



BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

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PORTFOLIO: LEISURE AND CULTURE

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR JOHN HARBOUR

DATE OF REPORT: 20/12/2012

Progress on Strategic Objectives

PE2 Developing opportunities and sustaining ambition of local residents	
Action	Progress
<p>PE2d- Use leisure activities to tackle a wide range of social objectives, including anti-social behaviour and health inequality.</p>	<p>A Christmas Cracker and Craft Fair was held on Sunday 9th December 2012 in Scott Park. The event was a great success and attracted approximately 1500 people including 400 children who visited Father Christmas. Radio Lancashire broadcast live from the event and other partners involved included Action for Children, NSPCC, Burnley Play Partnership and the Friends of Scott Park. The event was part funded by money from the Co-Op Community Fund which was awarded to Burnley Play Partnership.</p> <p>Plans are under way for a Children's Christmas Party to be held on Saturday 22nd December 2012 at the St. Peter's Leisure Centre. Various activities including sport, play crafts, roller disco and much more will be available.</p>

PE3 Ensuring Services to vulnerable groups are protected wherever possible	
Action	Progress
<p>PE3c- Implement the Children and Young People's Plan for Burnley</p>	<p>A total family approach to reduce hidden harm of substance misuse. Partnership work with Inspire drug and alcohol services and the emotional health teams including home visits where there is a child under 5 years. Proud parenting course developed and now delivered to parents who are in treatment to support them in identifying their strengths as parents.</p> <p>A range of training options have been offered for the revised Early years foundation stage. Collating and analysing EYFS data at a children's centre reach area level to support the development of more targeted work. In preparation for the free 2 year old places in 2013 we are working with LCC childcare team to establish if there is adequate childcare provision in Burnley.</p> <p>Parenting forum is undertaking an exercise to map provision and resources available in Burnley to deliver parenting courses. Involved in the consultation on the future menu of parenting programme to be offered across Lancashire.</p>
PL3 Making the Borough Greener	
Action	Progress
<p>PL3c - Implement the Borough's Green Space Strategy</p>	<p>The results of the recent Citizens Panel will help to inform development of the new Green Spaces Strategy. The results indicate that whilst 86% are satisfied with parks and green spaces over all, provision of outdoor sports facilities, play facilities and allotments are seen as priorities for improvement in provision, together with tackling dog fouling and out of control dogs. We have started to address this concern through the new Dog Fouling Enforcement Officer (see Councillor Hussain's report for more details).</p>
<p>PL3d- Implement the Brun Valley Forest Park scheme</p>	<p>Work has commenced on the second stage of path works around Rowley Lake and after Christmas work will start on the path network at the Queens Park Road entrance.</p>

	Consultation with local residents and other interested groups has taken place regarding the proposed wake boarding centre on Rowley Lake and a planning application is due to be submitted shortly. Meanwhile grant applications have been submitted to a number of funding organisations.
PF3 Improved Services	
Action	Progress
PF3a – Evaluate the options appraisal for the delivery of leisure and recreation facilities and decide whether to proceed with a Leisure Trust from April 2013	Members of the Executive took the opportunity to visit a local leisure trust and to meet with officials from both the trust and local authority to discuss how the operation works from both perspectives. This will assist in our decision making process, when the time comes.
PF3b – Plan future delivery of core leisure and recreation facilities.	As above

Other Items

The major refurbishment of the fitness facility is nearing completion at St. Peter's Leisure Centre. The facility has the latest Life Fitness Equipment and the whole area has been decorated and re-carpeted. The main reception and corridors leading up to the area have also been rejuvenated. The facility re-opens to the public as from Saturday 22nd December 2012 and an official opening will be undertaken in the New Year. Clear memberships have continued to grow and now stand at 2921, which is the highest number of members we have ever had. With the new equipment the push is on to get over the 3000 mark.

The Mechanics is in the middle of its Festive Events promotion, all four evenings have been sold out meaning over 1,000 people will have had there Christmas Party in the venue. This along with the successful Mayor's Civic Ball, in November shows that the Mechanics is gaining a reputation for staging large hospitality events.