



PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR COMMUNITIES, SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

TOPIC – APPROVAL FOR SPENDING ON A COMMISSION CONTRIBUTING TO DELIVERY OF THE ACTIVE COMMUNITIES CHANGE PLAN

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Corporate Director (Governance), the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination.

Contact Officers:

Case Officer: Jen Anderson – janderson@winchester.gov.uk

Committee Administrator: Nancy Graham, ngraham@winchester.gov.uk

SUMMARY

This Decision Notice seeks approval for the allocation of £7,500 from the Commissioning Budget to fund the promotion and support of parish celebrations across the District in the run up to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This project is in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy and is included within the Active Communities Change Plan 2011-2014. It also supports the principles and objectives of the Council's 2012 Framework, '[Making the most of 2012](#)', which was adopted in 2008.

The London Olympic and Paralympic Games will be a once in a lifetime occasion. Significant celebrations are already being planned for the town of Winchester, many of which include participation by residents from across the District. However, it has been a key objective to ensure that the District's 47 parishes are given the opportunity to celebrate in their own way, bringing the Games as close to home as possible.

The aim of the Parish Celebrations project, which was suggested that a public consultation meeting as early as June 2007, is to see at least 80% of the parishes creating a focus for celebratory activities. The project will assist local people to identify a new or existing festival event in their locality and build on this to capture people's imaginations and inspire them to celebrate the values, the history or the sheer excitement of the Olympic Games. It is intended that these events will run from May to September 2012 and that sport and physical activity and cultural activities will play a prominent role in each of the parishes. It is hoped that these celebrations will provide local communities with the tools to continue organising high quality, well attended celebrations in future years as part of the Olympic Legacy.

DECISION

That £7,500 is allocated for the commission of an effective project management and support service up to and including the period when celebrations will take place and the Assistant Director (Active Communities) be authorised to make the detailed arrangements, including any partnership arrangements should external funding become available.

REASON FOR THE DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The Council does not have the capacity to undertake this work within the Sports and Physical Activity Team, which has been leading on the planning for 2012 activities. Although the Team currently benefits from a 2012 '1 Team' Assistant, the Parish Celebrations are a discrete and potentially time-consuming initiative which requires some specialist events and marketing expertise. It provides an excellent opportunity for commissioning from another organisation or individual, which may bring a novel approach or 'added value' in a way that another internal secondment, would not be effectively placed to do. As such, it was proposed as a possible early commission in the Cabinet paper CAB 2153 - '[Introducing a Commissioning Approach](#)' which was approved in April 2011 (para 2.4b refers). Whilst another 1 Team secondment has therefore been considered by officers, it has been rejected as an option for this reason.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The commission is for £7,500 which will provide a basic support service for parish councils. This amount can be funded from the Active Communities Commissioning Budget.

Officers are also confident that additional funding can be drawn into the project to match the WCC contribution. Unfortunately this cannot be ascertained until later in the autumn and it is important to get the project moving in September. Prospective providers will be asked about their ability to expand the service should additional funds become available.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE DECISION

Council officers, Members, Parish Councils.

**FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION
NOTICE**

n/a

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR
OFFICER CONSULTED**

n/a

DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

n/a

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision: 24.08.11

Councillor John Cooper – Portfolio Holder for Communities, Safety and Public Health