

Culture Committee

Tuesday, 08 December 2015 at 14:00

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

1	Minutes of the last meeting on 3 Nov 2015	3 - 6
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below) (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary)	
4	Creswell Heritage Trust Partnership Award 2015 - 16	7 - 10
5	Sherwood Landscape Partnership Scheme - Establishment of Temporary Post	11 - 14
6	Service Update for the Period 12 October to 15 November 2015	15 - 18
7	Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and Country Park - Progress Update	19 - 20
8	Performance Reporting (1 July - 30 September 2015)	21 - 24
9	Country Park Events 2016	25 - 28
10	Work Programme	29 - 32

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.
 - Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx



Meeting Culture Committee

Date 3 November 2015 (commencing at 10.30am)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

John Knight (Chairman) Pauline Allan (Vice-Chairman) - A

Chris Barnfather

Alan Bell

Richard Butler

John Clarke

John Cottee

Maureen Dobson - A

Sybil Fielding - A

Tom Hollis

Roger Jackson – A

Liz Plant

Mike Pringle

Parry Tsimbiridis

Ex-officio (non-voting)
A Alan Rhodes

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Pete Barker - Democratic Services

Peter Gaw -Group Manager, Libraries, Archives & Information

Sally Gill -Group Manager, Planning Derek Higton -Service Director, CFCS

Philippa Milbourne -CFCS

Carol Newman -Team Manager, CFCS
Colin Pettigrew -Corporate Director, CFCS

Simon Redfern -Communications

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 22 September 2015 were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Dobson (other County Council business). Councillor Tsimbiridis replaced Councillor Alding Councillor Plant replaced Councillor Fielding and Councillor Butler replaced Councillor Jackson, all for this meeting only.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

On behalf of the Committee the Chairman welcomed Colin Pettigrew, the new Corporate Director, Children, Families and Cultural Services, to his first meeting of the Committee.

SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 29 JUNE TO 31 AUGUST 2015

RESOLVED 2015/049

That the update on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people be noted.

RUFFORD COUNTRY PARK AND BESTWOOD COUNTRY PARK – FUTURE OPTIONS

RESOLVED 2015/050

- That the undertaking of soft market testing to gauge the potential viability of establishing alternative arrangements for the future delivery of the catering and commercial offer at Rufford be approved, with resultant recommendations to be considered by Committee at its March 2016 meeting.
- 2) That work continues to develop and support the Friends of Bestwood Country Park group to further develop their engagement in making the park more sustainable.
- 3) That the current onsite ranger services and grounds maintenance arrangements at Bestwood Country Park be reviewed, with a view to generating further efficiency savings.

THE ROBIN HOOD FESTIVAL 2015 AND PROPOSALS FOR 2016

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked the staff, especially those in the Communications Team, and the volunteers involved in this successful event.

RESOLVED 2015/051

1) That approval be given for the Robin Hood Festival for 2016 to take place from 1st - 7th August 2016.

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2) That the road closure and local parking restrictions carried out at the 2015 event be repeated in 2016 (subject to Police and Highways Authority approvals).

CO-LOCATION OF MISTERTON PARISH COUNCIL INTO MISTERTON LIBRARY WITH SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP LIBRARY

RESOLVED 2015/052

- 1) That the co-location of Misterton Parish Council into the Misterton Library building be approved.
- 2) That a community partnership library be developed with Misterton Parish Council.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2015

RESOLVED 2015/053

That the update on the Summer Reading Challenge 2015 reading initiative be noted.

REVIEW OF LIBRARY STOCK RECOVERY PROCEDURES

RESOLVED 2015/054

- 1) That the 1.54 fte post of stock collector be deleted from the Libraries establishment
- 2) That additional electronic notices be generated to encourage the return of overdue stock.

WORK PROGRAMME

A workshop to be organised before the meeting of the Committee in March 2016 to provide informal feedback on the progress made in examining the future options for Rufford Country Park and Bestwood Country Park.

An update report to be taken to the meeting of the Committee in March 2016 regarding the work undertaken with the Friends of Bestwood Country Park.

