

# **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

## **DECISION SCHEDULE**



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

**at 10.00 a.m.**

**in Conference Suite 2,  
Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre,  
Kendal Road, Hartlepool**

Councillor Tumilty, Cabinet Member responsible for Culture, Leisure and Tourism will consider the following items.

**1. KEY DECISIONS**

No items

**2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

2.1 Disability Sports Development Officer – Progress Update – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

2.2 Swimming Development Co-ordinator – Progress Update – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

**3. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

3.1 Hartlepool Women's 5K Road Race – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

**4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

No items

## **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder

10th July, 2007



**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** DISABILITY SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER -  
PROGRESS UPDATE

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update the Portfolio Holder of progress made by the Development Officer with the remit for Disability Sport and the development of inclusive sporting and physical activity opportunities in Hartlepool.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The Learning Disability Partnership Board currently funds the Disability Sports Officer post via their LD Development Fund. The current postholder commenced in June 2006 and since this time, significant progress has been made with the development of inclusive sport and physical activity opportunities across Hartlepool. This report serves to update the Portfolio Holder on progress made and highlights key achievements.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio includes Sport and Recreation.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key.

#### **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 10th July, 2007

#### **6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Comments from the Portfolio Holder are welcomed.

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** DISABILITY SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER -  
PROGRESS UPDATE

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 Since the establishment of the Disability Sports Officer post, significant progress has been made with the development of inclusive sport and physical activity opportunities across Hartlepool. This report serves to update the Portfolio Holder on progress made and highlights key achievements.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Disability Sports Officer post was originally established in 2005 as an essential development officer post within our Sports Development service. The purpose of the post was not solely concerned with developing new and exclusive activities for people with disabilities, although this formed part of the role, but more fundamentally about ensuring inclusiveness within Hartlepool's existing facility and activity infrastructure, whether Council led or run by local clubs.
- 2.2 Funding for the post and associated development programme has come via the Learning Disability Partnership Board and their development fund. Currently, there is enough revenue funding to support the Officer and her development programme until June 2008.

## **3. PROGRESS TO DATE**

- 3.1 Since taking up post in June, 2006, the Disability Sports Officer has focused on ensuring that people with disabilities have open access to sport and physical activity opportunities, underlining the Sport & Recreation service's commitment to the inclusion of disabled people in all activities.
- 3.2 Work has been progressing both within the Adult & Community Services Department Sport and Recreation Section as well as with external partners. New opportunities have been developed, for example, as follows:-
- **Mencap** – Building on the extensive partnership work in relation to the walks programme, several further discussions have been held in relation to hosting a Disability Sports Festival.

- **Springwell School** – In partnership with the school, an after-school club offering a variety of activities has been successfully developed.
- **Kool Kids** – This started originally as a football scheme for young people with learning disabilities at Brierton Community Sports Centre and has now developed into a properly constituted club offering wide variety of sports activities. The Disability Sports Officer has assisted in the club's development and has created a direct link between the Club and local schools. Assistance has also been given with a funding application allowing the Club to expand upon its equipment range.
- **Hartlepool Special Needs Group** – A summer Sports programme was organised and operated last Summer and such was the success of this that this is being repeated this year.
- **Havelock Day Care Centre** – Working in partnership with the Havelock Day Centre, a Boccia court has now been permanently marked out in the Headland Sports Hall. This will allow for the development of the sport and give current players an excellent opportunity to practice and train properly for the Paralympics. This is the first and only official Boccia court of this nature to be made available in the North East.
- **Warren Road Day Care Centre** – Currently, to assist directly with internal partnership working within Adult & Community Services, we have a member of staff from Warren Road Learning Disabilities Team working a part-time secondment arrangement within Sport & Recreation's Sports Development Team. Through the partnership arrangement, many more sporting opportunities have been developed and delivered and as the Portfolio Holder is aware, one of the highlights of this is that a two-day Football Festival sponsored by Coca-Cola as part of the Special Olympics programme will be held at Grayfields in July.

