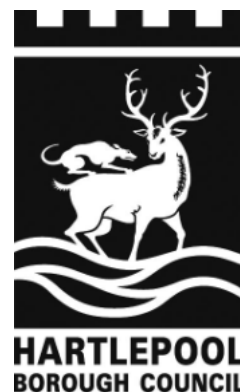


# **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE**



**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**At 10.00 am**

**in Committee Room C  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

Councillor V 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 Mill House Leisure Centre – Refurbishment Work Progress and Consequent Building Closure Requirements – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

**3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2009/2010 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Monitoring Report – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 3.2 London 2012 Inspire Mark Recognition – “Ready, Steady Walk! Your Journey to the Games” – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

# **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

REPORT TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER

16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010



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

**Subject:** MILL HOUSE LEISURE CENTRE –  
REFURBISHMENT WORK PROGRESS &  
CONSEQUENT BUILDING CLOSURE  
REQUIREMENTS

---

## **SUMMARY**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

Further to the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio report of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2009, this report seeks to update the Portfolio Holder on the current refurbishment programme at Mill House Leisure Centre and to seek approval for a building closure allowing for some elements to be completed. Details of progress made so far and the proposed closure dates are given.

### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report gives an update on progress with the ongoing refurbishment programme to the pool changing facilities and reception area. The programme, which having fallen behind schedule by four weeks, has required an early start in the Reception area affecting Centre operation. This has already meant a temporary closure of the Health Suite area.

The Portfolio report of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2009 indicated that a full closure of the Centre would be needed at some point in the works programme and detail of these proposed dates is now given for consideration and approval by the Portfolio Holder.

The report also gives information of a further £82,000 capital grant funding secured from Sport England, again as part of the Governments Free Swim Initiative and the match funding element requirement of £95,000 from SCRAPT. This is to specifically replace the combined, heating and power system which is failing and refurbish some elements of the mechanical plant.

Details are also given of £48,000 secured from Communities for Health to replace the existing fitness room equipment which has been in place for nearly 16 years and requires updating.

Information is also given in relation to further improvements for this income-generating provision with the potential to relocate the existing fitness area to a larger, currently redundant area of the Centre.

### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Sport and Recreation is part of the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio.

### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key.

### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.

### **6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:

- (a) Note the progress made with the ongoing refurbishment programme at Mill House Leisure Centre, due for completion at the beginning of April 2010.
- (b) Note the further capital grant funding secured from Sport England of £82,000 and SCRAPT of £95,000 for the replacement of the combined heating and power system and overhauling of some mechanical plant valves as well as £48,000 funding from Communities for Health for new fitness room equipment.
- (c) Approve the closure of Mill House Leisure Centre during the period of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010 inclusive to allow for elements of the work to be carried out.
- (d) Note that there may be a requirement for short temporary closure periods thereafter.

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

**Subject:** MILL HOUSE LEISURE CENTRE -  
REFURBISHMENT WORK PROGRESS &  
CONSEQUENT BUILDING CLOSURE  
REQUIREMENTS

---

## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 Further to the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio report of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2009, this report seeks to update the Portfolio Holder on the current refurbishment programme at Mill House Leisure Centre and to seek approval for a building closure allowing for some elements to be completed. Details of progress made so far and the proposed closure dates are given.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 As the Portfolio Holder is aware, the principal works at the Centre mainly concerns the refurbishment of the existing pool changing room facilities and the reception and main foyer area. This has been made possible by the successful application to the Governments Free Swimming Initiative Capital Challenge Fund and SCRAPT making a total of £699,179 capital funding available for the project.

## **3. PROGRESS TO DATE**

- 3.1 The work commenced on site in the changing room areas in September 2009 and to date, it has been possible to continue to operate the pool by making use of the dry sports changing facilities that are conveniently located adjacent to the Pool Hall.
- 3.2 Provision has been made to allow pool users to access the poolside direct from these areas and following the refurbishment works, it is planned to leave these access points in place. Doors will be added at a later date however which will allow the Centre to be able to offer group swim changing facilities when required; for example, for school swimming lessons.
- 3.3 Work in the new changing village is progressing well with the area already looking quite different. However, the works schedule is approximately four weeks behind caused by delays on the mechanical designs, the need to repair areas of the roof which was not anticipated and the inability to complete floor screeds due to the extremely cold weather.