RESOLVED 2015/055

That the committee's work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 11.52am

CHAIRMAN

Report to Culture Committee



Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

CRESWELL HERITAGE TRUST PARTNERSHIP AWARD FOR 2015/16

Purpose of the Report

- 1. To seek Committee approval for continued partnership funding of £38,000 for the Creswell Heritage Trust in support of the operation and running costs of the onsite museum and education centre at Creswell Crags and the outreach programme for 2015/16.
- 2. To seek Committee approval in principle for the provision of continued funding for Creswell Heritage Trust, in accordance with their agreed Business Plan and subject to achieving key performance indicators, for the period to March 2020.

Information and Advice

- 3. Creswell Heritage Trust is the body responsible for the operational management of the facilities at Creswell Crags. The Crags sit on the border of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and are recognised as one of Britain's most important cultural, archaeological and scientific sites,. They are at the northern limit of human occupation during the ice age and contain Britain's only example of rock art in Church Hole Cave. A visitor centre, including a museum, shop, cafe and educational facilities, opened on the site in June 2009. In 2012/13 Creswell Crags was included on the UK tentative list for future World Heritage nominations to UNESCO (the United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture).
- 4. Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Councils have jointly provided funding to support the operational costs of the facilities since the formation of the Trust in 1991 and are joint guarantors on the lease, along with the land owner, Welbeck Estates. In addition the County Councils provide the Trust with officer support, particularly in legal services, human resources and conservation.
- 5. In 2013/14 and 2014/15, both County Councils agreed to provide an enhanced level of funding of £50,000 per annum to support the Trust, on the proviso that this would return to £38,000 from April 2015 and that the Trust produced a robust Business Plan to secure its long term sustainability.
- 6. Following a successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Transition Funding, which is available for organisations wanting to achieve significant strategic change in order to become more resilient and sustain improved management of heritage, the Trust engaged the National Trust to assess the current situation and provide a business plan for the next

- three years. This plan has now been agreed by the Trust's Council of Management and some of the key actions are already being implemented.
- 7. The implementation of the Business Plan is, in part, predicated on continued funding of £38,000 from both County Councils for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18, reducing to £25,000 each in 2018/19 and £12,500 each in 2019/20. If the recommendations of the Business Plan are successfully implemented, it is anticipated that the County Councils will no longer be required to provide core funding contributions from 2020/21 onwards.
- 8. The Business Plan sets out a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) for monitoring progress against targets and in order to release local authority funding from 2016/17 onwards, the Trust will be expected to report on the achievement of two critical KPIs. It is proposed that the critical KPIs will provide evidence of asset management (including site maintenance, health and safety and risk management) and the achievement of profiled income versus expenditure. Progress reports on the two KPIs will be brought to Committee on a quarterly basis.

Other Options Considered

9. The option of not continuing to fund the Trust has been considered. This has not been taken further at this time, however, in view of both Local Authorities acting as lease guarantors. In the event of the Trust ceasing to operate, responsibility for managing Creswell Crags would rest with the two County Councils. The option of reducing the level of support at this time has also been considered but it would be likely to have a very damaging impact on the Trust's ability to manage the site in the short term, until the Trust is able to fully implement the recommendations of the agreed Business Plan.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

- 10. Nottinghamshire County Council's partnership contribution is part of the core funding of the project. The continuation of County Council financial assistance to Creswell Heritage Trust is subject to a similar contribution from Derbyshire County Council.
- 11. Continued funding from the two County Councils, albeit reducing to zero after five years, is considered critical to the implementation of the Business Plan and to ensuring a sustainable future for the Trust that is not reliant on local authority contributions.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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

The funding is contained within the base budget for the Conservation Team for 2015/16. It is proposed that any continued funding, as set out in paragraph 7 above, would also be met from the Conservation Team base budget, subject to any future budgetary constraints and the Trust successfully achieving its agreed KPIs.

