

CHILDREN'S AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

14 August 2012

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

Present:

Councillor Cath Hill (Children's and Community Services Portfolio Holder)

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director, Community Services
Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services
Dean Jackson, Assistant Director, Performance and Achievement
Ann Turner, Governor Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

14. Proposed Regular Car Boot Events at Hartlepool's Maritime Experience *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non key decision.

Purpose of report

Nobles Promotions Ltd had made Culture and Information Services a financial offer to hold a weekly car boot sale at Hartlepool's Maritime Experience. Permission was requested to accept this offer and implement an appropriate contract.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that past car boot sales on the site had been successful and it had been considered that a viable source of income may be generated by licensing the holding of further car boot sales on the site to a commercial operator. The proposal had been reported to the previous portfolio meeting when the Mayor sought assurances as to any potential licensing and legal considerations. The appropriate advice had been sought from the Legal Services and Licensing Teams which confirmed there were no legal or licensing issues preventing the proposals.

The Assistant Director indicated that officers were also conscious of not

wanting to detract from the visitor attractions at the museum and the Historic Quay and considered that the car park area was sufficiently large enough to cope with both visitors to the attractions and the car boot sale. The car boot sales would also only be held on Saturdays between 8.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. The Assistant Director informed the Portfolio Holder that a planning application was also being submitted for the car boot sale as it had been confirmed that one was necessary.

The Portfolio Holder hoped that the planning permission could be obtained as soon as possible to allow the car boot sales to start at the earliest opportunity.

Decision

That, subject to planning approval being granted, officers be authorised to enter into an agreement with Nobles Promotion Ltd for a one year trial period to hold car boot events at Hartlepool's Maritime Experience.

15. Appointment of Local Authority Representatives to Serve on School Governing Bodies *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non key decision.

Purpose of report

To request the Portfolio Holder for Children's and Community Services consideration and approval of the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee in respect of the appointment of Local Authority representative governors to serve on school governing bodies where interest has been expressed in the vacancies.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Governor Support Officer reported that the General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 25 June 2012 considered a schedule of vacancies on school governing bodies together with details of applications received in respect of a number of those vacancies and made a series of recommendations as set out in the appendix to the report.

Decision

That the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee in respect of the appointment of Local Authority representative governors to serve on school Governing Bodies as detailed on the schedule submitted with the report be approved.

16. Fostering Quarterly Report 1 April 2012 – 30 June 2012 (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

For information only.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the activity and work of the Fostering service from 1 April 2012 – 30 June 2012.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services reported on the activity and work of the Fostering Team, highlighting the numbers of children in foster care, the numbers of approved foster carers and foster care recruitment. Recent recruitment activity had been very successful and there were ten potential carers waiting to receive training. The report also included details of the activity of the Fostering Panel.

The Assistant Director indicated that it was her intention to implement an 'Edge of Care' scheme including foster carers able to provide foster care and family support as referenced in the annual report 2011-2012. The purpose of this scheme is to reduce the numbers of children and young people entering the care system but this outcome could not be achieved until the scheme was fully operational.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and requested that her congratulations be passed to the team for their excellent work in this most important area of childcare in Hartlepool. The Portfolio Holder particularly welcomed the Edge Of Care Scheme which would provide additional support to families.

Decision

That the Quarter 1 report and the positive outcomes achieved by the fostering service during the quarter be noted.

17. Women's Begin 2 Programme – Success and Future Development (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

For information only.

Purpose of report

To inform and update the Portfolio Holder on the progress and success of the Women's "Begin 2" programme to date and advise on its future development.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported on the success of the

Women's 'Begin 2' programme which had commenced with a pilot scheme in 2008. The report outlined the detailed development and successes of the programme over the past three years and outlined the future development of the programme.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and congratulated the staff on such a successful programme. It was hoped that the success of the London 2012 Olympics could be harnessed within the scheme and activities. It was considered that a further 'push' on cycling to work and the cycle salary sacrifice scheme should be undertaken.

Decision

That the success of the programme and its achievements to date be noted and staff congratulated for their work in promoting the programme.

18. Sport and Physical Activity Team Six Month Progress Report (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

For information only.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to inform and update the Portfolio Holder on the work of the Sport and Physical Activity Team which was part of the Council's Sport and Recreation Service. This area of work included Summerhill Outdoor Activity Centre and Country Park, the Outdoor Activities Service, GP Referral Programme, Learn to Swim Programme (including primary school lessons) and all targeted work aimed at increasing participation in sport and Physical Activity.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported on the success of the activities undertaken by the Sport and Physical Activity Team. The report made specific references and updates on the following programmes: -

- Learn to Swim Programme
- Summerhill – including the work to the BMX circuit partly funded by a £50,000 grant from Biffa.
- GP Referral Scheme– (Hartlepool Exercise for Life Programme)
- Outdoor Activities Team
- Core Sport and Physical Activity Team – including the many walking programmes, Men's and Women's 'Begin 2' schemes, the Friday Night Street Football League, School Coaching and the Coach and Volunteer Development scheme.

The Portfolio welcomed the report and the excellent work that was being done in particular to bring young people into more sporting activities. The meeting briefly discussed the role of sport within primary schools and how this could be assisted through the council's team and through the

relationships with primary and secondary schools. The Portfolio Holder considered that the legacy from the London 2012 Olympics should be harnessed as soon as possible and the Assistant Director, Performance and Achievement indicated that he would raise the issue with at the next round of School Heads meetings in September.

Decision

That the report be noted and the team congratulated on the success of the programmes reported.

19. Safeguarding Children Peer Review (Director of Child and Adult Services)

Type of decision

For information only.

Purpose of report

To present to Portfolio Holder information regarding the Safeguarding Peer Review which would take place in Hartlepool during week commencing 10 September 2012.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services outlined the background and approach to the peer review, including details of the review team. In relation to the review, the Assistant Director indicated that she expected that one of the issues that would likely be mentioned in the summary letter at the conclusion of the review would be the Common Assessment Framework. The CAF was an issue mentioned in most authorities reviews and while it was likely to be raised, the Assistant Director indicated that she was confident that the authorities work around early intervention had been designed in compliance with CAF.

Decision

That the arrangements for the Safeguarding Peer Review which would take place during week commencing 10 September 2012 be noted.

The meeting concluded at: 11.15 a.m.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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