

Progress Update – River Based Leisure

| Number | Recommendation | Responsibility | Completion Date / Anticipated Completion Date | Evidence of Progress 07/10/09 | Assessment of Progress - 07/10/09 | Evidence of Progress 17/02/10 | Assessment of Progress - 17/02/10 |
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| | to co-ordinate the diverse nature of water based activities on the river and develop a sustainable method of developing this sector. | Matthew Kirk | Inaugural meeting 21 July 08 + regularly thereafter | <p>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.</p> | 2 - On Track | <p>The overarching RUG Steering Group met for its inaugural meeting on the 30th November 2009 a second meeting scheduled for the 24th February 2010. The group chaired by Paul Dobson SBC Corporate Director of DANS consists of senior representation from SBC, British Waterways, Environment Agency, SMI and Tees Active. Community representation is provided by The Friends of Tees Heritage Park. The steering group aims to add value to the work already undertaken, manage communication and provide strategic direction. The initial priority for the steering group was the need to revisit terms of reference for the groups within the RUG structure and to review how work is to be undertaken by the existing groups now and in the future. The meeting enabled a refocus on the outcomes for the Tees and the opportunity to form a common vision between key partners.</p> | 2 - On Track |

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| 1d) | to explore options to maximise the funding available for the staging of major events linked to river based activities including development of an annual Stockton regatta in conjunction with partners including the University of Durham; | SMI, SBC, ONE, British Waterways and Tees Active | Summer 2008 – Summer 2010 | <p>The 2009 SMI Triathlon led by the SBC Sports Development Team successfully took place on the 30th August 2009. Completing its third year the fixture continues to attract widespread media interest. 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. 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> | 2 - On Track | <p>The Stockton Regatta event organised by Tees Rowing Club in 2009 gained exposure through connectivity with the Spring Infinity Festival, it is hoped that the event can build on this for 2010. The 2010 annual events calendar for Stockton again aims to make the link between the Infinity Spring Festival and the Tees Regatta in conjunction with a Tees Barrage 10k road race in order to create a weekend long event for the 1st – 3rd May 2010. Tees Regatta organisers aim to draw links between local businesses to further raise the profile of the event. Further events scheduled to take place on the Tees in 2010 include Take To The Tees 2010, Bell Boat Regatta, Yarm Bell Boat Regatta, Dragon Boat Racing, together with SIRF taking place at a Riverside location.</p> | 2 - On Track |

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| 1e) | to support the development of the 'Tees River Trust'; | Matthew Kirk | Ongoing | 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. | 2 - On Track | Alan Slater representative of the Tees River Trust is currently Chair of both the Stewardship and Marketing sub groups of the overall RUG Structure therefore the organisation has been well incorporated with other key statutory partners and is playing a key role in driving a range of agenda items. In addition the Trust has successfully secured funding from the Environment Agency to support the employment of a project officer. | 2 - On Track |
| 1f) | developing the Council's relationship with managers of the Tees Barrage White Water Course to assist it in developing its full potential; | Matthew Kirk | Ongoing | The close working relationship between SBC, SMI, British Waterways and the Tees Barrage White Water Course managers has continued. | 2 - On Track | The close working relationship between SBC, SMI, British Waterways and the Tees Barrage White Water Course managers has continued. All organisations are now playing a key role on the RUG steering group. | 2 - On Track |
| | | SMI / British Waterways | Summer 2010 | 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. | 3 - Slipped | Work on the White Water Course commenced 15 th February; a 32 week build programme is in place with completion due on the 20 th September. | 3 - Slipped |
| | | Matthew Kirk | Ongoing | Operational responsibility for the WWC has been awarded to Tees Active Ltd (TAL). TAL assumed | 2 – On Track | A TAL Manager is not yet in place to manage the watercourse, the | 2- On Track |

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| | | | | responsibility on 1 April 2009. TAL management are developing plans to ensure that the expanded centre operates to its full potential. | | recruitment process will now take place with a start date and build programme confirmed and underway. | |
| 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 | TBC | <p>A Summer 2009 trial between Ingleby Barwick and Preston Park was unable to take place. Discussion continues 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.</p> <p>A river taxi was able to operate between Stockton's Castlegate Quay and the Tees Barrage during the Take To The Tees Festival.</p> | 3 - Slipped | <p>A review of the Ingleby Barwick to Preston Park river taxi route will take place in 2010. There are access issues to be resolved linked to development and land ownership issues on the Ingleby Barwick side of the river.</p> <p>Support has been given to Grail PR who are currently undertaking a feasibility study for a private river taxi service across the Clyde in Glasgow. A current service that is in place is due to end in March 2010 co-operation offers the opportunity to learn and gain valuable information that may inform future developments for the Tees. There will be more scope for a river taxi concept in the long term upon completion of the North Shore development at which point a full feasibility study would be more appropriate.</p> | 4 - Not achieved |

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| 1h) | <p>to develop a marketing and communications strategy to promote and market the river at the local, regional, national and international level, working with 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 | Beccy Brown and Kay Wilson (SMI) | September 2008 | <p>A series of positive news stories have received media coverage on the local radio within local press and on regional television.</p> <p>The current economic climate has seen a reduction in the availability of corporate funding.</p> | 3 - Slipped | <p>Media coverage has concentrated on river safety messages due to the severe winter period that resulted in sections of the Tees freezing over. Work will continue to promote the river in the build up to large scale events scheduled for 2010.</p> | |
| | | Matthew Kirk | September 2009 | <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.</p> <p>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 | <p>The current economic climate has seen a reduction in the availability of corporate funding. It is hoped that early signs of recovery will encourage an increase in corporate involvement in the programme of events scheduled for 2010.</p> | |
| | | Matthew Kirk | September 2008 | <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</p> | 3 - Slipped | <p>A website action plan has been created to bring about improvements including an increase in day to day maintenance to provide more vibrant up to date content.</p> | 1- Fully Achieved |
| | | Neil Russell | September 2009 | | | <p>The online school information pack was forwarded for design to then be placed on site; however as the river tees site is externally constructed this has caused technical issues which have resulted in delays in the content going live.</p> | 3 - Slipped |

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| | | | | all organisations that work with young people from www.riverteens.org by the end of October 09. This will enable the pack to be added to 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 continues to influence planning policy with a working group formed to consult on revised Regeneration DPD. The group maintains an action plan identifying all project developments put forward in recent years within the river corridor.</p> <p>The group also maintains a strong focus on developing a set of design standards to influence future development on both a large and small scale within the river corridor.</p> <p>A Community Spaces Flagship application has been submitted by the Friends of Tees Heritage Park community group which if successful would attract in the region of £500,000 to develop the area, Preston Park is recognised in the proposal as being a gateway location to the Tees.</p> | 2 - On Track |

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| 5 | <p>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;</p> | <p>British Waterways & SMI</p> | <p>ongoing</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>2 - On Track</p> | <p>The white water course is aiming to appoint a canoeing 'champion' who will work alongside SBC, ONE and other agencies to help promote the course and attract events in the run up to 2012, this will gather momentum now a confirmed build timeframe is in place for the improvements to the course.</p> | <p>2 - On Track</p> |
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