Implications for Service Users

Creswell Crags is an important part of the wider culture and heritage of Nottinghamshire and the County Council partnership funding helps ensure that it can continue to operate for the benefit of its visitors. In particular, the Trust organises a broad educational programme, in which schools are invited to participate.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

Creswell Crags has a significant implication for our environmental history, heritage and culture where the partnership funding currently makes a critical contribution.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Culture Committee:

- 1) confirms partnership funding of £38,000 to Creswell Heritage Trust to support its operating costs for the financial year 2015/16, subject to a similar level of award being made by Derbyshire County Council.
- 2) agrees in principle to the future funding contributions, in accordance with Creswell Heritage Trust's agreed Business Plan and subject to satisfactory reporting of progress against critical KPIs.

Tim Gregory Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes, Team Manager Conservation.

Constitutional Comments (SMG 22/11/2015)

The proposals in this report fall within the remit of this Committee.

Financial Comments (SES 20/11/15)

The financial implications are set out in the 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



Report to Culture Committee

8th December 2015

Agenda Item: 5

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

SHERWOOD LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME – ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY POST

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for the establishment of a temporary Community Archaeology post to support the development stage of the Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Information and Advice

- 2. In May 2014, the County Council submitted a Stage 1 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnerships programme on behalf of a broad group of partners. The application, entitled "From miner to Major: the real Sherwood Forest", was approved by the national Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Board in a highly competitive process in October 2014. The grant was approved subject to meeting a small number of additional conditions. Formal Permission to Start was received in May 2015 and the Stage 1 development phase got underway with the recruitment of the Project Development Manager from September 2015.
- The Development Stage application made provision for six pieces of work to be taken forward by external consultants, including the production of a built / cultural heritage report to inform project development and the engagement of consultants was approved by Culture Committee in January 2015.
- 4. One of the additional conditions of the grant from HLF, however, was to ensure that any archaeology proposals would add value to and complement natural and built heritage work that is currently underway in Sherwood Forest. Further advice established that this would need to be achieved through improved co-ordination, integration and the development of best practice guidance.
- 5. The Framework put forward to address this condition recommended the establishment of an expert advisory panel to provide best practice guidance for community archaeology, to advise on the development of the archaeology programme and monitor proposed archaeology projects for the Sherwood Landscape Partnership Scheme.
- 6. The Nottinghamshire Archaeology Panel (NAP) has now been established and includes representatives of the University of Nottingham, Southwell Diocese, Historic England, the Council for British Archaeology, the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers and the County Council. A research framework to guide the major themes, building on those identified in the Stage 1 application, is currently being developed.

- 7. Whilst the establishment of the Panel obviates the requirement for consultancy support, it has been identified there is still a need to provide dedicated support for the work of the Panel, particularly for community engagement, to raise public awareness and support for local heritage and to develop project proposals within the overarching research framework. It has been identified, however, that the use of contractors to undertake this development work could preclude their ability to tender for any delivery stage contracts.
- 8. It is, therefore, proposed to establish a temporary Community Archaeologist post within the Conservation team to provide support for the work of the Nottinghamshire Archaeology Panel during the development stage of the Sherwood Landscape Partnership Scheme. The post would be employed by the County Council and report to the NAP.
- 9. The job description, person specification, salary and timeframe for the temporary Community Archaeologist post are subject to agreement by the Panel and HLF, with sign off by the Sherwood LPS Board. It is envisaged, however, that the salary will be at a similar level to existing Community Archaeology posts, namely Grade 4 and that the post will be for a period of 6 8 months in the first instance. Recruitment and procurement will be bound by HLF and County Council procedures and it is anticipated that the recruitment will be completed by the end of March 2016. The costs of the temporary post are contained within the grant funding.

