

CULTURE, YOUNG PEOPLE AND SPORT

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Culture, Young People and Sport on:-

MONDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2008

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Ibrahim	Executive Member for Culture, Young People and Sport
Councillor Fairclough	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Mrs. Rothwell	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. J. Rutherford	Director of Adult and Community Services
Ms. M. Asquith	Director of Children's Services
Ms. S. Crossley	Assistant Director, Adult and Community Services
Ms. J. Thompson	Assistant Director, Positive Contributions
Mr. P. Round	Head of Sports Services
Ms. K. Smith	Development Manager, Positive Contributions
Ms. C. Street	Business Support Manager
Mr. J. Kerambrum	Democratic Services Officer

24. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Member.

The Executive Member NOTED the progress on the decisions previously taken.

25. CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES RESOURCE OPTIONS AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME BID

2009/2010

The Director of Adult and Community Services submitted a report which provided the Executive Member with a detailed outline of the Strategic Resource Options relating to Culture and Community Services.

The report outlined a range of budget options to deliver efficiency and savings targets for 2009/2010 within Culture and Community Services. Options were originally presented to the Policy Development Group meeting on 3rd November, 2008 and again on 3rd December, 2008, where members had further discussions on the options and the opportunity to put forward other options for consideration and further investigation.

The report stated that for the 2009/2010 CBPP, the Executive at its meeting on 27th October 2008 resolved that Council Services be asked to prepare budget savings options of 5% for 2009/10 to contribute to the corporate savings target/ value-for-money efficiency savings, and also to prepare options to contain any demand led growth. The Executive also agreed that savings of at least 3% per annum were likely to be required for the following 2 years.

Members were informed that the 5% savings target to meet the corporate requirement equates to £348,000 in Culture and Community Services (based on a budget of £6.95 million). The £348,000 includes £62,000 savings relating to the Welfare Rights and Food Safety and Health and Safety services, which were managed by Culture and Community Services, but were within the portfolio of the Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care.

The options to meet the 5% requirement were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report as follows:-

<u>Efficiency Measures / Value for Money Reviews</u>	Narrative	Savings Target £k	Impact / Staffing Implications
Arts Team Leader post	Disestablish the post, with the remaining team (2 part-time	39	1 FTE post

	staff) managed by the Communities and Learning Libraries Team Leader		
Team Librarian post	Disestablish the post on retirement of the current post holder	29	1 FTE post
School Library Service and the Stock Support Unit	Relocation from Castle Hill to Pike Nook	50	None
Mobile Library service	Change from a vehicle based service to one which delivers a home delivery to vulnerable customers	95	2.8 FTE (Library manager and 2 library assistants). These staff would move across to vacancies in the public library service
Museum Service	Reconfigure the patterns of opening at Hall 1 st Wood, and arrange visits via a programme of specialist visits; deliver new visitor and learning offers at Smithills Hall and the Central Museum	45	The staffing impact would be on seasonal staff and redirection of team leader work
Schools Museum Loans service	Deliver the service from Smithills Hall instead of Castle Hill.	14	0.5 FTE (currently vacant)
Albert Halls admin post	The merger with the Civic Catering service allows this post to be disestablished on retirement of the current post holder, cutting duplication	20	1 FTE
Home visiting grant payment	Review the level of grant for the home visiting service.	28	Impact will be minimised by the delivery of a home visiting service by other agencies, e.g. the Pensions Service. Taking half in 09/10 and half in 10/11 allows the provider to reconfigure their service and spend.
Food Control	Disestablish a vacant Food Safety officer post	34	1 FTE post (currently vacant). Impact will be minimised through

<u>Efficiency Measures / Value for Money Reviews</u>	Narrative	Savings Target £k	Impact / Staffing Implications
			investment in mobile technology, together with the business process changes from the GM Better Regulation Public Protection pilot using generic inspections.
Community Centres Building Manager post	Disestablish the post as responsibility for the Centres transfer to Corporate Property in 09 and the operation of the Centres is already managed by the Albert Halls Team	42	1 FTE
Efficiencies in funding and unclaimed grants within the Community Centres budgets	The grant has been unclaimed for several years	3	None
TOTAL		399	8.3 FTE (1.5 vacant posts)

In addition, the report stated that the 3% per annum savings requirement for the following 2 years was, at this stage, planned to be identified through a programme of Value for Money and Efficiency Reviews of individual services.

