

Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee

A meeting of Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 7th September, 2011.

Present: Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell(Chairman), Cllr Eileen Johnson(Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mark Chatburn, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Gillian Corr, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mick Womphrey

Officers: Judith Trainer, Sarah Whaley(LD)

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Cllr Alan Lewis

1 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Draft Minutes

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting which was held on the 13th July 2011.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

4 Quarterly Progress Updates on Previously Agreed Recommendations

Consideration was given to progress of the implementation of previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the reviews of Tees Active and River Based Leisure, the EIT Gateway reviews of Adult Operations, Highways, Lighting and Network Management and Property and Facilities Management, EIT Review of Sport Leisure & Recreation, and the EIT Task and Finish Review of Finance.

The Committee requested the following further information:

- Review of Highways, Lighting and Network Management - Recommendation 2
- The Committee asked for progress on the ARUP report which was due to completed in August.

1) Review of Property and Facilities Management - Recommendation 4 - Explanation of the reasons why the recommendation will not be progressed.

2) Review of River Based Leisure - Recommendation 1f - The Chair reported that there had been technical issues with machinery in relation to the Tees Barrage White Water Course facility resulting in a possible delay of a September transfer to TAL. A further update was requested.

3) Review of Tees Active - Recommendation 1 - The Committee accepted the reasons for slippage in respect of the outstanding recommendations but

commented that they would wish to see progress in implementation as soon as possible.

In addition to the queries relating to the specific reviews, Members requested additional information as follows:

- 1) The reasons for building the new jetty at Preston Park and who were envisaged to be its main users?
- 2) The reasons for British Waterways application for charitable status and implications for the Council, if any.
- 3) Information on road closures for local events and who is responsible for setting the fees.
- 4) An update on access and environmental issues around the river as part of joint working with Middlesbrough Council as part of the StocktonMiddlesbrough Initiative.

AGREED that:

- 1) the Progress Updates be noted and the assessments for progress.
- 2) further information be provided as requested.

5 Member Development

The Scrutiny Officer invited Members to highlight any areas where they felt further training was required. Members indicated that a greater knowledge of recent national changes in Arts and Leisure, including fundings arrangements for parks/ play areas would be helpful and it was suggested that a briefing session be organised specifically for the Committee.

Members also asked for officers to consider the best way of providing more general updates on current issues and developments to all Members.

The Committee requested that a list of available training courses held by NEREO be circulated.

Members were asked to contact the Scrutiny Team with any further training requirements that they may have.

AGREED that:

- 1) the information be noted.
- 2) further information be provided as requested.

6 Work Programme

Consideration was given to the project plan and it was noted that the following items would be presented at future meetings:

- 1) 26th October - Children's Social Care - Scope
- 2) 20th November - Children's Social Care Baseline
Registration and Bereavement - Initial Options
Q2 Monitoring
- 3) 4th January - Registration and Bereavement - Final Options
- 4) 15th February - Children's Social Care - Options
Q3 Monitoring

AGREED that the information be noted.