Other Options Considered

10. The County Council could choose not to employ the staff directly, with a view to this role being undertaken by one of the partner organisations or by a commercial contractor. The former would, however, significantly increase the risk to the authority in its agreed role as accountable body. It would also not result in a reduction to the staff input required, as the levels of monitoring required to ensure compliance with HLF's terms and conditions would increase as direct staff reports and management decreased. It has been identified that the employment of a contractor to undertake the development work could also preclude their ability to tender for any delivery stage contracts.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The County Council is the lead partner and accountable body for the Sherwood Landscape Partnership Scheme. As such, the authority will be directly responsible for ensuring that the Development Stage funding is defrayed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant and that the Stage 2 application is successfully developed and submitted within the agreed timescales. The proposal will assist in meeting the conditions required by HLF.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service 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

The funding for the temporary Community Archaeologist is contained within the Heritage Lottery Fund grant for the Stage 1 Development phase.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the establishment of a temporary Community Archaeologist post to support the work of the Nottinghamshire Archaeology Panel in the development of the Landscape Partnership Scheme through to the successful submission of a Stage 2 application, subject to agreement with HLF.

Tim Gregory Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes, Conservation Team Manager (0115 9932592, heather.stokes@nottscc.gov.uk)

Constitutional Comments [LM 23/11/15]

The recommendations in the report fall within the Terms of Reference of the Culture Committee.

Financial Comments [SES 23/11/15]

The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

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Report to Culture Committee

8 December 2015

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 12 OCTOBER TO 15 NOVEMBER 2015

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people.

Information and Advice

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, ARTS, INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY LEARNING

Tuxford Community Partnership Library

- 2. The re-opening of Tuxford Library in its new location within Tuxford Primary Academy on Tuesday 3 November marked the second Nottinghamshire Library to become a Community Partnership Library and the first within an academy. The library moved from its old premises within a listed Grade 2* eighteenth century former Grammar School and reopened in its new, shared and refurbished premises after just one week of a closure period.
- 3. The Library Service has invested in new shelving, carpeting and some furniture, all of which have increased the accessibility of library materials and enhanced the overall customer experience. In addition, the Academy has redesigned its entrance and integrated a new reception area to welcome library customers and increase accessibility for customers with mobility concerns.
- 4. On the opening day six class visits took place, over 200 people visited and by the end of its first full week of opening the numbers of new members equalled 25% of the library's 2014-15 total. Since reopening, several lapsed customers have also returned and rejoined. There have been very many positive comments including:
 - It's an excellent idea that you have moved onto a site where you can do so much good and it will promote the reading habit from a young age
 - Isn't it lovely and warm in here it's lovely, much better than the old place!
- 5. This move will initially save on building and maintenance costs and in addition the Library Service is working on enhancing the volunteer offer to increase volunteering opportunities and reduce associated staffing costs.

The 12th Annual Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Libraries' Readers' Day

- 6. Some 128 adult readers spent the day celebrating books and reading at our annual Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Libraries' Readers' Day on Saturday 7 November.
- 7. Hosted this year at County Hall, and run in partnership with the City Council, this wellestablished and much-loved event gives people the opportunity to hear from high profile authors and enjoy reading-related talks and workshops.
- 8. The event featured writers including Judith Allnatt, author of The Poet's Wife and The Silk Factory, and the Orange prize-winning and Man Booker shortlisted writer Linda Grant, author of When I Lived in Modern Times and Upstairs at the Party. Talks were enjoyed on a variety of reading topics including PG Wodehouse, Harper Lee, Literary Lies and Hoaxes and Alan Sillitoe. The event also featured stalls, including those selling literary-related gifts from the County Libraries' gift shop range and our local heritage publications.
- 9. Audience comments about the day included:

"The whole day was very special, thought-provoking and stimulating."

"A joyful event."

"Loved hearing from authors and becoming interested in books I never would have thought of reading."

"Can't wait to come back next year."

Performances in libraries

- 10. October half term saw the second season of productions touring libraries in Nottinghamshire as part of the Arts Council England funded Children's Pop Up Theatre project. Norwich Puppet Theatre visited Beeston, Mansfield Central, Newark, Worksop and West Bridgford libraries. They presented a puppet show based on the children's picture book *Oddly* written by Joyce Dunbar.
- 11. Over 400 people attended performances and were very positive about the production and valued being able to see theatre performances in their library. Audience comments included:

"Brilliant to have this culture come to us"

"Brilliant. Innovative performance engaging for both children and adults "

"Wonderfully inventive and immersive for the kids. Makes me feel very lucky to have our library."

