



meeting ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

date 13 July 2009

agenda item number **6(b)**

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Show Racism the Red Card Civic Event

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a civic reception for approximately 200 people including school children, parents, carers, teaching staff and local authority representatives to be held week commencing 19 October 2009 at County Hall.

Information and advice

Background

2. The County Council is committed to combating the effects of anti-social behaviour and undertaking measures aimed at strengthening the unity that exists between all communities. The County Council has developed a community cohesion strategy and is supporting many projects that aim to:
 - Recognise and address tensions within and between communities
 - Recognise and address unacceptable behaviour and language
 - Facilitate greater understanding, participation and interaction between communities
 - Educate young people to respect differences and value diversity
3. The County Council has supported the "Show Racism the Red Card" campaign which has been promoted this year in schools, youth clubs and residential care settings throughout the county. In previous years the campaign had been targeted at schools exclusively through the Learning and Achievement Division. The decision was taken this year to widen the invitation to other settings in recognition that the Children and Young People's Department incorporates a wider range of services to young people offered through a number of Divisions. The campaign centres around an art competition which has become an established part of many schools' PSHE and Citizenship programmes. This involves settings being provided with an educational support pack which can be used to stimulate discussion around the subject of racism

and discrimination. Young people are then encouraged to design a poster or produce a poem or other piece which is then entered in our local competition. The winning entries are later submitted to the national competition. Staff and the young people themselves have responded enthusiastically and the quality of work produced evidences the impact this programme has on the young people who participate in the programme. The awards' ceremony is an opportunity to further encourage them and to recognise their achievements. Last year, Nottinghamshire won first prize in two separate categories in the national competition.

4. It is proposed that the County Council hosts a Civic reception for the children and young people participating in this project, their teachers and other support staff, parents, carers and other representatives from public services and community and voluntary sector organisations and the press (approximately 200 guests in total) to acknowledge the work of the young people and award prizes to the best pieces of work originated by the children (the winning entries will be selected by a panel of judges). The prizes will be provided through the national Show Racism the Red Card charity. The format of the reception would be a welcome by a representative of the County Council, brief speeches by the Chairman of the County Council followed by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People plus prize distribution, photo opportunity, networking and departure. This reception will be held week commencing 19 October 2009 at County Hall.

Statutory and policy implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. Attention is however drawn to the following:-

Financial implications

6. It is estimated that the cost of this reception, to include hot and cold drinks and sandwiches etc, would be approximately £1,500. The costs for this event can be met from the Children and Young People's Ethnicity, Culture and Achievement Service's budget.

RECOMMENDATION

7. That the County Council hosts a civic reception for Show Racism the Red Card Awards, week beginning 19 October 2009.

ANTHONY MAY

Corporate Director for Children and Young People

Legal Services' comments (LM/3.7.2009)

8. The Administration Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)

9. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background papers available for inspection

Nil.

Electoral division(s) affected

Nottinghamshire

M19C2421