

## SPORT DEVELOPMENT WORK UPDATE

### Housing and Health Advisory Committee - 4 October 2016

Report of Chief Officer Communities & Business

Status: For Information

Key Decision: No

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**Executive Summary:** To provide Members with an update of the externally funded sport development projects in the District.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of** reducing health inequalities and improving health and wellbeing

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Michelle Lowe

**Contact Officer** Lesley Bowles, Ext. 7335

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**Recommendation to Housing And Health Advisory Committee:** That the report be noted.

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#### Reason for recommendation:

This Council has successfully bid for external funding for sports development projects in the district. This work supports residents to become more active, reduce obesity and social isolation, whilst enabling local people to have better access to new sporting opportunities, particularly in rural areas of the District.

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#### Introduction and Background

- 1 In 2012, this Council become a host Council for the London 2012 Paralympic Games. The sports development work in this report has been developed as part of the ongoing legacy work from the 2012 Games. Health services acknowledge that physical activity is a valuable tool to help with the prevention, treatment and management of long term health conditions.
- 2 Some wards in the District suffer from higher than national average unemployment rates, higher levels of poverty and poor health. These are often overlooked, but contribute to very large gaps in health inequalities. Poor transport links add to the challenges of people living in isolated communities accessing sports and recreation facilities. The rural nature of the District means some communities often have little or no access to sporting opportunities. This work aims to take community sports activities

into communities to address this identified gap, particularly in rural areas of the District.

- 3 One of the priorities in the 2016/2019 Community Plan is to reduce health inequalities and improve health and wellbeing for all. To do this, this Council aims to target, support and deliver activities for adults and families to increase physical activity levels and reduce obesity.
- 4 This Council has been successful in receiving external funding to deliver community sports development projects to help deliver the priorities as set out in point 3 above.

### **Sports Development projects in Sevenoaks District**

- 5 With two year's funding (£60,000) from Sport England's Community Sport Activation Fund, the 'Be Inspired Be Active' project was launched in January 2014. The project aims to increase uptake and participation in sports activities in rural wards of the northern parishes in the District. This project provides regular sports and physical activity sessions to local people who have difficulty accessing sports and leisure facilities, with a particular focus on activities that whole families can access.
- 6 Sportivate - the Council received funding from Kent Sport (£2100) to provide inclusive archery sessions to attract inactive young people from Sevenoaks District to take up Archery as a sport. Additionally, Sportivate funding has been awarded (£1200) to provide mountain biking courses for young people at Riverhill. These will be delivered up to March 2017. We also assisted Milestone School with a successful Sportivate funding bid for £2,017 and continue to work with them to deliver an inclusive archery project.
- 7 Community sports are integrated into other projects to add value and provide additional outcomes. For instance, community sports have been utilised as part of Dunton Green community development project to deliver targeted sporting activities to residents and engage people in outdoor physical activity and recreation.
- 8 Members will be updated at the meeting with a presentation on this work.
- 9 Work continues to identify other funding sources to enable a more co-ordinated approach between health, sport and housing to run joint community projects targeting vulnerable families and older people in the District.
- 10 Going forward, this Council is supporting a number of schools to apply for external funding for sporting activities and continues to identify other funding opportunities to enable more local people to benefit from sporting activities.

## **Key Implications**

### Financial

- 11 There are no financial implications for the Council associated to this report. Officer co-ordination and administration costs are incorporated into external funding bids for this work, this Council has received additional external funding totalling £63,300 to co-ordination and deliver these projects.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

- 12 There are no legal implications for the Council associated to this report.

### Equality Assessment

- 13 No decision is required as part of this paper and therefore no perceived impact on end users.

### Safeguarding

- 14 Safeguarding arrangements are in place for all projects to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **Conclusions**

- 14 Members are updated on recent and ongoing sports development work in the District delivered through additional external funding to support project work.

**Background Papers:** None

**Lesley Bowles**  
**Chief Officer Communities & Business**