

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

CULTURE AND SPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN, 14 NOVEMBER, 2019

Present: Councillor A Simpson (In the Chair), Councillor L Berry; Councillor A Forsyth, Councillor C Pike, Mr J Knowles and Ms K Penman.

Apology: Mr D Cook and Mr C Sutherland.

Officers: Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire; Corporate Finance Manager; Service Manager, Lifelong Learning and Leisure (Tim Stephen); Service Manager, Lifelong Learning and Leisure (Stephen Brown); Principal Solicitor (Governance) (Lauren Cowie), Senior Committee Officer, Legal and Governance (Niall David); Arts and Heritage Manager (Saskia Gibbon) (by Skype); Projects and Performance Manager (Lifelong Learning and Leisure (Anne Pearson); and Gary Paterson (High Performance Swimming Coach).

CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair, Mr David Cook, Councillor Anne Simpson took the Chair for the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair, Councillor Simpson, opened the meeting and advised that there would be a brief adjournment to allow members of the Sub-Committee and officers who were at the Business Services Committee, which had just concluded, to join the Sub-Committee shortly.

1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The Chair asked members if they had any interests to declare, in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct. No interests were declared.

2A. PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

In taking decisions on the undernoted items of business, the Sub-Committee **agreed**, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010:-

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (2) to consider, where an equality impact assessment has been provided, its contents and to take those into consideration when reaching a decision.

2B. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Sub-Committee **agreed**, in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items

specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the undernoted paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Item No	Paragraph No of Schedule 7A
10	8
11	4

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 30 MAY, 2019

On consideration of the circulated Minute of Meeting of the Sub-Committee of 12 September, 2019, members **approved** it as a correct record, after which the Minute was signed by the acting Chair.

4. FRASERBURGH FILM PRESENTATION

The Sub-Committee **noted** a film presentation on Additional Supports Needs (ASN) Swimming provision in Aberdeenshire.

5. ACROSS THE GRAIN

Saskia Gibbon, Arts and Heritage Manager, gave a presentation on “Across the Grain”.

She explained that the Arts and Heritage Team piloted a community based festival called Across the Grain in October 2018, as part of a partnership with Creative Scotland, to strengthen cultural infrastructure and celebrate Doric distinctiveness. The presentation went on to outline Against the Grain 2019 and explained that it would be reviewed and evaluated. Thereafter an outline for Against the Grain 2020 would be drafted following that evaluation.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the position.

6. SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS 2020/2023

There was circulated a report dated 30 October, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children’s Services on Swimming Development Proposals 2020/2023.

The report set out work undertaken, based on analysis of ten years of data and recent benchmarking, to support the transformation of the current Learn to Swim (LTS) scheme delivered through Live life Aberdeenshire. The aim was to ensure that the staffing structure for swimming development could deliver ambitious proposals for income generation.

The report outlined the key proposals in the overhaul of the Learn to Swim programme. It highlighted that the programme would increase from 40 to 48 weeks and the lesson length would increase by 33% (30 to 40 minutes).

It was anticipated that the outcomes would: improve efficiency of filling spaces to achieve targets; improve retention levels; increase unit costs; and develop the swimming membership scheme.

The Sub-Committee **agreed** to:-

- (1) acknowledge the commercial opportunity to be realised through the prioritisation of development and provision of quality swimming development programmes; and
- (2) endorse the implementation of a revised staffing structure to achieve agreed targets and deliver improvements in quality of provision and customer experience.

7. PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019/20: QUARTER 2

With reference to the Minutes of Meetings of (1) the Communities Committee of 21 February, 2019 (Item 10), when approval had been given to a number of performance targets for Live Life Aberdeenshire for 2019/20 and (2) the Sub-Committee of 18 April, 2019, there was circulated and **noted** a report dated 23 October, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services (1) which contained the Quarter 2 performance measurements (July – September 2019) for Live Life Aberdeenshire, and (2) highlighted the impact information on the opening of Banchory Sports Village.

8. PROPERTY UPDATE

Tim Stephen, Service Manager (Lifelong Learning and Leisure) provided an oral briefing on £60k being utilised to improve the customer facing services of five facilities.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the position and that more specific detail would be provided to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

9. BUSINESS PLAN – NEXT STEPS

The Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire provided an oral update on the next steps for the Business Plan.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the position.

At this point the Sub-Committee adjourned for a procurement training session delivered by Lauren Cowie, Principal Solicitor (Governance).

10. WORK PLAN: FITNESS EQUIPMENT

There was circulated a report dated 1 November, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services seeking approval to carry out a tender exercise for the procurement of standardised new fitness equipment across Live Life Aberdeenshire facilities to replace existing equipment over four years old.

The Sub-Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to endorse the benefits of reprovisioning fitness facilities with new equipment, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) to authorise officers to progress a mini tender as detailed within the report;
- (3) to the item on the work plan as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report; and
- (4) not to reserve approval of the business case for the item on the work plan.

11. GRANT FUNDING 2020/2021 TO 2022/2022

There was circulated a report dated 24 October, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which outlined the proposed scheme of grant funding to be distributed through Live Life Aberdeenshire.

The Sub-Committee **agreed** to:-

- (1) the introduction of the Positive Action Grant Scheme from April 2020, as outlined in the report;

- (2) acknowledge that the delivery of the grant scheme commencing 2020/21 be dependent upon budget decisions in line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy; and
- (3) defer consideration of Live Life Aberdeenshire Grant Funding 2020/21 to 2022/23 until a special meeting of the Sub-Committee on 3 December, 2019, subject to a more detailed report being submitted, providing detail on the process, data and feedback from current key partner organisations which were reviewed as part of the key partner core scheme that ceased in 2019/20.

12. WORK PLAN – LARGE PRINT AND AUDIO BOOKS FOR LIBRARY SERVICE

There was circulated a report dated 7 November, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which sought approval to enter into a new framework agreement for the procurement of large print and audio books for Live Life Aberdeenshire's Library Service; and to approve expenditure from that framework.

The Committee, having considered the item on the Work Plan, **agreed** to:-

- (1) approve the item on the Work Plan identified as falling within the remit of the Sub-Committee; and
- (2) approve the Business Case for the item on the Work Plan in Appendix 3 to the report.