

Progress Update – Scrutiny Review of River Based Leisure Facilities

Number	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date / Anticipated Completion Date	Evidence of Progress - 3/6/09	Assessment of Progress - 3/6/09	Evidence of Progress 07/10/09	Assessment of Progress - 07/10/09
1c)	to co-ordinate the diverse nature of water based activities on the river and develop a sustainable method of developing this sector, including a detailed review of the capacity of all water sports facilities, having regard to the potential relocation of facilities as part of the North Shore scheme;	Matthew Kirk	Inaugural meeting 21 July 08 + regularly thereafter	The RUG and it's working groups have gone from strength to strength. The groups are well attended and have made solid progress as evidenced in actions 1h, 4 and 6 below. The next full meeting of RUG is scheduled to take place in June. The RUG and the working groups have been supplemented by a steering group to oversee their work as the likely transfer date to the Tees River Trust is now 12 -18 months away (see 1e below). The work of the co-ordination of activities on the river group has been absorbed into the marketing group as the meeting of river users at the marketing group has proved to be an adequate meeting of users to ensure improved co-ordination by itself. The current arrangements are set out in appendix 1 below.	2 - On Track	The RUG and its working groups continue to operate well making good progress on their aims and objectives. The Marketing sub-group had a positive input to the Take To The Tees festival, the Stewardship Group continues to provide a forum for agencies to tackle issues affecting the day to day activities on the river in particular feeding in incidents of note to Cleveland Police. The Development and Access Group continues to influence planning policy with a working group to be formed and consulted on revised designations and Green Wedges as part of the Regeneration DPD. The forthcoming aim is to establish the overarching steering group and its links to the working sub groups.	2 - On Track
1d)	to explore options to maximise the funding available for the staging of major events linked to river based activities including	SMI, SBC, ONE, British Waterways and Tees Active	Summer 2008 – Summer 2010	Planning for the 2009 SMI Triathlon is being led by the Sports Development team. The event which will take place on 30th August 2009 is being promoted heavily and will be highlighted during the	2 - On Track	The 2009 SMI Triathlon led by the SBC Sports Development Team successfully took place on the 30 th August 2009. Completing its third year the fixture continues to attract widespread media interest.	2 - On Track

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	development of an annual Stockton regatta in conjunction with partners including the University of Durham;			<p>Take To The Tees festival in the week running up to the triathlon.</p> <p>The national Jet Ski championships took place on 2nd and 3rd of May. They were promoted by the SMI PR team as the heart of a great deal of activity on the Tees for May bank holiday weekend. The weekend also hosted a charity dragonboat race at the River Tees Watersports Centre and the Tees Barrage 10k run. The events received extensive media coverage.</p> <p>Pre-Olympic opportunities for the extended white water course are still under discussion and national university events in rowing are under consideration</p>		<p>The Take To The Tees festival was successfully held from the 21st to the 28th August. The build up and event itself generated a large amount of positive publicity for the River Tees and the sporting activities and facilities on offer. The material generated as a result will be utilised to attract further funding and corporate sponsorship for future activities and events.</p> <p>The Tees Barrage White Water Course now under the management of Tees Active Ltd has been confirmed as a training venue for the 2012 London Olympics.</p>	
		Matthew Kirk	August 2009	<p>Plans for the river festival now know as "Take To The Tees" are well advanced. The event which will take place from 22nd - 28th August 2009 was successfully launched last week, gaining good television, radio and newspaper coverage. Approx 150 vessels have been confirmed for the opening flotilla and 1,500 free taster</p>	2 - On Track	<p>The inaugural Take To The Tees Festival took place between the 21st and the 28th August 2009. Opened by Olympic swimmer Mark Foster. As planned a large flotilla of vessels featuring rowing boats, kayaks, jet ski's, wheeley boats and the Teesside Princess signalled the start of the event. Activities were concentrated at the Tees Barrage with on water</p>	1 - Fully Achieved