3.3 The Portfolio Holder will also be aware from a report presented at a Portfolio meeting held in November 2006, that at that time, a grant application was been made to the national Community Sports Coach Scheme to provide two part-time Community Coaches to work at a local level in Hartlepool, one of these specifically to work in disability sport. The funding application was successful, largely due to the ongoing development of activities in Hartlepool and we have recently appointed to both posts. Obviously, the addition of a disability specific coach will only further serve to enhance the services on offer.

- 3.4 Of particular significance, in order to ensure that the Sport and Recreation Services give disabled people a sporting chance and equal access to opportunities, a large part of the Disability Sports Officers remit has been to work across the Section enabling the further development of inclusive facilities and activities. One of the many initiatives carried out has been to ensure that all front-line delivery staff within the service area are given disability equality training allowing them to be better suited to disabled users and this training continues as part of an ongoing programme.
- 3.5 "Count Me In" is a new high profile award from the English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS) that recognises success in creating and extending access to sport and physical activity for disabled people. It is similar to "Positive About Disabled People" and recognises Local Authorities that have embraced the specific recommendations that EFDS have highlighted as important to disabled people. Owing to the work of the Disability Sports Officer, we recently applied for "Count Me In" accreditation, being confident that we could evidence a range of good practice that demonstrates our commitment to disability equality.
- 3.6 It is very pleasing therefore, to be able to inform the Portfolio Holder that we have just been advised by the EFDS that not only have we secured "Count Me In" accreditation, but also we are the first Local Authority Sport and Recreation Service in the country to have achieved this. Whilst this is a significant achievement for us and something of which we are very proud, it is largely owing to the work of the Officer concerned.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this programme for the Council. However, it should be noted that funding is only currently available until June 2008 and whilst a key area of the development programme is to create sustainability, the post and development programme will cease unless alternative funding can be found.
- 4.2 A lot more development work around inclusion could be achievable with more resource. Whilst this report has served to highlight what is being achieved through having a dedicated officer, we are particularly keen to also spend more time to developing teams for the Paralympics, as well as the Special Olympics, giving more opportunities for disabled people to achieve their goals.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Comments from the Portfolio Holder are welcomed.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher - Sport and Recreation Manager

Background Papers

Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio 15th May 2007 – Northern Region  
Special Olympics, proposed Football Festival at Grayfields Recreation Ground

Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio 14th November 2006 – Community  
Sports Coach Scheme Application

## **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder

10th July, 2007



**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR -  
PROGRESS UPDATE

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update the Portfolio Holder of progress made by the Swimming Development Co-ordinator with the responsibility for the delivery of the "Swim Hartlepool" Swimming Development Strategy.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The Swimming Development Strategy was developed and completed in September 2004 via a partnership between all local and regional key stakeholders. To ensure delivery of the strategy and its development plans, a three-year Swimming Development Co-ordinator post was created via a partnership between Adult and Community Services and Children's Services. The Officer concerned was appointed in February 2006 and since this time, significant progress has been made with the development of swimming across Hartlepool. This report serves to update the Portfolio Holder on progress made and highlights key achievements.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio includes Sport and Recreation.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key.

