi 08454562975 harkirat.assi@cip.org.uk

CIP delivers a wide range of services including the following:

- Strategic Planning
- Cultural strategy
- Libraries Plan
- Parks Development Plan
- Library Networks, Bibliographic Services, School Library Services, Mobile Library Service
- Leisure Centres, Swimming Pools, Gyms and Sports Facilities
- Culture, Arts and Events, Theatre and Community Halls
- Ecology Services, Rare Breeds Centre, Allotments and Landscape Services
- E-Government and People's Network Heritage, Museums and Historic Houses

- The Management of Country Parks and Green Spaces
- Tourism Services and Tourist Information Centres
- Community Recreation and Sports Development Play Schemes.

When CIP was set up in April 1998, the aspirations and principles as stated in the report to the Special Joint Committee Meeting of the Leisure Services and Policy and Resources Committee on 24th March 1998 were:

- To safeguard important, popular and well used community services and jobs
- To increase the opportunities for attracting external funding and innovative public/private/voluntary partnership working
- To generate significant non domestic rate (NDR) and VAT savings, although this was not the dominant motive for the transfer
- For the Council to work in close partnership with the organisation.
- To ensure budget stability at the outset to ease the transition
- That the relationship should be one of 'embedded partnership' to provide and develop coherent leisure provision as well as fulfilling a corporate role in the development of services for the Council.

Based on this, CIP delivers continuously improving services that contribute to increasing social inclusion by working in partnership with local communities, public and non-governmental organisations.

7. East Northamptonshire Cultural Trust

Arts and Heritage Officer, Angela-Gaye Mallory-Starks, 01933 653809 angela-gaye.mallory-starks@culturalcommunitypartnerships.org.uk.

East Northamptonshire Cultural Trust is one of the first not for profit charitable trusts appointed to operate a local authority's portfolio of leisure and cultural facilities.

Responsible for:

- three leisure centres
- arts and heritage development
- community development and cultural services.
- Grant support for community events and activities
- Heritage building used for arts and heritage exhibitions, workshops and events.

Registered Charity Number: 1109338. Working on behalf of [East Northamptonshire Council](#)