- 3.4 Owing to the delays and the need to pull the schedule back, it has been necessary to commence works on breaking through access from the new changing areas to the Health Suite earlier than anticipated. As a consequence, it has proved possible to start works early in the Foyer area, but has unfortunately already led to the closure of the Health Suite until the work is complete.
- 3.5 Currently, we are able to continue to provide access to the public to the remainder of the facilities but this is not without some difficulty and considerable inconvenience to the public. However, the vast majority of customers have been remarkably tolerant and understanding of the situation and all are looking forward to much improved facilities at the Centre.

#### **4. REQUIREMENT FOR CENTRE CLOSURE**

- 4.1 As previously reported at the Portfolio meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2009, a Centre closure was always anticipated to allow for the main bulk of the reception and foyer works, (mainly due to the location of the electrical, IT, alarm and telephone installations), to be undertaken. The new reception desk where much of this is positioned will be in a totally different area of the foyer, and as such, will make it impossible to allow public access during this time.
- 4.2 Since the time of the August portfolio report however, it has also become apparent that other essential maintenance work needs to be carried out at the Centre. The existing combined heating and power system for the site has become unreliable, is beyond economical repair and requires replacement. Similarly, some of the valves associated with the mechanical plant require overhauling and both of these elements of work require a closure to carry out.
- 4.3 It has been some time too since the main pool was drained allowing for a full clean to be undertaken and Officers have been concerned if this is not done, will detract from the look of the upgraded facilities. However, the work on the valves will require the pools to be drained thus the clean can be undertaken at this time as well as some tiling repairs. This will make the best use of the closure period and allow the opportunity to carry out much needed work.
- 4.4 It is proposed therefore that a full building closure occur between the period of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010 inclusive allowing for these works to take place. Adopting this action will also afford us the rare opportunity of having all staff members available together and it is intended that a detailed programme of staff training will be also undertaken at this time.

- 4.5 Whilst the bulk of the work affecting our ability to operate normally is planned to be carried out during this 12 day period, the Portfolio Holder is asked to note that there may be the additional requirement to have one or two short temporary closures following this to allow for finishing off. Officers will of course keep both the Portfolio Holder and the public alike well informed of any eventualities.

## **5. POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL WORKS**

- 5.1 The existing reception and foyer refurbishment involves the relocation of vending refreshment provision from the first floor cafeteria into this area. This will not only improve the service for customers but will also provide better control over the use of the machines, which do occasionally, suffer from misuse.
- 5.2 The first floor cafeteria area located in the older part of the Centre has been virtually a redundant area for some time. The kitchen is poorly equipped and it has proved impossible to attract a third party to operate a staffed café provision. The café area itself is open to the pool hall environment, is very unattractive and generally, is in need of refurbishment.
- 5.3 Officers have been concerned that to leave this area untouched, particularly with the relocation of the vending provision to the ground floor will detract from improvements made elsewhere. There is also a desire to increase income generation as much as possible and make more effective use of this area in some way.
- 5.4 The overall cost of the project is currently running under budget. In addition to this, we are awaiting the outcome of a £17,000 external grant application to “Aiming High” to provide new bespoke disabled facilities accessible from the foyer area. This will allow the release of further budget to be used elsewhere in the Centre.
- 5.5 Additionally, £48,000 has already been secured from Communities for Health to replace the existing fitness room equipment. It is over 16 years since this was provided and requires updating to the standards of the current provision at the Headland Sports Hall. The fitness provision in any Centre is one of the largest potential income generators thus it is important that we improve these facilities.
- 5.6 As a result of all of this, Officers are currently looking at a scheme to relocate the current fitness room area to the redundant first floor cafeteria. The existing kitchen would become new toilet and instructor office facilities and with the café sealed from the pool environment, would provide a larger area to be equipped than we have currently. This will considerably enhance the opportunity for increased income generation.

