

meeting ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

date 13 July 2011

agenda item number 7 (a)

REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & INFORMATION

Summer Reading Challenge Celebration

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to hold two events on 1 November 2011 at County Hall and 6 November 2011 at Worksop Library to celebrate the achievements of children who participated in the Summer Reading Challenge and to thank and recognise the time and effort of the volunteers who have assisted in running the challenge.

Information and advice

Background

2. The Summer Reading Challenge is an immensely popular and successful reading initiative. Now in its thirteenth year it involves up to 760,000 children aged four to 12 years via the UK public library network. It is created and run by The Reading Agency, the independent charity working to inspire more people to read more, and is supported by children's publishers.
3. Each year the challenge to children is simple. They are encouraged to read six or more books of their choice during the holidays with collectable incentives and rewards, plus a certificate and medal for every child who completes the challenge.
4. Last year over 10,000 Nottinghamshire children registered for the Summer Reading Challenge, with over 5000 completing.
5. In the last two years volunteers have been recruited to listen to children talk about the books they were reading on the Summer Reading Challenge. Their involvement has provided invaluable support in helping library staff to administer the challenge and expand the Library Service's capacity to spend time with children talking about their reading.

6. In 2010 the Library Service held two events at County Hall and Worksop Library at which children representing their libraries had their achievements recognised. It is proposed to hold two similar events this year.
7. The event at County Hall will be held in the Assembly Hall at County Hall, on Tuesday 1st November, 6pm-7.30pm. The event at Worksop Library will take place on Sunday 6 November, 2.00pm-3.30pm.
8. The events will comprise giving of certificates and a performance by a storyteller.
9. We anticipate approximately 100 children and parents will attend the County Hall event and approximately 60 children and parents at Worksop Library.

Statutory and policy implications

10. 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.

Financial implications

11. The estimated expenditure is as follows:

| | £ |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| West Bridgford | |
| Light refreshments/cake | 450 |
| Poet | 275 |
| Worksop | |
| Afternoon tea | 150 |
| Poet | 275 |
| Estimated Total | 1,150 |

This sum can be met from the Library Service budget.

RECOMMENDATION

12. That approval be given to support two Summer Reading Challenge celebration events as outlined in this report.

PETER GAW

Group Manager, Libraries, Archives & Information

Legal Services' comments (SLB/08.06.11)

13. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in the report. The Delegation to Administration Committee contained in Part III of the Council's Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, includes delegation to authorise hospitality to be offered by the County Council.

Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)

14. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 11 of the report.

Background papers available for inspection

Nil.

Electoral division(s) affected

Nottinghamshire

M19C2816