

LEISURE AND CULTURE SUB COMMITTEE

(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

17 October 2017

Chairperson: Councillor M.Crowley

Councillors: M.Ellis, S.Renkes, R.L.Taylor and D.Whitelock

Officers In Attendance A.Thomas, P.Walker and Miss.C.Davies

1. **MINUTES OF THE LEISURE AND CULTURE SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 11TH JULY 2017.**

The Scrutiny Committee noted the minutes.

2. **SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18.**

The Scrutiny Committee noted the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme with the following amendment.

It was noted that there was an error with the officer name that was allocated to reports on the Forward Work Programme and that the name Chris Millis be amended to Andrew Thomas.

3. **EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE CABINET BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18.**

The Scrutiny Committee noted the Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board Forward Work Programme.

4. **MARGAM COUNTRY PARK BUSINESS PLAN**

Members received information on the implementation of a new Business Plan for Margam Country Park.

It was noted that the implementation of the business plan may have workforce impacts, it was noted that when this is the case they would be reported in subsequent reports to Members.

Members asked that when the costs are set for weddings in the orangery are they commercial prices and whether they could be increased by 10% as example to have a better income. Officers confirmed that they are set at a commercial price as they have to be comparable with other venues. It was noted that Margam Orangery is having a better income from Christmas parties and conferences.

Members noted that a grant application for wet weather parking had been approved at Margam Country Park.

Members queried that there isn't enough advertisement on Margam Country Park. Officers highlighted that in the Business Plan it had been proposed, that in order to exploit the income generating opportunities, increased capacity is required, as all staff currently employed are focussed on service delivery. Additional human resources are required, specifically a professional marketing officer. This officer will operate 50% of the time developing the artistic offer and marketing at the Princess Royal Theatre and 50% promoting the programme and facilities at Margam Country Park/ Orangery.

Members highlighted that marketing is fundamental however, wanted assurance that it would not take over the importance of Education. Officers confirmed that they have the same priorities and advised members that a report was coming to a future Leisure and Culture Sub Committee which will include all the information on the educational element of Margam Country Park.

Members asked if the unions had site of the report. Officers confirmed that they had not seen the report, but they would be consulted once the business plan had been approved for implementation.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposal to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

5. **LOCAL AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2016-2017**

Members received an update on the outcomes from the Local Authority Partnership Agreement 2016 -17 (LAPA).

Members commended and noted that in 2015 Sport Wales carried out the second all Wales school sport survey and Neath Port Talbot retained its position of number 1 out of 22 Local Authorities for children's participation in physical activity.

Members commended the work that the PASS team have delivered on the National Exercise Referral Scheme.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

6. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

7. **FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2017 -18 CELTIC
LEISURE (EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 14)**

Members received an update on the performance of Celtic Leisure during the first quarter, in comparison to the submitted ten year business plan.

Members queried how the Annual Sickness level was 2.4% and not 1.2%. Officers informed Members that they would get clarification with the relevant officer and get back to Members.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

CHAIRPERSON

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