

meeting	ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE		
date	13 September 2011	agenda item number	8 (b)

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CULTURAL SERVICES

Members' visit to the Outdoor and Environmental Education Residential Centres

Purpose of report

1. This report proposes a visit by Members to two Outdoor and Environmental Education residential centres on 11 October 2011.

Information and advice

2. The County Council's Outdoor and Environmental Education Service provides a range of education support to schools and other groups working with young people including two residential outdoor education centres. From time to time Members have been invited to view the work of the Service.
3. This proposed visit is to the residential centres at Hagg Farm and St Michael's, both located in the Peak District National Park in Derbyshire. Members will have the opportunity to view the centres and see pupils involved in environmental and outdoor activities. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.
4. A particular invitation will be extended to those Members who have not seen the work of the centres first hand. The visit will aim to illustrate the quality and value of this provision in extending and enriching classroom based learning, in developing pupils' understanding of sustainability themes, personal and social skills, self-confidence, working independently, taking responsibilities, self-esteem and motivation for learning.
5. It is useful that Members understand the unique nature of this provision, which links directly with the pupils' curriculum and is highly valued by schools particularly as Children, Families and Cultural Services develop within the County Council.

Statutory and policy implications

6. 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

7. The anticipated cost of the visit will be about £250. This will cover transport, lunch and refreshments and will be dependent on the final numbers attending which will be known by the deadline of 18 September 2011. Costs will be met from the Outdoor and Environmental Education Service budget.

Crime and disorder implications

8. Learning experiences at the centres contribute to pupils' personal and social education and the development of respect for themselves and others; and to sustainable schools and the environment.

RECOMMENDATION

9. That approval be given for a visit by Members to the day and residential environmental education centres on 11 October 2011.

ANTHONY MAY

Corporate Director for Children, Families and Cultural Services

Legal Services' comments (SG/4.8.11)

10. The Committee is the appropriate body 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 approval for expenditure on travel or associated costs for which approval is required in accordance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy.

Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)

11. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 7 of the report.

Background papers available for public inspection

Letter and draft programme dated 19 July 2011 to all Members of the County Council from Councillor Philip Owen Cabinet Member for Children and young People's Services.

Electoral division(s) affected

Nottinghamshire

M19C2857