#### **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 10th July, 2007.

#### **6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Comments from the Portfolio Holder are welcomed.

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR -  
PROGRESS UPDATE

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The Swimming Development Strategy was developed and completed in September 2004 via a partnership between all local and regional key stakeholders. To ensure delivery of the strategy and its development plans, a three-year Swimming Development Co-ordinator post was created via a partnership between Adult and Community Services and Children's Services.
- 1.2 The Officer concerned was appointed in February 2006 and since this time, significant progress has been made with the development of swimming across Hartlepool. This report serves to update the Portfolio Holder on progress made and highlights key achievements.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Swimming Development Strategy, "Swim Hartlepool", was developed and completed in September 2004 through a comprehensive review and development process, taking into consideration all local, regional and national factors and via consultation with key stakeholders. It was designed to enhance the opportunity for everyone in the community to become involved in swimming, to remain involved in swimming and to develop their swimming ability to whatever level they chose. It also sought to co-ordinate the management and delivery of the teaching of swimming ensuring that all lessons, whether delivered in schools or within community facilities, followed the ASA National Plan for Teaching Swimming.
- 2.2 At the time of completing the strategy, there was no available funding to establish a Development Officer post. However, an opportunity arose as a consequence of the reward grant made to the Sport and Recreation service as a result of meeting our Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets associated with Leisure Centre use. Through this and in partnership with Children's Services Department who agreed to contribute £11,000 annually, a Swimming Development Co-ordinator was appointed in February 2006 on a fixed term basis for three years to manage the Swim Hartlepool programme.



### 3. PROGRESS TO DATE

- 3.1 Since taking up post in February, 2006, the Swimming Development Co-ordinator has focused on ensuring the delivery of the Swimming Development strategy, largely focusing on the adoption of the ASA National Plan for Teaching Swimming and the development of lesson delivery in primary schools and Mill House Leisure Centre.
- 3.2 Initially, a lot of preparatory work was carried out in conjunction with Children's Services to allow for the adoption of the ASA National Plan within the Primary School lesson programme, making the necessary changes to curricular delivery. Training days for teaching staff were organised and delivered by the Swimming Development Co-ordinator where an introduction to the plan was given and the expectations required explained.
- 3.3 As the Portfolio Holder will be aware, this work culminated in the official launch of the National Plan at Mill House Leisure Centre in October 2006 by one of Sport England's "Sporting Champions", Nick Gillingham, one of the sports Olympic Medallists. At the same time, Springwell School became Sporting Champions for Hartlepool. This ASA initiative recognised any individual or team who had excelled in the field of swimming and the pupils of Springwell School thoroughly deserved this as all the children had regularly attended swimming lessons. This was also a recognition of the work of the Swimming Development Co-ordinator.
- 3.4 To finish off the academic year, a Primary Swimming Gala was held last June and will be repeated this year also. This typically involves more than a dozen Primary schools and around 130 – 150 children taking part. There is also a Fun Gala held with several primary schools and over 100 children participating.
- 3.5 Despite swimming not being an essential component of the curriculum for secondary education, working in partnership with the Partnership Development Manager from Children's Services for the Hartlepool School Sports Partnership, a Senior Schools Swimming Gala was organised and run by the Swimming Development Co-ordinator for the first time in 15 years, in February 2007. This was a resounding success with English Martyrs taking the title for this year and it is hoped that this will continue as an annual event.
- 3.6 The Swimming Development Co-ordinator has also undertaken a lot of work in order to develop public lesson delivery within Mill House Leisure Centre in accordance with the National Teaching Plan. This involved a fundamental restructuring of the lessons on offer necessitating much dialogue and consultation with existing users and parents. It also necessitated training sessions not only for teaching staff but Reception staff as well who are responsible for the administration of the programme as well as taking bookings and dealing with any enquiries.

- 3.7 The “Swim Hartlepool” branding was also developed and created at the same time by the Co-ordinator and an information pack produced, to give users and parents of swimmers guidance on the new programme and show them specific development pathways to follow. It is pleasing to highlight that since the launch, there has been a significant increase in the uptake of swimming lessons and Mill House Leisure Centre has also been successfully accredited as an ASA Approved Centre for the delivery of lessons and courses.
- 3.8 In order to ensure the successful delivery of the development programme, there is a huge responsibility on the Co-ordinator to ensure that we have an adequate number of suitably qualified teachers. To this end, our Co-ordinator has organised and tutored a wide range of teaching courses such as ASA Level 1's and ASA Level 2's for the teaching of swimming, ASA Disability specific Level's 1 and 2, ASA Adult & Child teaching courses and a Gifted and Talented course specifically for the teaching of Primary schoolchildren.
- 3.9 A key partner in the delivery of the strategy has also been Hartlepool Swimming Club. The Swimming Development Co-ordinator has also worked extensively with them by providing coaching and advice and has ensured that the club officials and coaches are suitably qualified making best use of training opportunities on offer.
- 3.10 This progress report therefore serves to highlight some of the key areas of work of the Swimming Development Co-ordinator and the impact made so far in the delivery of the swimming development strategy for Hartlepool.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this programme for the Council. However, it should be noted that the funding available for the Coordinator post and programme is only available until February 2009 and the post and development programme will cease unless alternative funding can be found.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Comments from the Portfolio Holder are welcomed.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher - Sport and Recreation Manager

