

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....16th April 2009

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of Tees Active

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented the findings of the Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee following a review of Tees Active. The review examined Tees Active's performance since it was established in 2004, its contribution to wider corporate priorities, and future plans.

It was explained that Tees Active was an independent leisure trust and had managed Stockton Borough's public leisure centres since May 2004. The review examined Tees Active's performance since it was established, the contribution made to the Borough's wider priorities, and future plans. The Committee had found that Tees Active had performed well against its original aims, and had made recommendations in order to secure further improvements.

It was noted that following consideration of the recommendations by Cabinet and Tees Active Limited an action plan would be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations would be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.

Cabinet made reference to paragraph 4.62 of the review and congratulated Tees Active Ltd for their performance on reducing sickness absence levels.

RESOLVED that:-

1. to ensure Tees Active Limited continue to deliver against a range of national and local priorities, a more formal & detailed monitoring regime be implemented in relation to Tees Active's performance, finance, policies and procedures, and that this monitoring information be provided to members through the established Quarterly Performance Reports.

and it be recommended to Tees Active that:-

2. they strengthen consultation and feedback mechanisms in order to strive to ensure that their leisure offer continuously meets the needs and aspirations of the community.

3. in order to further improve the partnership arrangements already in place, they should strengthen their role as Stockton Council's strategic leisure partner by providing support to the broader leisure and sport sector within the borough, and that this support should include:

- a) Contributing to the broader social agendas, including community safety and children and young people;
- b) Facilitating greater participation by hard to reach groups and/or groups that require most support including children looked after, people with disabilities, and the BME community;
- c) Contributing to the development of a coordinated leisure offer in the borough to include public, private and voluntary sector;
- d) Exploiting new management and/ or development opportunities that would enhance leisure provision within the borough, including opportunities through Building Schools for the Future;
- e) Achieving stronger relationships with the voluntary sector, including sports clubs, through improved partnership working;
- f) Contributing towards the full exploitation of the opportunities presented by the Olympic & Paralympic Games.

4. they should consider extending the layer of support in place beneath the TAL Academy for those young sports people who do not meet the standards of the Academy, yet have attained representative honours at a recognised level, as appropriate.

5. they should ensure that all eligible facilities attain Quest accreditation status.

6. they should continue to investigate the scope for increased web interactivity and online transactions.

7. they should provide the results of their staff survey to the Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee as soon as they are available, and that any issues arising from consideration of these results be investigated through the established SBC/Tees Active Management Group.

### 3. Reasons for the Decision

The topic was identified at a meeting of the Scrutiny Liaison Forum in March 2008, and subsequently incorporated into the scrutiny work programme by the Executive Scrutiny Committee in April 2008. Tees Active Limited is the independent leisure trust responsible for the

management of the Council's leisure centres and swimming pools. The review represented the opportunity for the first comprehensive review of Tees Active's performance since it was established in May 2004.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillors Lupton and Mrs Womphrey each declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in respect of this item as a result of their membership of Tees Active Limited's Board

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By midnight on Friday, 24th April 2009

Proper Officer  
20 April 2009