

# **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

## **DECISION RECORD**

10<sup>th</sup> July 2007

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. at Belle Vue Community, Sports & Youth Centre, Kendal Road, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor Victor Tumilty (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder)

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)  
Pat Usher, Sport and Recreation Manager  
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

### **4. Disability Sports Development Officer – Progress Update** *(Director of Adult and Community Services)*

#### **Type of decision**

Non-key

#### **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.

#### **Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Learning Disability Partnership Board currently funds the Disability Sports Officer post via their LD Development Board. The current postholder commenced in June 2006 and since this time significant progress had been made with the development of inclusive sport and physical activity opportunities across Hartlepool. Detailed information was given regarding a range of new initiatives including an after-school club at Springwell School and a Summer Sports programme by Hartlepool Special Needs Group. A successful grant application had also been made to the National Community Sports Coach Scheme to provide two part-time Community Coaches, one specifically for disability sport.

The Portfolio Holder was also advised that Hartlepool was the first Local Authority Sport and Recreation Service in the country to be awarded the "Count me in" accreditation. This was a new award from the English Federation of Disability Sport that recognized success in creating and extending access to sport and physical activity for disabled people.

Concerns were raised about future funding of the post and development programme as current funding would cease in June 2008.

The Portfolio Holder commented that he was delighted to be shown such a successful report as the number of such activities, giving people of all ages and abilities the chance to try and succeed in their chosen sport, had to be applauded. Funding must be made paramount to continue this much needed programme and the Portfolio Holder would ensure that it would be provided. Thanks were passed on to officers for their continued efforts.

### **Decision**

That the report, and Portfolio Holder's comments, be noted.

## **5. Swimming Development Co-ordinator – Progress Update** *(Director of Adult and Community Services)*

### **Type of decision**

Non-key

### **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.

### **Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

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 had been made with the development of swimming across Hartlepool. Detailed information was given on this progress including actions taken to adopt the ASA National Plan for Teaching Swimming and the development of lesson delivery in primary schools and Mill House Leisure Centre.

Concerns were raised about future funding of the post and development programme as current funding would cease in February 2009. The Portfolio Holder indicated that he felt this should be made paramount

The Portfolio Holder also made reference to comments within the report that swimming was not an essential component of the curriculum for secondary education. He felt that swimming should be an essential part of the curriculum on both an exercise and safety level and called on schools to rethink their position. The Assistant Director advised that it was an

essential part of the curriculum for primary age children but it was expected that by the time they reached secondary age most children were able to swim. The Portfolio Holder felt that it should be made compulsory for those secondary pupils who did not have the ability.

**Decision**

That the report, and Portfolio Holder's comments, be noted.

**6. Hartlepool Women's 5K Road Race** *(Director of Adult and Community Services)*

**Type of decision**

Non-key

**Purpose of report**

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

**Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Portfolio Holder was advised that the Hartlepool Women's 5K Road Race would take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at 7.15pm. Details were given of the proposed starting point, the route and the base for registration, general facilities and presentation of awards. It was anticipated that approximately 150 runners would take part, something which would have a significant impact on visitor numbers to the town.

**Decision**

That the report be noted.

**J A BROWN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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