The proposed Capital Programme was set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

26. FREE SWIMMING LESSONS AND PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS UPDATE

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which updated the Executive Member on the progress of the free swimming lessons and primary school swimming lessons programme.

By way of background information, the report stated that the Council in partnership with Bolton Community Leisure Trust launched free swimming lessons for under 17 year olds in July 2008 as a follow up to the successful free swimming initiative

launched in the summer 2007.

The swimming lessons were made available at all of the pools operated by the Trust during school holiday periods, namely Westhoughton, Horwich, Turton, Sharples, Ladybridge, and Farnworth. Provision was also made available at the remaining Council managed facility, the Jubilee Pool. The lessons commenced on 21st July 2008 and young people needed to book their place on a swimming lessons programme at the pool of their choice.

The initiative proved to be very successful, with all pool lessons operating at near capacity.

At the Executive Member meeting on 27th October, members requested a breakdown of the above figures in terms of ethnicity, gender, age profile and post code information. This information was appended to the report in diagram format.

In 2004 Bolton was set a local PSA target of 80% of pupils leaving primary education to have achieved the Key Stage 2 swimming accreditation by 2008. In 2004 the achievement percentage was 59%. This was accepted nationally as Bolton's baseline figure and was based on the number of year 6 pupils attending education swimming lessons.

Following an interim evaluation that was carried out to support the LPSA process, it was discovered that schools across the authority were being selective with regards to attendance at education swimming lessons i.e. different schools sent different year groups and in some cases no year groups at all.

At this point (October 2006) the Council's Internal Audit confirmed the key issues and inconsistencies that would affect the ability for Bolton to achieve the LPSA target as set in 2004.

A number of interventions were put into place at this point by the LPSA steering group which included members of the Council's Performance Management Team, The School Sports Partnership (SSP), SERCO, Sport Health and Inclusion Services and the University of Bolton.

The interventions had a positive impact on primary education swimming lessons. In 2004, Bolton's baseline for KS2 swimming attainment was recorded at 39%. In 2008 Bolton's achievement for KS2 swimming attainment is 62.24%, which is 2.76% short of the 2009 regional target, giving Bolton a performance improvement of some 55% over 3 years. This was a significant improvement on the original stretch target, which Bolton was currently using to negotiate with Government Office North West in an attempt to secure the LPSA grant.

The Executive Member for Culture Young People and Sport NOTED -

The progress made on the free swimming lessons and the primary schools swimming lessons programmes.

27. YOUTH CAPITAL PLUS 2008

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which informed members of the Youth Capital Plus funding and the links into areas of high anti-social behaviour.

By way of background information, the report stated that in March, 2008 the Youth Taskforce Action Plan introduced a new funding opportunity called the Youth Capital Plus Fund. The aim of the funding was to provide additional resources of £452,000 per local authority to improve a youth facility in the most deprived area and where there was clear evidence of anti - social behaviour.

Members were informed that it was possible to pool the Youth Opportunity Capital 2008/2009 funding of £111,000 with Youth Capital Plus of £452,000 to provide a total capital fund of £563,00 in the current financial year.

Using the latest Community Safety data the top 4 wards/neighbourhoods affected by juvenile anti social behaviour had been identified by Neighbourhood Comparison

in rank order, as follows:-

- Deane and Willows, Rumworth;
- Great Lever;
- Brownlow Fold, Halliwell; and
- Breightmet North and South, Breighmet.

The Community Safety assessment identified that the neighbourhood areas of highest priority in Bolton were Deane and Willows and Great Lever. The Executive Member was requested to consider this analysis in setting the priority for the Youth Capital Plus Spending.

Following the Young People and Sport Policy Development Group on 28th October 2008 an outline proposal was sent to the Department for Children Schools and Families which outlined the spending plans in the Deane & Willows and Great Lever areas and the purchase of three mobile facilities. Approval was gained on 7th November, 2008 from the department to go ahead with the plans as detailed.