- 5.7 The provision of these toilet facilities will mean that the current budget allowed to refurbish the existing toilet areas which cannot be made DDA compliant, can be reallocated to this area of work. Overall, it is felt that the scheme is achievable but Officers are waiting for details of final costs and will keep the Portfolio Holder advised of the situation.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 As previously reported to the Portfolio Holder, £699,179 of capital funding has already been secured via Sport England from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport as part of the Free Swim Initiative as well as SCRAPT.
- 6.2 Further to this, Officers have secured an additional £82,000 from Sport England to undertake further mechanical plant works as well as the replacing the combined heating and power (CHP) system. As this element required a contribution in match funding from the Council, SCRAPT has allocated a further £95,000 towards this work although it is anticipated that not all of this will be required. Final costs of the CHP replacement, removal from site of the existing, fitting and installation are still being finalised.
- 6.3 As detailed in Section 5, the project is currently running under budget and additional grant funding has been secured with the outcome of an additional application awaited. The opportunity to maximise the very best use of the available funding is obviously being made as we must provide a sustainable future for the Centre for the next 5-6 years as best as we are able whilst a replacement facility is sought.
- 6.4 Officers have also considered the loss of income occurring during this closure period. This has however been taken into account with budget out-turn projections and is believed to be manageable.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:

1. Note the progress made with the ongoing refurbishment programme at Mill House Leisure Centre, due for completion at the beginning of April 2010.
2. Note the further capital grant funding secured from Sport England of £82,000 and SCRAPT of £95,000 for the replacement of the combined heating and power system and overhauling of some mechanical plant valves as well as £48,000 from Communities for Health for new fitness room equipment.

3. Approve the closure of Mill House Leisure Centre during the period of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010 inclusive to allow for elements of the work to be carried out.
4. Note that there may be a requirement for short temporary closure periods thereafter.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher, Sport and Recreation Manager

Background Papers

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2009 – National Free Swimming Initiative – Progress and Update



## **CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder

16 February 2010



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

**Subject:** CHILD AND ADULT SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2009/2010 – 3<sup>RD</sup>  
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

---

### SUMMARY

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 in the first three quarters of the year.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The progress against the actions contained in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10, the third quarter outturns of key performance indicators and associated risks.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The Portfolio Member has responsibility for performance management issues in relation to Culture, Leisure & Tourism.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio – 16 February 2010.

#### **6. DECISION REQUIRED**

Achievement on actions, indicators and risks be noted

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

**Subject:** CHILD AND ADULT SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2009/2010 – 3<sup>RD</sup>  
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

---

## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the key actions identified in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/2010, progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 31 December 2009 and associated risks.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Child and Adult Services Department includes Community Services, reporting to Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder, and Adult Services, Adult Education and Supporting People reporting to the Adult and Public Health Portfolio Holder, and Children's Services Portfolio reporting to Children's Services Portfolio.
- 2.2 The Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 sets out the key tasks and issues with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department in the coming year. The plan also describes how the department contributes to the Organisational Development Improvement Priorities as laid out in the Corporate Plan. It provides a framework for managing the competing priorities, communicating the purpose and challenges facing the department, and monitoring progress against overall Council aims.
- 2.3 In 2008-09, the Council introduced a new electronic Performance Management Database (Covalent) for collecting and analysing corporate performance. The database collects performance information detailed in the Corporate Plan and the five Departmental Plans. The aim is that the database will eventually collect performance information for all levels of the Council, including individual service/operational plans in each department.

## **3. QUARTER THREE PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how the Department has performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan for this Portfolio, as well as associated risks.

- 3.2 On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are asked, via the Performance Management database (Covalent), to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the Departmental Plan and, where appropriate, every Performance Indicator and risk.
- 3.3 Officers are asked to provide a short commentary explaining progress made to date, and asked to traffic light each action based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the Departmental Plan. The traffic light system is: -

<b>Red</b>	Action/PI target not completed or Action/PI intervention required
<b>Amber</b>	Action/PI progress acceptable
<b>Green</b>	Action/PI target on track or Action/PI target achieved.