#### Background Papers

None.

## **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder

10th July, 2007



**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** HARTLEPOOL WOMEN'S 5K ROAD RACE

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### SUMMARY

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform the Portfolio holder of a 5 kilometre Women's Road Race to be staged in Hartlepool at 7.15 pm on Wednesday, 25th July 2007 in partnership with Hartlepool Bum Road Harriers.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

Details of the 5 kilometre Road Race are given.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio includes Sport and Recreation.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key.

#### **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 10th July, 2007

#### **6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the report.

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** HARTLEPOOL WOMEN'S 5K ROAD RACE

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of a 5 kilometre Women's Road Race to be staged in Hartlepool at 7.15 pm on Wednesday 25th July 2007 in partnership with Hartlepool Burn Road Harriers.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Hartlepool Burn Road Harriers are a long established athletics club in Hartlepool with a history of organising high profile local road races. Over the past two years, there has been an excellent partnership established between the Sport and Recreation service and the Club and several road race events have been staged in Hartlepool as well as high profile events attracted to the town. The Club have also been extremely supportive where volunteers have been required for events such as the recent Cancer Research UK "Race for Life" for women.
- 2.2 In 2006, Sports Development organised the first women's "Begin to Run" programme in partnership with Burn Road Harriers. This lasted for a period of 10 weeks and started with approximately 40 women, dwindling down to around 25 who completed the course. A Women's 5K event was subsequently held in September 2006 with around 60 participants. Seven women from the original beginners programme took part.
- 2.3 As the Portfolio Holder is aware, the "Race for Life" event took place on Sunday 17th June. This was an excellent day with over 1500 participants taking part but as a pre-cursor to this, the "Begin to Run" programme was held again as a lead-in to the event. On this occasion, we had over 90 women enrol on the programme and on the last week, we still had over 60 taking part. All of these took part in "Race for Life" and some women have now even gone on to join the Club.
- 2.4 In order to keep the momentum for women's Road Racing moving forward, it was decided therefore to move the Hartlepool Women's 5k Road Race forward to July and the Portfolio Holder has recently been briefed on this matter to allow for an early opportunity to publicise the event.

### **3. DETAILS OF THE EVENT**

- 3.1 To fit in with the logistics of other Road Race events in the region, it is proposed to stage an event on the evening of Wednesday 25th July 2007 with the race starting at 7.15 pm. It is envisaged that it will prove to be more popular than the previous years and an entry of 150 participants is anticipated.
- 3.2 The proposed start is from the North Shelter going along the Seaton Promenade towards the Historic Quay Car Park, turning and returning back towards the North Shelter. No road closures will be required as the promenade will be used and the Marine Hotel will be used as a base for registration, general facilities and the presentation of awards. Application for a Race permit has been made to UK Athletics by Burn Road Harriers as well as the submission of risk assessments.
- 3.3 This event will bring a significant number of people to the area and if a race entry of 150 runners is achieved, then coupled with family members and friends the town will enjoy significant visitor numbers.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising out of this event for the Council other than in terms of administrative support for the management of race entries.
- 4.2 Entry fees are been charged for the event by the Club but this is to cover the costs of staging an event of this nature which can prove quite expensive. If any surplus income is generated, this will be ploughed back into club funds to help support other events in the future.

### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the report.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher - Sport and Recreation Manager

#### Background Papers

None.