

CULTURE AND LEISURE REVIEW COMMITTEE

21st April 2009

END OF YEAR REPORT 2008/2009

Report of the City Solicitor

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To approve a report to Council on the operation of the Culture and Leisure Review Committee in 2008/09.

2. Background

- 2.1 To aid transparency and business planning, Review Committees operate to an annual work programme agreed at the beginning of each year. Additional meetings/reports are added as necessary. In total 39 reports were presented in 2008/09, over 10 meetings, divided into the following 5 categories. All presentations have been listed under the relevant category:

Category

Number of Items

Policy Review & Development

10

1. Proposals for Policy Review
2. Scope of the Review
3. Approach to the Review
4. A Place to Play - Update
5. A Place to Play – Update
6. A Place to Play – Update
7. A Place to Play – Update
8. A Place to Play – Update
9. Draft Policy Review Report
10. Policy Review Final Report

Monitoring & Evaluation

21

1. Empire theatre Annual Report
2. Wellness Pricing Framework
3. Impact of 2012 – Opportunities
4. Wellness Pricing Framework
5. Swimming Pools
6. Resorts End of Season Report
7. Tourism – Development and Marketing
8. Sunderland Seasonal Lifeguard Service
9. Annual Report
10. Sport in the Community (Sunderland University)
11. Pavilions Visit Report
12. Allotment Management
13. Cultural Programming Activity

14. Heritage Update
15. Review of Progress – Not Treading Water
16. Parks For People – Review of Progress
17. Annual Report – Sport and Leisure
18. Use of Libraries – Review of Progress
19. Arts and Creative Development Strategy
20. Music Development Strategy
21. Work Programme

Performance Review **3**

1. Performance Report
2. Performance Framework Q2
3. Performance Framework Q3

Information, Awareness Raising **4**

1. MORI Survey
2. Councillor Call for Action Guidance
3. Conference Feedback – Public Library
4. Conference Attendance
5. OSC Handbook

Policy Framework **1**

1. Wellness Pricing Framework – Reference from Cabinet

3. Highlights from 2008/09

Policy Review

- 3.1 Members chose to examine music venues in the City as part of the wider development of the Sunderland Music Strategy. Members invited a number of musical performers to attend the committee and share their own experiences of music venues as well as playing live in Committee Room 1. The Committee also took part in two visits; the first visit took outside of Sunderland to look at music venues in neighbouring localities which included The Sage, City Hall and The Studio in Hartlepool and the second visit took Members to various venues in and around Sunderland. The Review Committee also held a number of focus groups with various stakeholders as part of the evidence gathering process. A number of recommendations were made.

Wellness Pricing Framework

- 3.2 A joint meeting of the Policy and Coordination Review and the Culture and Leisure Review Committees was held on 19 June 2008 and a report received on the Wellness Pricing Framework. Subsequent reports were brought to the Culture and Leisure Review Committee around progress and a final report was received in November 2008 which provided Members with an examination of the Wellness Pricing

Structure, including comparisons with other local authorities. The report also provided information on the review committee's proposed undertaking of an annual review of the pricing policy framework relating to Wellness Centres.

Heritage Update

- 3.3 Heritage is a key area within the region. The Committee heard updates throughout the year on a variety of heritage issues including about Heritage Open Days, Bede's Way Annual Walk, the nomination for World Heritage Status for Monkwearmouth-Jarrow for 2010 and Bowes Railway.

First Annual Sport and Leisure Report

- 3.4 The Committee received its first ever Annual Sport and Leisure report which provided an overview for Members regarding the work of the Sport and Leisure service. The report also highlighted both revenue and capital projects that had recently been completed or were in the planning and delivery process. Projects covered within this report included ActiveSunderland Board, 2012 Olympic Preparations, Tennis Development, Wellness Centres including the pricing framework and The Play Pathfinder. The report was very comprehensive and provided Members with a wealth of information regarding sport and leisure activities in and around the city.

Barnes Park Regeneration Update

- 3.5 The report updated Members on the Parks for People Big Lottery Funding Stage 2 application for Barnes Park. Members were informed that the stage 2 application would now be reviewed by the Heritage Lottery Fund over a four month period, prior to presentation to the Heritage Lottery National Panel on 24 March 2009. If successful, works would commence in Barnes Park in August 2009 (coinciding with centenary of the Park opening in 1909) and completed by spring 2011.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Committee has delivered an ambitious work programme in 2008/09. Effective planning has enabled consideration of all issues Members wished to look at.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 2008/09 Agendas

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