

19 JANUARY 2012

**GROWING THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES EMPLOYMENT SECTOR IN
WALSALL**

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr A. Andrew – Deputy Leader and Regeneration

Report:

Compared to other employment sectors the creative industries sector is relatively small in Walsall. The creative and digital sector employs under 2,000 people which represents 2% of total employment in the borough. The national average for this sector is 5% of total employment (source: ekosgen).

In order to stimulate growth in this area a number of key stakeholders have been invited to the meeting so that a discussion can take place on how employment opportunities in this area can be developed locally. This can lead to the Panel developing policy recommendations for Cabinet.

Key questions that need to be tackled include:

- How can we grow the creative industries employment sector in Walsall?
- What are the critical factors for success?
- What's happening now?
- What are the opportunities?
- How well do partners work together?

The full list of invitees is:


Wolverhampton University	Walsall College	Forest Arts Centre
New Art Gallery	Walsall Council Creative Development Team	Custard Factory
The Vine Trust	The Church at Junction 10	

Recommendations:

That, Members consider making recommendations to Cabinet on how to grow the creative industries sector in Walsall.

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