The report provided a detailed breakdown of the timescales and key milestones involved in the project.

The Executive Member for Culture, Young People and Sport NOTED –

The Department for Children School's and Families approval of the Capital Plus Funding spending plans.

28. YOUTH CRIME ACTION PLAN

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which informed the Executive Member of the Youth Crime Action Plan funding allocation for 2009/2011 and the proposals to bid for 2008/2009 pump priming funding.

The Youth Crime action plan published in August of this year outlined the direction in which central government wished local

partnerships to travel in terms of reducing and preventing offending by children and young people. There was an emphasis on a “triple track” approach of prevention, support and enforcement as previously reported to the Executive Member.

In September Bolton Council was informed that via the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (BSAFE) that Bolton would receive funding to enable the objectives of the Youth Crime Action Plan to be achieved, and that over the course of 2009 – 2011 this would be in the region of £700,000. The letter announcing the funding outlined the specific areas that the government would like to see developed with the new money.

The September announcement also detailed two separate pots of “pump priming” money which Bolton was invited to bid for which was to be used in the current financial year. Proposals for this spending had been drawn up in partnership with colleagues from the Community Safety Team. Firstly, there was £25,000 to be used for Positive Activities on a Friday and Saturday night and secondly, up to £65,000 to kick start some of the Youth Crime Action Plan activities.

Proposals had been drawn up for the pot of £25,000 to be used to extend the work on Friday and Saturday nights in identifying young people at risk of crime and anti-social behaviour and diverting them into positive activities at times where risk was highest. Some of this work may be commissioned, for example by the Lads and Girls Club as well as delivered by the Juvenile Response Team.

Coupled with this was the use of a further £25,000 from the pot of £65,000 to ensure that there were appropriate positive activities available at the key times. The majority of this work would be commissioned in the usual way through the PAYP commissioning process but would obviously link closely with the work being done by the JRT to ensure that the correct activities were available in the priority locations.

Of the remaining £40,000 from the second pot of funding, proposals for spending were as follows:-

- £25,000 - Increased visibility and presence of neighbourhood policing teams in key areas at key times;
- £7,500 - Increase the capacity of the YOT to provide Friday and Saturday night reparation activity;
- £5,000 - Commission Bolton Victim Offender Mediation Service to provide services to young people and victims of crime and anti social behaviour; and
- £2,500 - Provide information leaflets etc to signpost young people subject to “stop and account” to appropriate services.

Also as part of the Youth Action Plan Bolton had bid for and been awarded two additional contracts that supported this work, the Challenge and Support and Intensive Intervention Projects. These two projects would be delivered within the newly developed Targeted Youth Support Framework, and both would link closely to the Think Family Pathfinder.

The Executive Member for Culture, Young People and Sport AGREED -

To the Youth Crime Action Plan funding allocation for 2009/2011 and the proposals to bid for 2008/2009 pump priming funding, as detailed in the report.

29. CAPITAL INVESTMENT YOUTH (5-19) STRATEGY 2008/2012

The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report which informed the Executive Member of the Youth Capital Investment Strategy.

By way of background information, the report stated that the Children’s Trust in Bolton was committed to providing all children and young people with every opportunity to achieve

the five 'Every Child Matters' Outcomes. As part of that commitment Bolton Council would want to offer all children and young people 'places to go' and 'things to do' and to provide access to the best possible quality buildings, venues and facilities, that reflected local need and was integrated within the wider offer for children, young people and their communities.

Members were informed that the Government's long term vision, the ten year strategy for positive activities would focus on improving services for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in society. Improving the prospects for young people at risk depended on a wide range of services giving high priority to the needs of young people and effective partnership working.

The report detailed the Authorities strategy under the following headings:-

- Review of Services for Young People;
- Delivery Model;
- Integrated and strategic planning of Youth Facilities;
- Partners in delivering this Strategy;
- How Young People were involved in developing and implementing this strategy;
- Strategy Links to other capital and asset management strategies;
- Funding;
- Further development of the strategy;
- Proposed 'Hub and Spoke' Model; and

- Monitoring of Outcomes.

The Executive Member for Culture, Young People and Sport APPROVED –

The Capital Investment Strategy, as detailed in the report.