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				<p>sessions have been secured for the week, these include rowing, dragon-boating, sailing, jet skiing, power-boating, fishing, guided walks and rides and wheeley boat sessions for wheel chair users. All clubs and associations are giving their time and equipment free of charge and are providing a huge level of support to the event.</p> <p>The open air show which supports the event is proving to be popular with a strong take up of available exhibition and retail space. Work is still ongoing to secure a main sponsor for the event.</p>		<p>demonstrations and free taster sessions supported by on land activities and an open air show on the 21st and 22nd of August. The event was well attended and successfully enabled hundreds of local people to experience sporting activities on the River Tees free of charge. A report on lessons learned at the 2009 event is underway which will inform the decision making process for any future river based events.</p>	
1e)	to support the development of the 'Tees River Trust';	Matthew Kirk	Ongoing	<p>The Tees River Trust has been incorporated and is in the final stages of charity registration. A strong board of directors has been established. However operational work has been delayed due to the withdrawal of funding from sponsors due to financial difficulties. Alternative sources of funding are being explored.</p> <p>It is still anticipated that</p>	2 - On Track	<p>The River Tees Trust has successfully secured charitable status. A strong board of Directors is in place and work towards operational activity is to be driven by Alan Slater.</p>	2 - On track

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				many aspects of the river development work will be handed over to the TRT in due course.			
1f)	developing the Council's relationship with managers of the Tees Barrage White Water Course to assist it in developing its full potential;	<p>Matthew Kirk</p> <p>SMI / British Waterways</p> <p>Matthew Kirk</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Spring 2010</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The close working relationship between SBC, SMI, British Waterways and the Tees Barrage White Water Course managers continues. The joint SMI / British Waterways team continue to lead work on the WWC development. It is anticipated that work will begin soon with an estimated build time of 6 months.</p> <p>Operational responsibility for the WWC has been awarded to Tees Active Ltd (TAL). TAL assumed responsibility on 1 April 2009. TAL management are developing plans to ensure that the expanded centre operates to its full potential.</p>	<p>2 - On Track</p> <p>2 - On Track</p> <p>2 - On Track</p>	<p>The close working relationship between SBC, SMI, British Waterways and the Tees Barrage White Water Course managers has continued.</p> <p>The joint SMI / British Waterways team continue to lead work on the WWC development. It is anticipated that work will begin on site in November 2009 with an estimated build time of 6 months. Discussions between Tees Active Ltd (TAL) and British Waterways delayed the start of building works but are now coming to a close.</p> <p>Operational responsibility for the WWC has been awarded to Tees Active Ltd (TAL). TAL assumed responsibility on 1 April 2009. TAL management are developing plans to ensure that the expanded centre operates to its full potential.</p>	<p>2 - On Track</p> <p>3 - Slipped</p> <p>2 - On Track</p>

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1g)	to undertake a feasibility study for a more regular water borne transport service, and to explore funding streams to achieve this, (including the Local Transport Plan);	Matthew Kirk	Summer 2010	The outcome of the desktop work and background investigations indicated that there were insufficient traffic flows and destination points to warrant a paid for feasibility study. An alternative approach is under investigation which would actually trial a water taxi service on a route between Ingleby Barwick and Preston Park during the summer holidays. Discussions are underway between land-owners, boat providers and operators and British Waterways to offer a low cost 4 minute service across the river for a trial period in summer 2009. If the trial can be achieved the plan would then be to assess its success and to use the experience to consider future longer term options.	3 - Slipped	A Summer 2009 trial between Ingleby Barwick and Preston Park was unable to take place. Discussion continue with Ingleby Barwick Golf Course to look at options to access their land Work is to be undertaken to assess whether a trial can take place in 2010 and consideration will be given to future longer term options. A river taxi was able to operate between Stockton's Castlegate Quay and the Tees Barrage during the Take To The Tees Festival.	3 - Slipped
1h)	to develop a marketing and communications strategy to promote and market the river at the local, regional, national and international level, working with	Matthew Kirk and Kay Wilson (SMI) Matthew Kirk	September 2008 Summer	A River Tees Marketing and Communications Strategy has been produced and adopted by the River Marketing Group. Work is still ongoing to find a business partner to sponsor	1 - Fully Achieved 2 - On Track	A series of positive news stories have received media coverage on the local radio within local press and on regional television. The current economic climate has seen a reduction in the	3 - Slipped