12. A further 200 people took part in supporting puppet-making workshops that took place in 12 libraries across the County. Children and adults worked together to create puppets inspired by the Oddly story.

- 13. The author of the book, Joyce Dunbar, also visited Mansfield Central library in advance of the performances and talked to three classes of children from a local school about her writing and entertained them with a reading from her latest book.
- 14. A further three seasons of performances are planned before April 2016. The project aims to provide high quality and accessible theatre performances for children and families and build on the strong links between reading and theatre, allowing children to see how stories can be brought to life.

COUNTRY PARKS AND GREEN ESTATES

Country Parks

- 15. Rufford Abbey and Sherwood Forest Country Parks traditionally offer low cost family activities for the October Half Term, and as ever this year's activities were well supported.
- 16. Nearly 3,000 children enjoyed Rufford's week long Halloween Trail around the park and 350 participants braved the dark to take part in Sherwood Forest's Halloween spooky woodland walk, with another 50 taking part in free half term 'make it' sessions.
- 17. "Seed Hunt Sunday" at Sherwood attracted over 200 people, collecting acorns which youngsters will take home and grow into mini Sherwood oak trees.
- 18. Meanwhile, a party of some 30 employees of Boots PLC carried out a day of hands on conservation work at Cotgrave Country Park, in a work party organised by the County's Green Estates team.

RECOMMENDATION

1) That the update on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people be noted.

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families & Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Derek Higton Service Director Youth, Families & Culture

T: 0115 9773498

E: derek.higton@nottscc.gov.uk

C0735

8 December 2015

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

SHERWOOD FOREST VISITOR CENTRE AND COUNTRY PARK – PROGRESS UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report and the accompanying joint presentation by the RSPB and the Council is to provide the Committee with an update on progress following Committee approval in July 2015 to enter into legal agreements with the RSPB as partner to a) design, build and operate a new visitor centre at Sherwood Forest Country Park and b) decommission the existing facilities.

Information and Advice

Background

- 2. Culture Committee approved the commencement of a procurement exercise at its meeting on 1 July 2014 to seek a partner to develop, build and operate a new visitor centre for Sherwood Forest Country Park, and to manage Sherwood Country Park.
- 3. Following a detailed procurement exercise, the RSPB was selected as the preferred bidder. Culture Committee, at its meeting on 21 July 2015, approved the Council entering into legal agreements with the RSPB as its partner.
- 4. Contracts were signed with the RSPB on 16 November 2015. The presentation highlights the progress made and the next steps with this project.

Other Options Considered

5. The report is for noting only.

Reasons for Recommendations

6. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and legal advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

8. The impact on service users (visitors) will be positive as the new visitor centre will provide a much needed "fit for purpose" visitor experience.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) That Culture Committee notes the progress made on entering into legal agreements with the RSPB as partner to design, build and operate a new visitor centre at Sherwood Forest Country Park, to decommission the existing facilities, and the next steps.

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture T: 0115 9773498

E: derek.higton@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

9. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SS 18/11/15)

10. 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.

Future of Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre – report to Culture Committee on 1 July 2014 (previously published)

Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and Country Park – future development and management arrangements – report to Culture Committee on 21 July 2015 (previously published)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

AII.

C0733

Nottinghamshire County Council

Report to Culture Committee

8 December 2015

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (1 JULY – 30 SEPTEMBER 2015)

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of performance during the second quarter of 2015/16 financial year, covering activities from 1st July 2015 to 30th September 2015.

Information and Advice

- 2. At the meeting on 5 November 2012, the Committee agreed to receive a quarterly report, which reviews performance across the full range of cultural services provided for children, young people and families that fall within its remit. These reports will be in addition to other reports that may be presented to the Committee from time to time providing detailed performance-related information about specific cultural services initiatives or projects.
- 3. This report provides the quarterly performance data covering the period 1st July to 30th September 2015.

