

# report



meeting            ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

date                30 January 2008

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE ACTING STRATEGIC DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

## **Youth Sport Trust International Inspirations 2012 Local Authority (LA) Officer visit to Brazil**

### **Purpose of report**

1. To seek approval for two LA officers to travel abroad for more than four days, enabling them to accompany 12 Nottinghamshire schools attending the first phase of an International Inspirations programme, organised by the Youth Sport Trust and The British Council. The proposed period of travel will be 2 March to 9 March 2008. The destination is Recife, in North East Brazil.

### **Information and advice**

2. Under the Travel and Accommodation Policy and other arrangements approved by the full Council on 7 October 2004, this Committee is the appropriate body for considering/approving attendance at a range of events and the travel and accommodation requirements arising therefrom.
3. This report describes a proposal which is within the Committee's decision-making powers and Members are asked to consider whether attendance at the event should be approved (including number of representatives), together with any necessary travel, accommodation or other arrangements.
4. The information included within the following sections of the report should ensure compliance with normal decision-making rules. If attendance is approved, the details referred to below will be used to compile the public register, which is available on the Council's website.

## Reasons for attendance

5. Youth Sport Trust has invited two LA officers to accompany 12 Nottinghamshire schools who have been selected to participate in the first phase of the International Inspirations 2012 programme.
6. Approval is sought for two LA officers to attend. The officers seeking approval are:

<b>Role at Nottinghamshire County Council</b>	<b>Role in the visit</b>
Head of Secondary School Improvement	Support the overarching theme of raising attainment and achievement in the whole school through physical education
Advisory Teacher PE and Sport	This officer has been involved selecting the schools involved in this project and can provide expertise in Sport and PE for schools. The Brazilian sport and education departments are keen to learn from what has been achieved within Nottinghamshire through using PE and sport as a way of developing young people. This followed an initial presentation in July in Nottinghamshire to the Brazilian delegation by the officer.

7. Background details of the visit and the benefits of two LA officers to attending are set out below:-
  - In preparation for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and in response to the Government's aim '...to see millions more young people in Britain and across the world participating in sport, and improving their lives...', UK Sport has designed an international programme called International Inspirations.
  - With sport at the heart of the project, the aim is to deliver the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Programme Objective 4.8: "Work with those in other countries, particularly those in development, to promote sport excellence and participation".
  - Nottinghamshire has been selected to become involved in the first phase of development of this international project, with 12 secondary schools being selected to work with 12 schools in North East Brazil. During the visit, Nottinghamshire schools will meet with staff and students at their link school in Brazil and begin to identify joint priority areas for development through the Inspirations programme.
  - Youth Sport Trust who are managing the International Inspirations programme have invited two LA officers to accompany the schools on the visit. The Advisory Teacher PE and Sport, has been

involved from the start in the selection and briefing of schools and would be a real asset to the group in terms of her utilising her expertise in PE and Sport. The Head of Secondary Improvement and Senior School Improvement Advisor, would also be invaluable in support of developing the overarching theme of raising attainment and achievement in the whole school through physical education.

- A key priority of the Learning and Achievement Service is to raise aspiration and achievement levels at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. This project will have a significant impact in supporting schools to raise aspirations through partnership work with an International Dimension.
- The LA is committed to supporting the International Dimension in schools in line with the DCSF International Strategy that states that all schools should have developed international links by 2010. This visit will help develop and strengthen other curriculum links between Nottinghamshire and Brazilian schools, as well as sporting links.
- The 12 Nottinghamshire schools taking part in the project are: Elizabethan High School, Portland Comprehensive, Tuxford Comprehensive, Valley Comprehensive, Serlby Park, St Giles Special School, Dukeries College, Magnus C of E Foundation School, Minster C of E Comprehensive, Joseph Whitaker Foundation School, Arnold Hill School and Technology College, Dayncourt School Specialist Sports College.

### **Travel and accommodation requirements**

8. All foreign travel and accommodation arrangements associated with this visit will be done by the Youth Sport Trust so on this occasion, no travel or accommodation arrangements will be made by Members Services. Where known, costs associated with this visit are as follows:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>To be met from</b>
Air Fair (each)	£N/A	Youth Sport Trust
UK Travel / Subsistence	£50 estimate	School Improvement Service Budget
Accommodation / Meals	£N/A	Youth Sport Trust
Travel Insurance	£50 estimate	School Improvement Service Budget

The total estimated costs to Nottinghamshire County Council for this visit are £100 for two officers. This will be met from the School Improvement Service Budget which for 2007/08 is £6,550,510.

9. The party will depart from the UK on 2 March 2008 to Recife in North East Brazil and return to the UK on 9 March 2008. It is likely that the officers will share UK transport with the group of teachers travelling, so arrangements may not be booked through Members Services. Stated costs are an estimate at the time of this report.

### **Statutory and policy implications**

10. This report is necessary to ensure compliance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation policy and current arrangements for approving attendance at conferences, seminars and Member Training events. The needs of individual travellers will have been considered when compiling the report and, where departures from the policy are recommended, Members should consider the reasons given.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

11. That approval is given for the two LA officers to accompany 12 Nottinghamshire schools attending the first phase of the International Inspirations programme from 2 March to 9 March 2008.

#### **ANTHONY MAY**

Acting Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services.

### **Legal Services' comments (LM/11.1.2008)**

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

### **Strategic Director of Resources' financial comments (TR)**

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

### **Background papers available for public inspection**

Letter to the Service Director for Learning & Achievement from the Youth Sport Trust, inviting two LA officers to accompany the twelve schools on the visit.

### **Electoral division(s) affected**

Nottinghamshire

M19C1993