

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

16 March 2009

Report of the Chief Leisure Officer

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES 2009

Summary

This report updates Members on the arrangements for the 2009 Easter and Summer Activate programmes and the 2009 Summer Playscheme.

1.1 Easter Activate

1.1.1 Arrangements for the 2009 Easter Activate Programme have now been finalised with the activities running from 6 April to 17 April. The programme offers young people aged 8-16 the chance to try out some more unusual activities. This Easter activities include martial arts, fencing, jewellery making, Indian dance, art, cookery, drama, film making, outward bound, windsurfing, trampolining and golf.

1.1.2 The Easter Activate brochure has now been distributed to schools, libraries and leisure centres as well as being sent out to those on a mailing list. Copies of the brochure will be available at the meeting.

1.2 Summer Activate

1.2.1 This year's Summer Activate will run from the 27 July to 21 August with the proposed programme of activities currently being developed. Results from the 2008 Activate Survey will be used to help inform what activities are offered this year.

1.2.2 Members of staff who have worked on previous Activate programmes are being contacted to confirm their availability for 2009, with the necessary CRB checks being completed.

1.3 Summer Playscheme

1.3.1 This year's scheme will run for four weeks from Monday 27 July to Friday 21 August 2009 at 14 venues across the borough and will cater for children between 4 and 11 years. 13 venues have now been confirmed, with arrangements for the final venue at East Malling, currently being considered as detailed below.

- 1.3.2 Members maybe aware that St James The Great Primary School in East Malling is moving into a new building and that the old school, where we have previously held the East Malling Playscheme will be undergoing refurbishment this summer. It is the intention to operate the Playscheme in the new School building, and liaison is currently ongoing with Ofsted and the Headteacher. The new school building is due to be completed and ready for use in May 2009, and due to the potential of delay, consideration is also being given to the use of The Malling School as a back up venue. I will update Members further at the meeting.
- 1.3.3 In terms of operational partners involved in the Summer Playscheme, Rainbow out of School Clubs (Hildenborough and West Malling), Barnies Day Nursery (Hadlow and Tonbridge Baptist Church) and Poppy Pre-School (Aylesford) have all formally confirmed their availability to operate these venues once again in 2009. Written confirmation is awaited from Little Un's Day nursery regarding the operation of the Snodland venue.
- 1.3.4 In accordance with OFSTED regulations 79 members of staff will be required to work directly for the Council on the 2009 Summer Playscheme. Invitations to return have been sent to last year's staff with early indications showing more than 50% wishing to work on the scheme again.
- 1.3.5 Training will be provided for staff as required, with the aim of providing at least two first aid qualified workers and one staff member trained in the use of epipen at each centre. Additional training such as Child Protection, Behavioural Management and Special Needs for those working as 1-1 Support Assistants will also be provided.

1.4 Legal Implications

- 1.4.1 The Council has powers to undertake this activity by virtue of Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972. Under the requirement of the Children Act (1999) and in accordance with the Council's Child Protection Policy all staff will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Record Bureau check no older than 12 months.

1.5 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.5.1 The cost of the activities will be met from the 2009/10 Youth and Play Development revenue budget.

1.6 Risk Assessment

- 1.6.1 A risk assessment of all the activities and venues is undertaken in liaison with the Council's Health and Safety and Insurance Officers. Each of the facilities used will be requested to produce adequate insurance certificates and risk assessments.

1.7 Policy Considerations

1.7.1 Young People, Healthy Lifestyles.

Background papers:

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Nil

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