

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Cabinet Member Meeting, Health and Communities

11 February 2014

Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities

ACTIVE DERBYSHIRE PLAN - VILLAGE GAMES

1 Purpose of the Report

To approve funding from the Public Health budget to meet the County Council's commitment to the Derbyshire Village Games Programme to assist delivery of the Active Derbyshire Plan.

2 Information and Analysis

The Derbyshire Village Games was set up as a Community Sports Trust in 2010/11 with a grant from Sport England and support from six district councils with the aim of getting people of all ages to be more active. The Village Games is a key part of the Active Derbyshire Strategy and the first three year programme has proved to be a significant success with 36,000 participants and 220,000 attendances at sport sessions. In addition, over 1,200 volunteers were involved alongside over 1,000 coaches.

Last year, Sport England invited the Trust to apply for further funding to build on the successful approach and expand the community led approach into new areas of Derbyshire, building on the model and existing expertise. At that time Village Games provision was not available in Chesterfield and Erewash.

At the bid stage, a package of funding of £240,000 per annum for three years was considered to be a realistic minimum based on a split of costs £80,000 from districts; £80,000 from Sport England and £80,000 from the County Council. The Cabinet Member Meeting – Public Health on 21 January 2013 agreed a County Council contribution of £80,000 from departmental underspends to support the bid with a view to the Public Health budget funding this approved commitment in years two and three of the Programme.

The bid to Sport England was successful and the Village Games model has now been rolled out across all districts, including Erewash and Chesterfield. All district councils contribute to the 2013-16 Programme, thereby collectively matching the County Council contribution.

The first six months of the new Programme has delivered 1,979 new participants attending 12,400 sessions. In addition, Village Games officers are successfully supporting communities to access Youth Action Grants, Sportivate funding, governing body grants and other small funding streams. The Games Officers are located within district councils and their work is embedded in the local sport and health development services.

One of the key strands of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to encourage more people to take part in active recreation and sport and this project has proved to be successful. The Village Games model offers an approach which gets inactive people active and builds capacity within communities to achieve this.

The County Council commitment is to provide funding of £80,000 per annum for the current Programme which will end in 2016 and it is proposed that this sum be met from the Public Health budget. This funding will support the Village Games to have a focus on engaging people in the more disadvantaged areas of the county and with groups who are less likely to be physically active, for example people with learning disabilities and those with mental health problems. This will contribute to reducing health inequalities.

3 Financial Considerations

Funding of £80,000 per annum for two years to meet the County Council's agreed contribution to the Derbyshire Village Games Programme ending in 2016 is available within the Public Health budget.

4 Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

5 Key Decision No

6 Call-in

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? - No

7 Background Papers

Community Sports Trust Village Games Reports.

8 OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the County Council's commitment to fund £80,000 per annum for two years to the Derbyshire Village Games Programme, matching the contributions from district councils and Sport England, be met from the Public Health budget.

David Lowe
Strategic Director
Health and Communities