

Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee

Update 19 October 2010

EIT Programme – Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

At the meetings of 30 June and 21 July, the Committee received the baseline reports in relation to the following services: leisure and sports development, countryside and greenspace, parks and countryside (CYFA), and play.

Detailed discussion of potential options is scheduled for the Committee meeting of 18 October. Discussion so far has identified the following options that will be explored further:

- Revised commissioning approach towards independent providers (eg. Tees Active), including possible co-commissioning with other Boroughs;
- Examining the level of savings that could be achieved by existing partners;
- Reviewing staff structures to ensure they are fit for purpose, and to examine the scope to introduce generic teams carrying out similar tasks across a variety of recreational facilities;
- Improved co-ordination and promotion of the full range of the Borough's leisure assets;
- Increased use of volunteers;
- Transfer of functions to alternative providers;
- Transfer of SBC managed-greenspace into the control of other organisations;
- Review of the Play Strategy;
- Sub-regional partnerships where appropriate.

Financial appraisal of the options will take place as the review progresses. The Committee is scheduled to discuss recommendations at the meeting of 10 November.

Monitoring

Quarterly updates from completed reviews will be considered at an upcoming meeting. Progress in relation to the recommendations from the EIT Review of Adult Operations continues to be made, and a Cabinet Report on 30 September outlined the next steps.