

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL - WORK PROGRAMME

Set out below are the key issues which form the Panel's on-going work programme. The topics covered reflect the following:

- the development of a new policy for recommendation to the Cabinet
- scrutiny of the process of the way in which decisions have been or are being made
- reviewing issues of concern to local people or which affect the Borough
- review of performance and delivery of specific services
- monitoring and scrutinising the activities of others
- items raised by Members and agreed by the Panel for consideration
- review of policies and proposals developed by others

The purpose of the work programme is to identify the way in which topics are being dealt with and the progress made with them. An update will be submitted to each meeting of the Panel. New issues are highlighted in the programme.

LEISURE AND YOUTH PORTFOLIO ACCOUNTABILITY AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The terms of reference of the Panel will include all these issues contained in the Leisure and Youth portfolio. The functions set out in the Scheme of Delegation are:

<p>Leisure and Recreation Facilities</p> <p>To deal with all matters relating to the provision and management of leisure facilities and the improvement, repair and maintenance of all buildings and equipment in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parks, woodlands, recreational grounds, open space and play areas • allotments <p>sports and recreation initiatives (including childcare and play)</p> <p>To deal with matters relating to the management and operation of major leisure facilities owned and/or operated by the Council and to consider initiatives for the provision of new leisure facilities in the Borough. In particular, to examine issues in</p>	<p>To deal with all matters relating to leisure marketing, heritage and tourism.</p> <p>To deal with issues relating to the letting and monitoring of contracts relating to the functions in the portfolio.</p> <p>To develop, maintain and promote those services and facilities provided for the Borough and the wider area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basingstoke Canal • Blackwater Valley Countryside Management Service
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<p>relation to:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldershot Pools Complex and Lido • Alpine Snowsports Centre • Farnborough Leisure Centre • Princes Hall • Southwood Golf Course <p>To carry out the Council's functions in respect of consultative arrangements on library services and community schools.</p>	<p>To carry out the Council's functions relating to grounds maintenance, subject to contractual issues where the function is provided jointly with other services being dealt with through the Environment Portfolio.</p>
<p>Town Twinning</p> <p>To deal with the social and cultural aspects of town twinning.</p>	<p>Other Matters</p> <p>To deal with all matters relating to the administration and enforcement of the Council's byelaws relating to the functions of the portfolio.</p>
<p>Rushmoor in Bloom</p> <p>To deal with all matters, in consultation with the Rushmoor in Bloom Forum, relating to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual Rushmoor in Bloom Competition, including promotion, publicity and sponsorship, programme of events and presentation of prizes; • participation in and arrangements for the Council's entry to the Southern England in Bloom Competition; • applications for commemorative floral displays. 	<p>To develop, implement and monitor the Council's strategies for addressing youth issues and the needs of young people in the Borough.</p> <p>To work with education providers to promote Life-long learning.</p>

WORK PROGRAMME – OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

INTRODUCTION

At the mid-cycle meeting held on 23rd August 2004, there was a preliminary discussion on developing the work of the Panel in context of the recent review of overview and scrutiny carried out by South East Employers. The meeting examined how to structure the future work and specifically dividing the Panel's work programme into three main types of issues:

- Ongoing items for monitoring and scrutiny including regular performance management information
- A limited number of projects for in depth investigation
- Items for information

In addition, requests can be made to discuss key decisions shown on the forward plan in advance of the relevant Cabinet or Council meeting.

PROJECTS DEVELOPED BY THE PANEL

The Panel agreed to identify 3 – 4 issues which would form major projects for the Panel. For each, a task and finish group has been established and the Panel was asked to agree the following:

- The objective of the project
- When it would be completed
- A lead member drawn from the Panel
- Members making up the task and finish group

There is also a regular discussion at the mid-cycle meeting on some of the major leisure developments that are being considered for the future.

SCRUTINY & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

These items will be discussed on a regular basis by the Panel in order to monitor progress and identify any specific issues. It is proposed to develop a range of performance information which will then be reported to the Panel on a regular basis, i.e. every 4 – 6 months.

DATE RAISED	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
01.02.16	Lido Review	The Panel were updated on the ongoing work of the Lido Review Working Group and noted the way forward.	The Panel would be kept informed of progress with the report.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
07.11.16		The Panel were updated on the current activities of the Lido Working Group and the recent soft market testing activities carried out over the summer months. A report was due to be considered by the Directors' Management Board, the leisure and Youth Panel and the Cabinet in early 2017.		
19.03.18		At the meeting in March 2017 the Panel would consider the current specifications of the Lido contract in preparation for retendering in 2019.		

