

Report of the Portfolio Holders for Leisure and Health and Resources and Personnel Policy.

CCity Project

1. Purpose of Report

To provide Cabinet with details of progress of the Cultural City (CCity) project and the progress towards the delivery of the CCity in Broxtowe Borough in 2026.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that:

- 1. The creation of a Temporary CCity Project Officer role at Grade 6 (subject to job evaluation) to support the CCity project for 18 months from July 2025 leading up to the delivery of the CCity Conference in Broxtowe Borough in 2026 at a cost of £57,300 including oncosts be approved.**
- 2. The resource allocated to the Civic and Events Officer post C4 is increased from three to five days per week at a cost of £18,000 per annum be approved.**
- 3. The allocation of an additional £25,000 from General Fund Reserves and the use of existing budgets, as detailed in Appendix 3, be approved to support the delivery of the CCity Conference in Broxtowe Borough in 2026. The total cost of £60,000 would be added as a committed revenue development for 2026/27.**

3. Detail

The CCity project is a concept, a proposal that sharing culture is key to European cooperation and enriches both individuals and communities. It was developed in Gütersloh and was presented to Broxtowe, Falun (Sweden), Châteauroux (France), and Grudziądz (Poland) in late 2019. Numerous video conferencing meetings took place during 2020 and 2021 leading to the CCity Conference held in Gütersloh 12 to 15 May 2022. All of the cities attended and participated in numerous workshops, excursions, a varied cultural programme and the opportunity to talk intensively with each city delegation, to exchange ideas and to learn from each other.

In 2023 Châteauroux (France) hosted the CCity conference 4 to 7 May 2023 and in 2024 Grudziądz (Poland) hosted 3 to 6 June 2024. In each instance Broxtowe sent a delegation which included officers, Member(s), and members of Broxtowe's new Community Committee. Additional information can be found in **Appendix 1**.

There are direct benefits to people living in Broxtowe through the active participation of local people in the cultural activities promoted by the programme, and these benefits will particularly benefit adults and children in 2026 as the CCities conference is planned to be hosted in our area in that year. The delivery of the project will help to deliver the Council's Culture Strategy and boost visits to our area, supporting the local economy. The progress the Council has made to date regarding the CCity project has been due to the hard work of employees within Communication, Culture and Civic Services, Members and the Community Committee. The change in the management arrangements for the provision of Cultural and Events services also enabled some tasks to be accommodated with existing resources. However, in order for the Council to be able to continue to play an active part in the CCity project, support the Community Committee, support the increasing number of events and host the CCity Conference in Broxtowe in 2026 additional employee resource will be required. Further details are provided in **Appendix 2**.

Additional information and further details regarding the finances associated with hosting a CCity conference are provided in **Appendix 3**.

4. Key Decision

Is this report a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012?

No.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

This applies where a policy has been through pre-scrutiny or Policy Overview Working Group.

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

The cost of a **Temporary CCity Project Officer** role at Grade 6 (subject to job evaluation) to support the CCity project will be £57,300 at estimated 2025/26 pay rates including oncosts for 18-months starting in July 2025.

The additional cost of increasing the hours of the **Civic and Events Officer** post (C4) (formerly the part-time Communications and Civic Officer) at Grade 8 is £18,000 per annum. This assumes the current Grade 8 post at budgeted 2024/25 pay rates including oncosts. Only an appropriate part-year provision would need to be made in the establishment budget for 2024/25.

The cost of hosting the **CCity Conference** in 2026 is estimated to be in the region of £60,000. The proposed funding of this event would come from a mixture of the existing CCity events revenue budget (£20,000); the Twinning budget (£15,000) to be set aside over three years from 2024/25 with the balancing contribution being met by a one-off contribution from General Fund revenue reserves. If approved by Members, this would be added as a committed revenue development in 2026/27.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Any legal implications relating to this report will be updated at the meeting.

8. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

No comments received.

9. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

No comments received.

10. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are contained within the report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

13. Background Papers

Nil.