- 3.4 Within the Adult & Community Services plan there were a total of 32 actions and 22 Performance Indicators identified in the Departmental Plan. Table 1, below, summarises the progress made, to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, towards achieving these actions and PIs.

Table1 – Community Services (CLT portfolio) progress summary

	CLT Portfolio	
	Actions	PIs
<b>Green – completed</b>	1	4
<b>Green – on track</b>	30	4
<b>Amber - acceptable</b>	1	3
<b>Red – Intervention required</b>	0	0
<b>Red – not completed</b>	0	0
<b>Annual</b>	0	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>

- 3.5 A total of 1 action (3%) has been completed or achieved, and a further 30 actions (94%) are on track, with 1 action (3%) having acceptable progress. There are no actions which are not expected to be achieved.
- 3.6 It can also be seen that 8 (36%) of the Performance Indicators have been highlighted as being achieved or on track to hit the target. There are 3 (14%) of the Performance Indicators where progress is acceptable. There are no PI's that are not expected to hit the year-end target. Additionally, there are 11 (50%) indicators that are only collected on an annual basis and therefore no updates are available for those indicators (this includes those completed as part of an annual survey).

Table2: Community Services Actions – intervention required.

Ref	Action	Milestone	Comment
-----	--------	-----------	---------

NONE.

Table3: Community Services PI's – intervention required.

Ref	PI	Milestone	Comment
-----	----	-----------	---------

NONE

3.7 Up to the end of the third quarter, Community Services have completed 1 out of 32 actions in the departmental plan – shown below:-

- Undertake a review of library service delivery within Hartlepool Borough Council Transformational Programme framework (CORP CL03.2).

In addition, there were 30 out of 32 actions that are on track to be completed by year end. These include:-

- Implement a facility improvement plan for the Mill House Leisure site (CORP CL01.3).
- Publish the revised Hartlepool Cultural Strategy (CORP CL02.1).
- Increase the number of adults who have achieved a nationally recognised qualification (CORP LLS17.1.1).

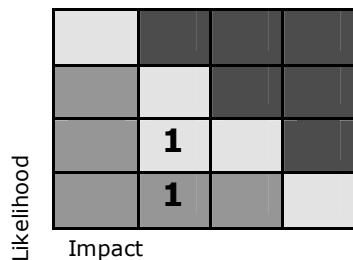
#### 4. RISK MONITORING

4.1 It is the policy of Hartlepool Council to take an active and pragmatic approach to the management of risks that could prevent the achievement of corporate and departmental objectives. On a quarterly basis the Community Services division assesses the risks identified within the Adult & Community Services Risk Register. The Council's approach acknowledges that the purpose is not to remove all risks (this is neither possible nor, in many cases, desirable), rather it is to ensure that potential 'losses' are prevented or minimised and that 'rewards' are maximised.

- 4.2 This summary is reported to the Portfolio Holder within the quarterly monitoring report to provide an overview of risks being addressed by the Community Services Division of the Child & Adult Services Department.
- 4.3 The diagram below shows the distribution of risks according to their risk rating. Detail of the rating system is in **appendix A**. There are a total of 2 risks. Neither of these risks being highlighted as a 'RED' risk. There is 1 risk on an 'AMBER' status with the remaining 1 risk being at a low level 'GREEN' status.

There is a more detailed risk register related specifically to 'Tall Ships'.

*Diagram 1 –Risk Register Heat Map for Community Services division of Child & Adult Services Department*



See Appendix A for key to diagram above

- 4.4 No risks were rated as red.

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) It is recommended that achievement of key actions and third quarter outturns of performance indicators are noted.

