

CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

22nd June 2010

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Hilary Thompson (Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder)

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

1. Sports Development – ‘Womens Begin 2’ Programme *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of a specific sports development initiative delivered by the Sport and Recreation service; the ‘Women’s Begin 2’ programme, highlighting the need for its introduction.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The ‘Women’s Begin 2’ programme is a 3 year project aimed at increasing the physical activity levels of women in Hartlepool. Currently in its second year of delivery, focus sports include swimming, running, aerobics and an outdoor activity day. Activities are delivered in 10 week blocks 3 or 4 times a year. At the end of each block, programmes are made sustainable through the facility at which they are based taking over management or by signposting those taking part to existing provision in Hartlepool. In year 1 over 190 women participated, 32% of whom had never taken part in any form of physical activity previously. Evaluation showed 100% of participants had been happy with the date, time, instructor and venue and would like to participate in similar sessions. Feedback on Year 2 was pending. There were no financial implications to the Council, however external grant funding was due to end in March 2011. Further funding opportunities would be sought to continue the programme thereafter.

The Portfolio Holder expressed her support for the initiative, commenting that it allowed people with financial and childcare pressures to gain confidence and self esteem in addition to health benefits. 100% approval

rating over Year 1 was tremendous and she awaited the results of the 6 month follow up questionnaire with interest. It would be regrettable if funding was not found to continue the programme past March 2011.

Decision

That progress made with the programme to date be noted.

2. Hartlepool Exercise For Life Programme Update (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder on the current operation of the Hartlepool Exercise For Life (HELP)/G.P. Referral Scheme by the Sport and Recreation service, changes that have occurred over recent years and future plans for its further development.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The HELP scheme is currently mainstream funded by the Council in partnership with the PCT, with further support from the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) up to 2011. A weekly programme offers 28 different exercise courses in various sites across town with qualified instructors delivering the sessions. These include water mobility, chair based mobility and circuit sessions. Referrals are received from a broad range of health professionals for a variety of reasons including orthopaedic limitations, diabetes and weight management. The primary aim is to encourage a more active lifestyle long-term. Funding agreements required the achievement of 2 performance targets over a 3 year period. Both had been achieved comfortably enabling the Council to secure £300,000 in 'reward' funding. However it was noted that future funding of this type had been cut by 50%.

Positive feedback from clients was included within the report as was information on future development plans. Significant improvement to the quality of sporting facilities in Hartlepool may have contributed to there being no negative feedback. Concern as to the future availability of WNF funding, used to pay for the Cardiac Rehabilitation Programme was highlighted.

The Portfolio Holder praised the positive work carried out by the scheme, commenting that she knew people who had utilised the service and had done very well. 53% retention rate was very impressive as was the complete lack of any negative feedback. It would be a tragedy if the service were cut for lack of funding.

Decision

That progress made with the programme to date be noted.

3. Tees Archaeology Publication; ‘Hartlepool: An Archaeology of the Medieval Town’ *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To notify the publication of a book on the medieval town of Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Tees Archaeology, a shared service of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-On-Tees Borough Councils, had been drawing together information about Hartlepool Headland to produce books on the Anglo-Saxon Monastery and Medieval Town. The Anglo-Saxon volume was launched in 2008 and the second volume ‘Hartlepool: An Archaeology of the Medieval Town’ had been published recently, jointly funded by Hartlepool Borough Council, Tees Archaeology and English Heritage. Receipts from the sale of the book would be used to fund future publications. 160 copies of the first volume had been sold.

The Portfolio Holder was pleased to see this information published to reach a wider audience. She looked forward to further publications of this type.

Decision

That the successful publication of Hartlepool: An Archaeology of the Medieval Town be noted.

4. Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/2010 – 4th Quarter Monitoring Report *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 for the full year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report summarised the progress against the actions contained in the

Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2009/2010, the final year outturns of key performance indicators and associated risks. All actions had been, or were expected to be, achieved. However 3 performance indicators were not expected to be achieved as follows:

Adults participating in all forms of learning – This was academic year data and therefore not yet complete

Proportion of attendances from NRF area – unfortunately targeted marketing had failed to garner the results needed. The Portfolio Holder also noted the relatively small sample that had been taken.

Adult participation in sport and active recreation – the previous year's positive results had led to an increase in the target, something which the department had failed to achieve. However it was noted that the results were a vast improvement nationally and in the other Tees Valley authorities.

Decision

That the achievement of key actions, risks and final year outturns of performance indicators be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10:25 am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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