Performance Reporting for Quarter 2 (2015/16)

- 4. As agreed at the meeting on 5 November 2012, quantitative performance reporting to the Committee will be measured via a combination of:
 - outcome based key performance indicators (KPIs)
 - key service indicators that will be measured against objectives within each of the cultural services business plans
 - a summary of key achievements across the relevant service areas.
- 5. The list includes a number of KPIs that reflect priorities within the Council's Strategic Plan, and which will also therefore be reported to the Policy Committee.
- 6. The performance data for the period 1st July 2015 to 30th September 2015, as described above, is set out in the table at **Appendix A.** This provides a summary across all service areas for the second quarter of this financial year.
- 7. The activities, key performance indicators and service level indicators which are reported here have been selected by cultural services managers to provide information on the key development activities planned for 2015/16, plus a summary of performance achieved across the key service areas.

Other Options Considered

8. The process for presenting performance information set out in this report is in line with corporate guidance, which has itself been established following an appropriate analysis of alternative options.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. The recommendation for quarterly reporting to Committee, and the KPIs that will form the basis of the report, is in line with the established processes of reporting and publishing performance information across all of the services within the Children, Families and Cultural Services Department.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the Committee notes the performance of the Council's cultural services during the period 1 July – 30 September 2015.

Jayne Francis-Ward Corporate Director Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Matthew Garrard Team Manager, Performance, Intelligence and Policy T: 0115 9772892

E: matthew.garrard@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

11. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SS 20/11/15)

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

AII. C0730



Youth, Families and Cultural Services **REPORT TO COMMITTEE**

Our Performance from July 2015 to September 2015 **Quarter 2**

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Country Parks & Green	Implement the Green Estate Strategy (agreed by Culture Committee in December 2013)	•
Estates	Develop new operating options appraisals for Sherwood County Park, Rufford Country Park and Bestwood Country Park	•
Cultural & Enrichment	Finalise new operating / management arrangements for community sports and arts teams	•
	Develop and deliver sustainable Community Partnership Libraries (CPLS)	•
Libraries,	Implement a new arm's length operating model for LAI&L services by April 2016	•
Archives, Information & Learning	Modernise public libraries	•
	Modernise Nottinghamshire Archives	•

Country Parks & Green Estates Service	Yr Target	July – Sept 15	On Target?
Number of visitors to our Country Parks – Sherwood Forest & Rufford Abbey Country Parks(Quarterly)	820,000	453,945	✓
Increase Country Parks commercial income (Q)	£2,500,000	1,151,441	✓
Number of volunteers that Green Estates worked with (Q)	700	582	✓
Number of volunteer hours generated by Country Parks (Q)	5400	2681	✓
Service user and customer satisfaction level – Sherwood Forest Country Park (Annual)	>90%	81%	0
Service user and customer satisfaction level – Rufford Abbey Country Park (A)	>90%	Annual	✓
Libraries Archives Information and Learning Service	Yr Target	July – Sept 15	On Target?
The number of visits to Libraries (Q)	(2,800,000)	1,475,540	✓
The number of virtual visits to Libraries (Q)	(1,000,000)	639,264	✓
The number of Library events and activities (Q)	(7,000)	4,579	✓
The number of Library loans (Q)	(3,000,000)	1,640,604	✓
The number of new Library members (Q)	(28,000)	16,459	✓
The number of adult learners (target for ACLS is set for academic year Sept to August each year) (Q)	(7,500)	9,359	✓
Percentage of adult learners who started the course that met their expectations (Q)	(93%)	97%	✓
The number of Newlinc sessions (public computer access & Wi Fi sessions) (Q)	(250,000)	140,149	✓
The number of visits to Archives (Q)	(4,000)	2,523	✓
The number of virtual visits to Archives (Q)	(300,000)	179,341	✓
The number of Archives learning activities/events and number of attendances (Q)	(50 / 1,000)	44 / 949	✓
Successfully deliver file requests for the RMS within time delivery standard (A)	95%	100%	✓
Achieve Education Library Service schools buyback rates (A)	(70%)	Annual	✓
Service user and customer satisfaction levels achieved across the service area (A)	(90%)	Annual	✓



Report to Culture Committee

8 December 2015

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH, FAMILIES & CULTURE COUNTRY PARK EVENTS 2016

Purpose of the Report

1. This report informs the Committee of the proposed event programme for Rufford Abbey, Sherwood Forest and Bestwood Country Parks in 2016.

