

Planning guidance for the Strategic Commissioning programme 2006-07

DCMS has announced funding for a further two years of Strategic Commissioning covering the period April 2006-March 2008. Content and core activity of regional agency Strategic Commissioning programmes should include:

1. Creation of an education development programme supporting children and young people's access to museum, gallery and archive education. The education development programme should be developed around the following three priorities:

i. Addressing citizenship and diversity as a key theme

During the programme in 2004 -06 each regional agency explored different themes for their learning programmes. In order to gain maximum impact for this one year programme, the DCMS has requested that the museum learning programme should have an overall focus on 2007, citizenship and diversity.

ii. Development of an integrated Cultural Entitlement

Development of both existing and new partnerships to begin to define a regional cultural offer to children and young people with a particular focus on partnership development with the Arts Council and Creative Partnerships, Children's Trusts and Extended Schools.

iii. Planning through the Change for Children Agenda

During 2004-06 Regional Agency Strategic Commissioning programmes demonstrated links to Every Child Matters; DCMS have indicated that an overarching principle for any activity in the Strategic Commissioning programme 06-07 should be that of placing children and young people at the heart of service development and delivery – involving and empowering them, working with them and listening to them.

2. Continuation of the Learning Links placement programme There are 30 places available for museums and archives to take part in a reciprocal work placement scheme with pre-school, primary, secondary or special education teachers. The scheme will enable school teachers to explore new ways of integrating museum and archive visits into the timetable to support Citizenship education, and provide the opportunity for museum/archive professionals to work in partnership with teachers to develop lesson plans and new teaching resources

3. Maintenance and development of the regional databases recording schools participation in museum learning activity. The databases will include data from Hub and non Hub museums. Information from the database to begin to building a comprehensive picture of school participation in museum learning activity within a region.

For further information about the MLA North West Cultural Entitlement Programme please contact:

Madeleine Rogerson, Cultural Entitlement Co-ordinator 01925 625060

madeleine.rogerson@mlanorthwest.org.uk

Jackie Fletcher, Business Support Administrator 01925 625066

jackie.fletcher@mlanorthwest.org.uk