

Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee

Review Title: River Based Leisure Facilities

Scrutiny Chair/Project Director: Councillor Jean O'Donnell	Contact details: 01642 559719 Jean.odonnell@stockton.gov.uk
Scrutiny Officer/Project Manager: Peter Mennear, Scrutiny Officer	Contact details: 01642 528957 peter.mennear@stockton.gov.uk
Departmental Link Officer: Neil Schneider, Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services	Contact details: 01642 527068 Neil.schneider@stockton.gov.uk
1. Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address? Liveability, Economic Regeneration and Healthier Communities	
2. What are the main issues? Identify what may be done to generate more use and encourage growth for businesses, leisure and tourism, and how. Identify levels of existing use and by whom, in particular amongst Stockton residents. What growth has there been over the last 5 years? Are there any barriers preventing/deterring greater use of the river? Rateable moorings/accessibility? How do the Borough's residents view the river and its potential? Is best use being made of what is a clean, international standard, 13 mile stretch of river (upstream from Barrage to Low Worsall, impounded stretch at fixed level). What opportunities exist for riverside leisure between the Barrage and Newport Bridge? Ensure Stockton best placed to benefit from potential opportunities emanating from the period leading up to the 2012 Olympics.	
3. The Thematic Select Committee's overall aim/ objectives in doing this work is: To maximise the potential of the barrage and the river for businesses, residents and visitors.	
4. The possible outputs/outcomes are: An assessment of the viability of new initiatives (such as river taxis, hire boats). An assessment of current river usage and existing users. Increased awareness within the Borough of the opportunities presented by the river. Recommendations highlighting what can be done to maximise future use.	
5. What specific value can scrutiny add to this topic? Detailed consideration of the issues. Using the scrutiny process to bring together a wide range of stakeholders involved in leisure provision on the river.	
6. Who will the panel be trying to influence as part of their work? Cabinet, key stakeholders in river-based business and leisure	

7. Duration of enquiry?	
9-12 months	
8. What category does the review fall into?	
Policy Review <input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
External Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	Performance Management <input type="checkbox"/>
Holding Executive to Account <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Extra Resources needed? Would the investigation benefit from the co-option of an "expert" witness?	
Alan Slater, British Waterways – to attend as many meetings as possible	
10. What information do we need?	
Secondary Information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.)	Primary/new evidence/information
Fees and policies relating to use of river (HM Customs).	Levels of use by/viewpoints of local residents.
Tees Navigation Strategy, 2002	Levels of use by sporting clubs/ local schools.
Stockton International Waterzone Study, 2004	Case studies detailing what use is being made of rivers by other towns/cities.
Extracts from Stockton-Middlesbrough Initiative documentation	Evidence of what regional moves are taking place in terms of preparing for the Olympics.
Learning points from the INTERREG Water City Project.	Position statement from Ministry of Defence/DEFRA on the current situation of TS Kellington.
Masterplan for the development of Preston Hall and Park	
www.britishwaterways.co.uk www.waterscape.com	
To be aware of safety/ environmental/ residential considerations throughout the review.	
Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member/portfolio holder, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)	What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?
Alan Slater, River Manager, British Waterways	General overview of River Tees, viewpoint on

06/08/07

(based at Tees Barrage)	potential for development, planned developments at Tees Barrage.
Joe Wilson, Owner, Teesside Princess	Viewpoint of river-based business, opportunities/barriers affecting business.
Tanya Grey, Sports Specialist Advisor, ONE North East (Regional Development Agency)	Information relating to sporting potential of River Tees, regional Olympic preparations
Steve Chaytor, Managing Director, Tees Active	Levels of use through Tees Active facilities (Castlegate Quay) and potential for developing this further.
Julia Frater, Area Tourism Partnership	Information on current marketing and tourism initiatives regarding the Tees.
Mark Hawkings, Chair of Tees River Users Trust/ Teesside University Input from Durham University.	Current and potential use of river/ Viewpoint of Universities
John Whyte, Chair of Recreation, Yarm Town Council	Current and potential use of river, especially with regard to Yarm Regatta.
Andy Guest, Director of Games, Yarm School	Current and potential use of river, especially with regard to Yarm Regatta.
John Green, Tees River Users Trustee/Rowing Club President	Current and potential use of river, also with regard to Yarm Regatta.
Len Smith Four Seasons Watersports/White Water Centre	Information on current levels of use and potential for the future.
David Richardson, Tees Water Ski School	Information on current levels of use and potential for the future.
Dave Munt, Chair Lower Tees Association of Anglers	Information on current levels of use and potential for the future.
Sarah Robson, Lead Officer, North Shore Development, Tees Valley Regeneration	Regeneration perspective/ Information regarding plans for integrating North Shore development with the river.
Les Southerton, Chair of Stockton Middlesbrough Initiative (SMi)	As above.
Ward Councillors	Issues relating to wards bordering the river.
Friends of River Tees Heritage Park	To gain input from newly constituted group concerned with opening up the river and environs.
Egglescliffe, Preston and Ingleby Barwick Parish Councils, and Thornaby Town Council	Local perspective on issues relating to river use.

