

17 June 2019**Agenda Item: 16****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND SOCIAL
WORK****AMBASSADOR CENTRE STATUS – AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PEAK
DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY AND ST MICHAEL'S
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report seeks approval for an agreement, attached as **Appendix 1**, between the Peak District National Park (PDNP) Authority and St Michael's Environmental Education Centre operated by Nottinghamshire County Council's Young People's Service, to become an Ambassador Centre for the PDNP.

Information

2. The Outdoor and Environmental Education (OEE) service offers high quality, and inclusive, outdoor and environmental education activities to children and young people, through its residential bases and day centres, which are in Nottinghamshire and in the Peak District.
3. For over 30 years St Michael's, in the popular Peak District village of Hathersage has provided outdoor learning opportunities for primary school children. The purpose of St. Michael's is to help raise educational standards by focusing on the primary curriculum, providing integrated learning tailored to suit the needs, interests, aspirations of each school and its pupils. Schools typically stay for 2 to 4 nights, with children engaged in a wide range of activities that emphasise personal development, learning, thinking skills, and personal, social and emotional skills in a different and challenging environment. Curricular activities include science, geography, history, PE and Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education as well as practical conservation with the National Park's Estate Warden.
4. The aim of PDNP's Ambassador Centres is to work closely with the National Park and promote the work they do to protect, conserve and educate about the National Park. It is proposed that St Michael's will become the first PDNP Ambassador Centre in the area, which may also be extended to include Ambassador Schools at a later date. The agreement will enable St Michael's as an Ambassador Centre to support the work of the PDNP to meet its aim, by educating children visiting the National Park whilst staying at the centre.

5. This agreement allows the centre to be involved with current and relevant conservation work within the PDNP and have access to a team of expert rangers caring for the environment. The PDNP will also offer training and support to staff based at St Michael's.
6. The PDNP will promote St Michael's as an Ambassador Centre, and Outdoor Learning provider. The PDNP has a good reputation, and the agreement will reflect positively on St Michael's as an Environmental Education Centre in Hathersage.

Other Options Considered

7. To continue operating without the PDNP Ambassador status and forego a chance to extend the Council's offer to children and young people, and the further publicity opportunities for the centre.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. To take advantage of the agreement between PDNP and the Council, to extend the Council's offer to children and young people and benefit from publicity and training offered by PDNP.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

10. There are no financial implications arising from becoming an Ambassador Centre.

Implications for Service Users

11. The agreement will enhance the work of St Michael's and offer children and young people the unique opportunity to appreciate and understand the importance of National Parks.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee approves the agreement, attached as **Appendix 1**, between the Peak District National Park Authority and St Michael's Environmental Education Centre, operated by the Council's Young People's Service, to become an Ambassador Centre for the Peak District National Park.

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Constitutional Comments (EP 30/05/2019)

12. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 03/06/19)

13. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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