

Mobile Skate Park – Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sports Partnership

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To ask Members to endorse the transfer of the mobile skatepark facility to the Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sports (WAYS) partnership, following the decision of the Executive on 2nd February, resolution shown below:-

- The Council will no longer provide the mobile skate park service, with the equipment being transferred to the Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sports Partnership.
- It be noted that this transfer will have no further cost implications for the Council.
- A further report providing details of the transfer agreement will be provided to Members.

1.2 In addition, that Members address the concerns raised by Overview & Scrutiny on 16th February that Members had insufficient information regarding the partnership to approve the transfer of the mobile skatepark and that an additional report providing information on WAYS should be submitted to the Executive for consideration.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members endorse the transfer of the mobile skatepark facility to the WAYS partnership.

2.2 That Members support a one-off contribution of £1000 to assist WAYS in the set-up costs for this project.

2.3 That Members delegate authority to the Community & Environment Strategic Manager and the Legal Services Team Leader to progress the transfer.

3. Corporate Priority

3.1 Equality & Diversity (including Young People & Older People).

3.2 Healthy Lifestyles

4. Background Information on WAYS Partnership

4.1 In 2003 the community planning process identified the need for more alternative sports activities to be provided for young people.

4.2 Local authorities and voluntary partners across agreed to form a partnership to address the identified need. The WAYS partnership is led by Wiltshire County Council's, Youth Development Officer.

4.3 In June 2004 funding support was provided from the district councils, WCC, Wiltshire Towns, Community First and Youth Action Wiltshire.

4.4 North Wiltshire District Council confirmed a contribution of £5,000 per year starting from 2005/06. This was agreed at Council on 22 February 2005 as part of the budget setting process.

- 4.5 The partnership submitted funding bids to Sustain the Plain, Sport England (the Children's Investment Fund) and Swindon BC. Sustain the Plain confirmed funding support in August 2005 and in January 2006 Sport England also confirmed funding support. WAYS can now recruit a co-ordinator post to deliver the projects and activities identified by the partnership. The post is being advertised in Leisure Opportunities and DB8 (debate) in February 06.
- 4.6 The partnership agreement covers allocated co-ordinator time to deliver activities within their area. The time equates to the level of funding provided. For North Wiltshire the co-ordinator post will spend 52 days per year delivering activities across the district. These activities will include increasing and ensuring maximum usage of the static and mobile skate parks as well as undertaking an audit of the alternatives sports activities available.

5. Terms of Transfer

- 5.1 The Council is proposing to transfer the facility to the WAYS partnership.
- 5.2 The terms of the transfer are:
- 5.2.1 The ownership of the mobile skatepark and safety equipment is transferred free of charge to the WAYS partnership to operate, insure, use and maintain.
- 5.2.2 The Council provides a one-off payment of £1,000 revenue to offset the initial set-up costs and to help transfer the equipment around in the first year.
- 5.2.3 The equipment will be used within North Wiltshire for a minimum of 8 months in the first year, with subsequent frequency being agreed annually with the partnership.
- 5.2.4 The locations of the facility to be at the discretion of the partnership.
- 5.2.5 The Council continues to store the equipment until the first venue has been found and secured
- 5.2.6 The Council provides storage facilities if needed throughout the year if for any reason it can't be used.

6. Financial Implications

- 7.1. The WAYS partnership has requested a one-off payment of £1,000 to assist with set-up costs. This funding, if agreed, can be met from the existing Sports Development Budget.
- 7.2. On transfer there would be no further financial implications for the Council. Any ongoing expenditure will be picked up by the WAYS partnership.

8. Community and Environment Implications

- 8.1. The provision of skatepark facilities meets a clearly identified community need. If Members agreed to this option, it will ensure that the facility can be made available for users in North Wiltshire.

9. Equal Opportunities Implications

9.1 None

10. Human Resources Implications

10.1 There are no direct human resources implications to the authority.

Documentation used in the preparation of this report

- Background papers
- Executive minutes 2 February 2006.

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC MANAGER TO THE EXECUTIVE – 9th MARCH 2006

Report Author: Graham Wilson
Customer & Business Support Team Leader
Tel: 01249 706420
email: gwilson@northwilts.gov.uk