



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL**

[Internal link to previous report](#)

**PORTFOLIO: LEISURE AND CULTURE**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR JOHN HARBOUR**

**DATE OF REPORT: 04/04/2013**

**Progress on Strategic Objectives**

PE2 Developing opportunities and sustaining ambition of local residents	
Action	Progress
<p><b>PE2d-</b> Use leisure activities to tackle a wide range of social objectives, including anti-social behaviour and health inequality.</p>	<p>In 2012/13 the Sport &amp; Play Development Team has brought in over £270,000 of external funding to help clubs, community groups and projects in the borough. The funding, from sources including Sport England and Big Lottery, has been used to support social objectives; through volunteering projects, women and girls sport, parks events, sports coaching in community venues, and holiday activity schemes.</p> <p>A further £1.2M in funding applications for current projects will be made or reach a decision in the next 6 months. The main projects/bids within this total are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £350K Sport England Improvement Fund – Prairie Sports Village</li> <li>• £350K Football Foundation – Prairie Sports Village – stage 2 requires Planning permission</li> <li>• £240K Big Lottery Reaching Communities – Active Streets project (similar to</li> </ul>

	<p>Dambusters) 2 full time posts plus coaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £250K Sport England Community Sport Activation Fund – opens 7<sup>th</sup> May – revenue project for Brun Valley activity programme.</li> </ul> <p>Pointme.org.uk, a Burnley community “what’s on” website is being well received by community groups. Over 50 community groups, clubs, charities and projects have registered themselves on the website and have consequently put their events and activities on the calendar. In January we had 500 unique visitors to the site from people looking to see what is available in Burnley.</p> <p>Ground – UP is a project which is funded by £70,000 of external funding. It is a project that places artists within South West Burnley to work with residents and community groups to identify and celebrate the area’s characteristics and support the community in tackling social problems. Three artists have been employed so far, and have created a South West Burnley Streets museum, undertaken an awareness project around speeding and the effect it has had on the community and recorded some traditional folk songs with some elderly residents.</p>
--	--

PE3 Ensuring Services to vulnerable groups are protected wherever possible

Action	Progress
<p><b>PE3c-</b> Implement the Children and Young People's Plan for Burnley</p>	<p>The last truancy sweep has proven successful in identifying a number of attendance related issues. It has therefore been agreed to plan a number of truancy sweeps throughout the school year including a targeted school attendance week.</p> <p>The childcare sufficiency assessment has started for Burnley and will provide information on the availability of childcare places in Burnley in preparation of the free 2 year old places in September 2013.</p> <p>The recovery partnership group will now include a Hidden Harm focus to support children and young people affected by an adult’s substance misuse.</p> <p>Children and young people are now more</p>

	involved in the work of the trust and young people now sit on the Board.
PL3 Making the Borough Greener	
Action	Progress
<b>PL3c</b> - Implement the Borough's Green Space Strategy	<p>Green Spaces staff are working with park friends groups on a number of projects. New outdoor gyms are being installed in Ightenhill Park and Scott Park, funded by the friends groups and in Towneley Park the Friends have raised money to refurbish the water fountain in the flower garden and recreate the sculpture of the Deer using willow, whilst the original bronze Deer sculpture will go on display in the Hall.</p> <p>Work is progressing on the new Green Spaces Strategy. The recent the release of the 2011 census data will allow an assessment of open space provision to be made in relation to the population in different parts of the Borough.</p>
<b>PL3d</b> - Implement the Brun Valley Forest Park scheme	<p>Over the winter months approximately 1.5 kilometres of new multi-user paths have been constructed. This includes completion of the paths around Rowley Lake and new paths at the Queens Park Road entrance.</p> <p>The Territorial Army will be working with local unemployed young people on a number of projects in the Brun Valley Forest Park during April/May. These include a bridge widening scheme, and construction of new paths.</p> <p>The Jane Tomlinson Pennine 10K run on 2<sup>nd</sup> June has deliberately been routed through the Brun Valley Forest Park to show off this part of the town to residents and visitors taking part in the event.</p> <p>Brun Valley Artist in Residence. In October, Artist Lindsay Duncanson was based in Brun Valley Park. Dog walkers, hikers, fishermen, historians, young people, families, friends groups and naturalists were all engaged in the project and explained why they use the park, what is</p>

	important to them and they were encouraged to explore new areas of the park.. The findings from the project have become part of a book soon to be published. This has informed a Heritage Lottery bid and a further artist commission is coming to Burnley in June.
PF3 Improved Services	
Action	Progress
<b>PF3a</b> – Evaluate the options appraisal for the delivery of leisure and recreation facilities and decide whether to proceed with a Leisure Trust from April 2013	Now that the position on Business Rates is clear, Members will have had the opportunity to attend the all Member briefing on 21 March 2013. In addition the leisure options review was also considered at a Special Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2013. At the time of writing this report, the decision as to whether proceed in principle to a Leisure Trust will be made at the Executive meeting on 2 April 2013.
<b>PF3b</b> – Plan future delivery of core leisure and recreation facilities.	If the Executive approve in principle to move establish a Leisure Trust, a 12 month project plan will be implemented to ensure that the Trust is set up in a well-planned manner that will also ensure that staff and customers are kept up to date with developments over the coming 12 months.