Information and Advice

- 2. All three country parks traditionally offer an events programme. This is designed to encourage visits to the parks, to support onsite commercial activity, to engage visitors with heritage and nature, to support Nottinghamshire tourism, and to provide leisure entertainment for service users. They also generate positive PR for the Authority.
- 3. Events range from simple but popular self-guided trails, which can bring high numbers of family visitors to the park for a low outlay (e.g. the 2015 Halloween Trail at Rufford Abbey with over 3,000 participants) to major festivals such as the Robin Hood Festival at Sherwood Forest. Small scale events based around nature aim to interest and engage visitors in the park's flora and fauna, whilst some events are purely for seasonal entertainment, such as band concerts.
- 4. Events can increase "dwell time" on site (and thus commercial sales) or boost visitor numbers. Not all are provided direct by parks staff. The falconry offer at Rufford Abbey for example, operates in the park by licence, and pays a rental. At Bestwood Country Park, the "Friends of" group facilitates a number of small scale but popular park events, backed by a community run café.
- 5. There will be some changes to how events are staged at Rufford Abbey post 2015/16 because temporary planning permission for seasonal marquees is unlikely to be granted in the proximity of a historic listed building. This limits summer marquee use to 28 days in total.
- 6. In 2015 the country parks Events Officer post ceased as part of that year's required budget saving. Event programming and support has now been absorbed into the role of Assistant Site Managers and Park Rangers.
- 7. In times of reducing Local Authority budgets, opportunities to reduce costs are being embraced. For example, the main living history event at Rufford Abbey this year will be the multi-period Historical Bazaar event, where the majority of event costs are offset by a stall fee to traders. This provides a major event for only the cost of first aid and portaloos.

- 8. The service has also worked successfully with external local partners to help fund public events. For example, the 2015 Woodland Festival at Sherwood was assisted by sponsorship from a local construction company, brokered by the Sherwood Forest Trust,
- 9. For some events, alternative delivery arrangements are now in place. For example the Earth and Fire Ceramic Fair 2016 is to be delivered by an external freelance events specialist.
- 10. Many events would not be feasible without strong support from volunteers, in particular the Robin Hood Festival, where volunteers undertake a vital role in assisting with marshalling and crowd management.
- 11. The following seasonal events are planned:

Rufford Abbey	Sherwood Forest	Bestwood Country Park
Easter Trail – a week long self-guided family trail encouraging exploration of the park during Notts school half term. Small charge.	Easter Trail around the woodlands and Visitor Centre. Small charge. Nature and woodland themed walks and talks, inspiring visitors to understand, appreciate and respect ancient Sherwood Forest. Free events.	Spring nature walks – ranger led walks including information about trees, plants & wildlife. Free, or small charge.
Historical Bazaar – May 2015 A large scale two day living history festival incorporating historical traders, demonstrations and historical re-enactment. Free entry. Special event car park charge applies.	Living History weekends. Authentically costumed and equipped re-enactors depicting past eras of Sherwood Forest, staged within the woodland. Free event.	Saturday openings of the historic Winding Engine House by volunteer group and community café refreshments. Free entry.
Earth & Fire Ceramic Fair – Major three day event in June, showcasing high end ceramics from British and continental potters. Free entry. Special event car park charge applies.	The Robin Hood Festival – iconic week long family fun celebration of Nottinghamshire's famous hero. August. Free entry, special event car parking charge applies.	Social engagement activities to combat loneliness e.g. "Knit & Natter," "Board Games afternoon", at the Dynamo House. Free events.
Summer brass band concerts – a programme of traditional musical entertainment for summer Sundays. Free events.	Major Oak Woodland Festival – a major weekend celebration of woodland crafts and skills, featuring traders and demonstrations. Sponsorship funded last year.	Specialist nature themed group activities e.g. Dawn Chorus. Walk for bird enthusiasts. Small charge.