CONTACT OFFICER: Trevor Smith,  
Performance Information Manager (Adults)  
Support Services

## APPENDIX A

**HARTLEPOOL BC  
RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX AND VALUE GUIDES**

		IMPACT			
LIKELIHOOD		1	2	3	4
		Low	Medium	High	Extreme
Almost certain	4	AMBER 4	RED 8	RED 12	RED 16
Likely	3	GREEN 3	AMBER 6	RED 9	RED 12
Possible	2	GREEN 2	AMBER 4	AMBER 6	RED 8
Unlikely	1	GREEN 1	GREEN 2	GREEN 3	AMBER 4

Use the following suggested value guides to help rate the level of the **controlled risk**.

**IMPACT**

Extreme	Total service disruption / very significant financial impact / Government intervention / sustained adverse national media coverage / multiple fatalities.
High	Significant service disruption/ significant financial impact / significant adverse Government, Audit Commission etc report / adverse national media coverage / fatalities or serious disabling injuries.
Medium	Service disruption / noticeable financial impact / service user complaints or adverse local media coverage / major injuries
Low	Minor service disruption / low level financial loss / isolated complaints / minor injuries

**LIKELIHOOD**

Expectation of occurrence ***within the next 12 months*** -

- Almost certain
- Likely
- Possible
- Unlikely

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

Report to Portfolio Holder

16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010



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

**Subject:** LONDON 2012 INSPIRE MARK RECOGNITION –  
“READY, STEADY WALK! YOUR JOURNEY TO  
THE GAMES”

---

### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The report seeks to inform the Portfolio Holder of a new Sports Development Initiative launched in January 2010 - “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your Journey to the Games”, which following a recent application to the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, (LOCOG), has been awarded ‘Inspire Mark’ accreditation.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report gives details of one of our newest developments in our drive to increase sport and physical activity participation in Hartlepool – “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your Journey to the Games”. This is specifically aimed at 4 – 11 year olds in their respective participating Primary Schools.

Information is also given on the Inspire Mark Programme which London 2012 are using to ‘badge’ specific projects inspired by the Games. Details of the accreditation criteria are given along with information on a successful application to have the project recognised as one that can bring about significant change.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Sport and Recreation is part of the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key.

**5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio, 16th February, 2010.

**6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:-

1. Note the details concerning the recently launched “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your journey to the Games” programme.
2. Note the successful accreditation of the programme by LOCOG, having being awarded Inspire Mark as part of the London 2012 legacy plan.



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

**Subject:** LONDON 2012 INSPIRE MARK RECOGNITION –  
“READY, STEADY, WALK! YOUR JOURNEY TO  
THE GAMES”

---

## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The report seeks to inform the Portfolio Holder of a new Sports Development Initiative launched in January 2010 - “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your Journey to the Games”, which following a recent application to the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, (LOCOG), has been awarded ‘Inspire Mark’ accreditation.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 As the Portfolio Holder will be aware, the beneficial effects on regular participation in sport and physical activity, particularly concerning health and well-being, are well documented. As such, there is a significant Government drive to increase participation as well as get two million people more active by the London 2012 Olympics as part of their legacy action plan.
- 2.2 The ultimate aim of the Sport and Recreation service is also to drive and enable Hartlepool to increase its participation rates in sport and physical activity by at least 1% year on year leading to a more active, healthier community. A variety of approaches are taken in different settings aimed at particular target groups and the “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your Journey to the Games” initiative is one of many such developments.

## **3. DETAILS OF LONDON 2012 INSPIRE PROGRAMME**

- 3.1 An Olympic and Paralympic first, the London 2012 Inspire Programme is seen as one of several opportunities for everyone to be a part of the Games where LOCOG officially recognises outstanding non-commercial projects and events that are inspired by the Games. It is a broad participation programme spanning sport participation, medal table performance development, education, sustainability, business opportunities and volunteering.
- 3.2 Through an application process, projects can be submitted for assessment by LOCOG who are looking for schemes that by the attraction of the 2012 Games, can drive change across at least one of the following thematic areas:-

## **Sport**

- Increasing participation in grass roots sports, sport competition and physical activity
- Improving Olympic and Paralympic medal table performance.