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	<p>Visit Tees Valley where appropriate. This should include work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to increase engagement with the local community - to engage with local business to promote the river-based opportunities available - to develop a central hub of information including a website and a comprehensive information pack for users, including for schools use 	Matthew Kirk	2010 September 2008	<p>river activities.</p> <p>The river tees website www.rivertees.org.uk is complete and a launch event for the site is planned for April. The site will be demonstrated at the committee meeting.</p>	1 - Fully Achieved	<p>availability of corporate funding.</p> <p>The River Tees website www.rivertees.org.uk is running, the RUG Marketing Group are to lead on making suggested improvement and expansion of site features. Engagement with the community was supported by the Take To The Tees festival and continues through resident involvement in RUG sub groups.</p>	1 - Fully Achieved
		Neil Russell	June 2010	<p>Work is underway to produce a schools information pack and hold a schools launch day at the river. This work is being led by the sports development team. The schools pack will be made available via the web-site.</p>	2 - On Track	<p>A schools pack was not produced for the 2008/09 academic year as originally planned. The composition of the marketing group is currently under review; at the point at which a new chair person is appointed this work stream will be a priority to be completed for the 2009/10 academic year. Work is underway to have a 'young persons' pack available for download by all organisations that work with young people from www.rivertees.org by the end of October 09. This will enable the pack to be added to</p>	3 - Slipped

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						and updated as required.	
2	<p>Cabinet endorse the Committee's expectations regarding quality of development, access to and interaction with the adjacent water space and ensure that these are included within the various development and regeneration projects in place, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - within the North Shore master plan and the planning application itself; - within the final plans for re-development of Preston Park, recognising its importance as a gateway location; 	Matthew Kirk	Ongoing	<p>The RUG Development and Access group have established a process for providing a co-ordinated river users opinion on planning applications and proposed developments. The group also continues to work on a framework to provide guidance for development in the river corridor.</p>	2 - On Track	<p>The RUG Development and Access group have established a process for providing a co-ordinated river users opinion on planning applications and proposed developments. The group also continues to work on a framework to provide guidance for development in the river corridor.</p>	2 - On Track

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4	The Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services so far as is possible and practical ensures that access to the river is maintained and improved where possible through the LDF process and individual planning applications themselves;	Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services ensures that river access is included within the consideration of planning applications.	2 - On Track	Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services ensures that river access is included within the consideration of planning applications. The Director is to Chair the overarching River Users Group – Steering Group.	1 - Fully Achieved
5	Ensure that the opportunities for the Borough in relation to the period leading up to the 2012 Olympic Games (and future international sporting events such as Glasgow 2014) are maximised through work with regional partners in particular ONE- in particular the opportunities to host a range of associated events;	British Waterways & SMI	ongoing	Support continues to be provided to the White Water Course by SMI, British Waterways and ONE in developing the Olympic Pre Games offer.	2 - On Track	Support continues to be provided to the White Water Course by SMI, British Waterways and ONE in developing the Olympic Pre Games offer. Work is currently underway to attract national teams to the venue in the build up to the 2012 Olympics.	2 - On Track

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7	<p>SBC and partners including British Waterways to ensure that all reasonable efforts are being made to ensure that the river remains safe, navigable and clean, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the expedient removal of HMS Kellington from Stockton riverside - the efficient removal of debris and obstructions in the river itself - the cleanliness of the immediate riverside environment including footpaths; 	<p>Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services</p> <p>Matthew Kirk</p>	<p>September 2009</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The operation to dismantle and remove the Kellington was accelerated due to increased risks associated with the stability of the vessel. Work began in mid April; removal should take approx. 6 - 8 weeks. The river Stewardship group has agreed an action plan to tackle river cleanliness. The first of a series of clean-up campaigns with public participation took place last week in the Teesdale canal areas. Work is now being planned for the Leven/Tees corner. A joint Stewardship plan is being developed with the probation service to utilise labour 2 days per week.</p>	<p>2 - On Track</p> <p>2 - On Track</p>	<p>The operation to remove the Kellington from the Tees was progressed successfully by Able UK to the method statement provided by SALMO, the marine salvage unit of the Ministry of Defence. The timeframe for removal was extended due to the difficulties in dismantling the vessel using mainly hand operated machinery whilst the vessel remained on the water. The final lift operation was successfully completed on the 5th September with the remainder of the vessel dismantled on the Riverside Car Park. Several local companies were subcontracted by Able UK and made a valuable contribution to the overall project, together with input from key partners such as the Environment Agency, British Waterways, MS-SC and SBC. The final lift operation combined with on water diamond wire cutting techniques was the first time an operation of this type has been attempted.</p> <p>The River Stewardship Group has agreed an action plan to</p>	<p>1 - Fully Achieved</p>

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						<p>tackle river cleanliness. Probation service labour has been utilised extensively and successfully.</p>	