Hawks of Steele falconry static display – spring & summer weekends.	Halloween Event – a themed event taking place in the woodland at dusk. Charged.	Health Walks every month. Free.
Halloween Trail – spooky outdoor family trail and reward, through the October half term.	Sparkling Sherwood – continuing an extremely popular family evening event. Held over three evenings. Charged.	Goddess Camp – week long community led women's / family celebration.
Christmas Trail and Santa's Grotto at Rufford Mill. Modest charge.	"Santa Paws" charity dog grotto for visitors and their canine friends. St Nicholas' Christmas Grotto Within the Visitor Centre Modest charge for each.	Christmas celebration and 'thank you' party for park conservation volunteers. Free to active volunteers who have assisted in work programmes.

Other Options Considered

12. The report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

13. The events programme aims to provide a varied and appropriate selection of seasonal entertainment, enhancing visitors' enjoyment of the park and (where appropriate) stimulating visitor numbers and 'dwell time' to ensure good take up of income generating catering and retail facilities.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

15. The events programme is traditionally well patronised by visitors and refreshes the offer for regular park visitors. It assists in family cohesion by offering enjoyable days out at a modest cost.

Financial Implications

16. Event costs are part of the country parks revenue budget. There has been no overall change in event spending since last year. Wherever feasible, opportunities are taken to render events financially self-sustaining, for example, by incorporating fees to traders.

17. It should be noted that the size and scope of country parks events is determined not only by the amount of finance available, but the capacity of the staff.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the proposed event programme for Rufford Abbey, Sherwood Forest and Bestwood Country Parks in 2016 be noted.

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families & Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Linda Hardy Visitor Services Manager, Rufford Abbey Country Park T: 01623 821328

E: linda.hardy@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

18. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SS 20/11/15)

19. The financial implications of this report are contained within paragraph 16 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0732



Report to Culture Committee

8 December 2015

Agenda Item: 10

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

To consider the Committee's work programme for 2015/16.

Information and Advice

- 2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
- 3. The **attached** work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time.

Other Options Considered

4. None.

Reason for Recommendations

5. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the Committee wishes to make.

Jayne Francis-Ward Corporate Director, Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Pete Barker Democratic Services Officer T: 0115 977 4416

Constitutional Comments (HD)

7. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (NS)

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

Background Papers

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.

CULTURE COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16

Report Title	Brief summary of agenda item	<u>Lead Officer</u>	Report Author
26 January 2016			
Service update	For noting	Derek Higton/ Sally Gill	Various
Fees and Charges 2016/17 – Country Parks and Green Estate	Annual determination	Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
Fees and Charges 2016/17 – Libraries, Archives & Information	Annual determination	Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
Rufford Country Park – customer satisfaction survey		Derek Higton	Carol Newman
Change to staffing establishment for Cultural Services	For decision	Derek Higton	Mawa Sall
Children's Promise – public library services offer for children and young people		Derek Higton	Carol Newman
A Strategy for Nottinghamshire Libraries: annual progress report: 2015		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw/Linda Turner
Heritage Tourism review		Sally Gill	Heather Stokes
8 March 2016			
Service update	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Performance reporting (Quarter 3 2015/16)	For noting	Celia Morris	Matt Garrard
Rufford Country Park and Bestwood Country Park future options – progress report		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
Adult & Community Learning Service Annual Plan and Fees Policy 2016/17		Peter Gaw	Ian Bond
Community Archaeology Annual Review		Sally Gill	Heather Stokes
19 April 2016		·	
Service update	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Annual review of the County Council Cultural Strategy		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
Historic Environment Record online		Sally Gill	Heather Stokes
7 June 2016			
Service update	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Performance reporting (2015/16)	For noting	Celia Morris	Matt Garrard

Report Title	Brief summary of agenda item	Lead Officer	Report Author
Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre update		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
National Water Sports Centre - annual update	For information	Derek Higton	1 ctor Gaw
12 July 2016			
Service update	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
To be placed			