## **Culture**

- Delivering an inspiring Cultural Olympiad that encourages wide participation.
- Delivering a wider cultural festival that generates a positive legacy in terms of participation, economic impact, social cohesion and community identity.

## **Education**

- Promoting the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect or the Paralympic values of courage, determination, inspiration and equality.
- Involving young people in the design, development and delivery of the project.

## **Sustainability**

- Helping to deliver a sustainable Games
- Promoting lasting environmental and community benefits using the Games as an example of best practice.

## **Volunteering**

- Encouraging volunteering in sport, culture, education and sustainability.

## **Business**

- Helping UK business win Games-related contracts
- Showcasing UK and regional business capabilities

Following the application and assessment process, successful projects are then licensed to use the Inspire Mark which is seen as a badge of 'excellence' as only these can carry the London 2012 brand, through the Inspire mark, on a wide range of marketing materials.

## **4. DETAILS OF "READY, STEADY, WALK! YOUR JOURNEY TO THE GAMES"**

- 4.1 The project has been designed to take place in Hartlepool's Primary Schools, primarily as a tool to raise activity levels of children aged 4 – 11 years of age. It will involve participants collectively walking the equivalent distance between two destinations, during their break times, to and from school and when at home.

- 4.2 A similar initiative had been successfully run by Sports Development about four years ago, when as part of the Big City Walk programme, Hartlepool schoolchildren walked a total of over 3,000 miles between major cities of the world. Using this as the base for activity participation again but this time including the theme of London 2012 has allowed us to use the power of the Games to rejuvenate the project. Using the Olympic and Paralympic ideals has given us the means to hopefully bring about change in young people's activity participation as well as engagement with the Games too.
- 4.3 Commencing in January and running until September 2010, the starting point will be a city that has previously hosted the Olympics / Paralympics in the modern era. This city will be chosen by children in a participating school and these schools will be asked to mark out a set distance in their playground and/or playing field as a means to be able to measure how far the children have walked. The ultimate aim of the initiative is to reach London in time for the Olympic or Paralympic Games.
- 4.4 As the journey progresses, the children will be able to explore different cultural aspects of their chosen host city or any other cities that they may encounter along the way. Obvious links can be made to a variety of curriculum based subjects such as Physical Education, English, Numeracy, Geography, History, Religious Education and Languages. Resource packs are being made available to participating schools as part of the scheme.
- 4.5 The project has been designed to be fully inclusive and will encourage the schools to involve all children by sharing experiences with one another and providing regular updates in assemblies. Celebratory events will also be held in the cluster secondary schools. Also, Sports Development will be providing other activities to coincide with the celebration of International Olympic Day on June 23rd and International Paralympic Day on July 11th 2010.

## **5. INSPIRE MARK ACCREDITATION**

- 5.1 Officers are delighted to inform the Portfolio Holder therefore that following an application recently made to LOCOG, the "Ready, Steady, WALK! Your Journey to the Games" programme has been awarded the Inspire Mark accreditation.
- 5.2 This is an excellent achievement for the staff concerned in Sports Development as the scheme sits in very good company with other more nationally recognised projects. Among the first sporting Inspire projects was the Young Ambassador programme, led by Youth Sport Trust. Another project similarly recognised has been the national Free Swim Initiative which all over 60's and under 16's in participating local authorities in the UK, including Hartlepool, are benefiting from.

- 5.3 As of November 2009, only 350 “exceptional” projects had actually been recognised as meeting the Inspire programme’s specific aim of identifying those projects which draw real inspiration and connection to the values of London 2012, so this specific initiative has done very well indeed to be recognised.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Apart from the resource packs which have cost £2,000 to produce and Officer time, there are no financial implications as a result of either the activity programme nor the Inspire Mark accreditation. These costs have been met from within our existing financial revenue resources for development initiatives.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:-

1. Note the details concerning the recently launched “Ready, Steady, WALK! Your journey to the Games” programme.
2. Note the successful accreditation of the programme by LOCOG, having being awarded Inspire Mark as part of the London 2012 legacy plan.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher – Sport and Recreation Manager