06/08/07

Residents.

How Borough's residents view the river/
current levels of use.

11. What processes can we use to feed into the review? (site visits/observations, face-to-face questioning, telephones survey, written questionnaire, etc.)

Site visits to locations along River Tees, Tees Barrage.
Potential trip on the river by Committee.

A suitable method of consulting businesses for input into scale and potential of business engagement with the river: to probe areas such as development potential, increasing sponsorship for sporting events.

12. In what ways can we involve the public and at what stages? (consider whole range of consultative mechanisms, local committees and local ward mechanisms)

Consult residents on their impressions/aspirations of river, and to help determine levels of current use by residents.

Viewpoint and Youth Viewpoint survey. Possible use of focus groups depending on results.
Consultation on new Community Strategy – results due in September.
Receive and collate ad hoc contributions from members of public following advertising of review.

Discussion with Disability Advisory Group.

Cross reference to results from 2002 Tees Navigation Strategy consultation.

06/08/07

Project Plan

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KEY TASK	DETAILS/ACTIVITIES	DATE	RESPONSIBILITY
Scoping of Review	Information gathering to feed into tri-partite meeting.	By tri-partite date	Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss objectives and project plan for review	4 June 2007	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee.	20 June	Select Committee
Publicity of Review	Press releases at beginning and end of review. Through website and during consultation exercises as appropriate.	Following agreement of scope.	Scrutiny Officer

06/08/07

<p>Obtaining Evidence</p>	<p>Consideration of secondary evidence/case studies and consultation results.</p> <p>Alan Slater, British Waterways Site Visit to Tees Barrage</p> <p>Sarah Robson, Lead Officer, North Shore Development</p> <p>Les Southerton, Project Director, SMi Joe Wilson, Teesside Princess Potential site visit along to key sites along the river</p> <p>Steve Chaytor, Tees Active Mark Hawkings, Chair of Tees River Users Trust/ Teesside University Input from Durham University/ schools use.</p> <p>Len Smith Four Seasons Watersports/White Water Centre David Richardson, Tees Water Ski School Dave Munt, Co-ordinator, Tees Angling Clubs</p> <p>Mid-review Tri-partite Meeting to discuss progress of review.</p> <p>John Whyte, Chair of Recreation, Yarm Town</p>	<p>As appropriate throughout review</p> <p>20 June</p> <p>14 August</p> <p>29 August</p> <p>Special Meeting September</p> <p>10 October</p> <p>7 November</p> <p>5 December</p>	<p>Select Committee</p> <p>Select Committee</p> <p>Select Committee</p> <p>Select Committee</p> <p>Select Committee</p> <p>Select Committee</p> <p>Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member, Corporate Director/Link Officer, Scrutiny Officer</p> <p>Select Committee</p>
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06/08/07

	<p>Council Andy Guest, Director of Games, Yarm School John Green, Tees River Users Trustee/Rowing Club President</p> <p>Tanya Grey, Sports Lead, ONE Julia Frater, Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership</p>	9 January 2008	Select Committee
Members decide recommendations and findings	Members of the Committee to review findings and draft recommendations.	13 February 2008	Select Committee
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meetings to discuss findings and draft recommendations from review.	20 February	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member, Corporate Director, Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of report.		Scrutiny Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee.	Special Meeting March 2008	Select Committee
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report.	Meeting following Annual Council.	Executive Scrutiny Committee
Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval.	First Cabinet after annual Council	Chair of Select Committee, Cabinet