

Social and Community group

Responsibilities

The group is responsible for supporting the social well being of the town which contributes to the quality of life for the individual, which can range from running the Art Gallery and Museum through to preventing homelessness. The group supports the vision as set out in Our Future, Our Choice, the community plan for Cheltenham, with particular reference to the aims of building healthy and stronger communities and investing in arts and culture.

The group is made up of two divisions with the following responsibility:

- Health and wellbeing - responsible for leisure facilities, art gallery and museum, youth issues, health, and arts development, supporting the cultural activities in the borough including the town hall and Pittville pump room, the entertainment programme, tourism promotion and marketing and the tourist information centre.
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- Community services - monitors the housing contract with Cheltenham Borough Homes, and is responsible for community development and support for the voluntary sector, homelessness, supporting people and community alarms, housing grants, disabled facilities grants, environmental health such as food premises inspection, licensing, contaminated land and air quality monitoring and community safety.

Issues

The challenges facing the group include trying to facilitate a balanced housing market within the borough. The group helps to ensure that there is a range of leisure and cultural facilities accessible by all. Community safety is always a high priority with the public and the group will need to ensure that its functions contribute towards a vision where everyone feels safe in their homes and on the streets.