08.09.14	Runways End	A meeting was held at Runways End where Members had a tour of the facility and received a presentation from the Centre Manager on the operational arrangements and plans for making the facility more accessible to the public in the future. Performance information was also provided to the Panel.	The arrangements at Runways End would continue to be monitored.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
19.03.18	Football Clubs	Following a request at the mid cycle meeting an update is attached to the work programme (Page 9)	Further update would be provided as required.	Ian Harrison, Corporate Director, Tel: (01252) 398400 Email: ian.harrison@rushmoor.gov.uk
21.04.16	Academies	At the Council meeting on 12th April 2016 the following Notice of Motion was referred to the Panel for consideration: "This Council supports the stand taken by all groups at the LGA over the academisation of all schools sought by Government as being neither relevant nor appropriate to the education, community involvement and educational outcomes for students at primary or secondary level in Hampshire and in Rushmoor and represents a manifest interference in the running of said schools."	A Member briefing on the consultation on the failure of Connaught School has been arranged for 19th September, 2016. A briefing paper is being prepared on the issue and this will examine the options of the school which includes the move to an academy.	Karen Edwards, Corporate Director Tel; (01252) 398800 Email: karen.edwards@rushmoor.gov.uk

06.06.16	Rushmoor Arts Hub	The Panel received a presentation from Mr. Tony McGovern, Project Manager and Mr. Barney Jeavons, Steering Group Chair of the Rushmoor Arts Hub who described the process of setting up the Hub and the funding opportunities for young people in the Borough.	The Panel requested that an update on the project be given at a future meeting.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
07.11.16	Rushmoor Local Children's Partnership	The Panel received a presentation on the partnership and requested some further information relating to school places for children with special educational needs and teenage pregnancy data by ward.	The Panel would be updated on the requests for further information at the Mid Cycle meeting.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
07.11.17	Southwood Golf Course	A joint meeting was held on the 7th November, 2017 with the Environment Policy and Review Panel to consider making a recommendation to the Cabinet on the recent consultation on the closure of the Southwood Golf Course.	A recommendation was made to the Cabinet to defer any decision for twelve months while all other options be pursued, these included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying Government • Seeking special dispensation for the area of Rushmoor in the way it is treated for SANG land • Examination of alternative SANG provision to provide the necessary mitigation for housing development in Rushmoor 	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

INFORMATION ITEMS / ISSUES TO BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW

These following items are provided for the information of the Panel. They have been considered in the past and will be monitored from time to time to consider whether specific work is required:

- **Cultural Strategy** – The Panel has a monitoring and review role.
- **Southwood Community Centre** – The future of the Centre is being kept under review although in the short term the future of the Centre is assured. A report is to be made to the Panel when required.
- **Princes Hall** –The Panel will receive regular reports on performance and activities.
- **Farnborough Leisure Centre/ Aldershot Pools Complex/ Southwood Golf Course** – The Panel receives the Annual Service Reports from DC Leisure on these facilities to enable it to monitor activities and performance.
- **Southwood Woodland** – The Panel has been monitoring progress with the project and a report will be made once the planning process has been completed.
- **Alpine Snowsports** – The Panel will monitor performance and activities from time to time.
- **West End Centre** – The Panel will monitor operations at the centre and consider any changes if they are proposed.
- **Aldershot/Farnborough Libraries** – A report will be made to the Panel if any changes are proposed to the Libraries.

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

SCHEDULE OF AGENDA ITEMS – 2017/18

19th March, 2018	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground Strategy• Leisure Contracts
4th June, 2018	Monitoring and Scrutiny
10th September, 2018	Monitoring and Scrutiny
12th November, 2018	Monitoring and Scrutiny
Dates/Items to be confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Leisure• Academies• Tourism• Allotments• Town Twinning• Public Halls and Community Centres

Football Club Update – March 2018

Both football clubs were awarded a 3 year rent and rates relief support package as set out in Cabinet Report CD1740 and agreed on 25th July 2017.

The report details the position regarding the clubs and how the Council had sought to support both of the Clubs through periods of Administration that date back to 2013 and can be accessed in full above.

The package agreed in July 2017 provides both Clubs with similar levels of financial support on a sliding scale for 3 financial years – ending on 31st March 2020. From the 1st April 2020 both Clubs will be paying their full rental charges (with no relief) and be receiving 80% relief of rates.

This compares to the previous position negotiated back in 2013 whereby full rent relief and 50% rates relief had been awarded for a 3 year period. Farnborough FC have also been clearing off the sum of £50k in rental arrears that the previous failed club had accrued up to the point of their failure.

Both Clubs were delighted with the support packages which have enabled them to build on their respective successful transitions out of Administration, and both have now remained in consistent stable ownership since 2013.

Both Clubs have been in close contact with the Council over the past year as they have continued to explore opportunities to develop commercial opportunities on their sites preferably taking a partnership approach with the Council. Despite positive and ongoing dialogue – at present no firm proposals are on the table.

Farnborough FC suffered severe vandalism during the 16/17 season and continue to experience difficulties on and around the site especially late evenings and at night. The Council has included a small capital project item in its 18/19 capital budget – recently approved at Council – to undertake site security improvements at the ground. This will include the installation of gates and fencing to ensure that vehicles are kept off the site outside of non-operating hours. The Club will work with the Council to ensure that the gates are opened and closed appropriately to ensure access to the College students for parking and for nearby allotment holders.

Both Clubs continue to meet the costs of the necessary safety requirements of their various leagues which are demanding. Aldershot has a longer term concern about this aspect due to the age of their ground. Farnborough, despite playing at a lower level, has more modern stands.

On the playing field Aldershot are challenging for promotion back to the Football League whilst Farnborough, having been promoted one division last season, are consolidating their position this season in mid-table.

A fuller report or update on both clubs can be provided as required.

Ian Harrison
Corporate Director