

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**COMMONWEALTH GAMES, CULTURE & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

**O&S COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING**

**1400 hours on Wednesday, 1 February 2023, Committee Rooms 3 & 4,  
Council House**

**Action Notes**

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**Present:**

Councillor Jack Deakin (Chair)

Councillors: Gurdial Singh Atwal, Marcus Bernasconi, Bushra Bi, Deborah Harries,  
Darius Sandhu, and Ron Storer

**Also Present:**

Megan Byrne, Health Delivery Programme Manager, The Active Wellbeing Society  
(TAWS)

Maria Gavin, AD, Quality and Improvement, Adult Social Care Directorate

Erica Martin, Director, TAWS

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

Amelia Wiltshire, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chair advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's meeting You Tube site ([www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6\\_5dnVnYlw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

**2. APOLOGIES**

An apology was given on behalf of Cllr. Rinkal Shergill.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Members were reminded they must declare all relevant pecuniary and other registerable interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting, and none were declared.

### **4. ACTION NOTES**

(See document No. 1)

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the action notes of the formal meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were agreed.

### **5. ACTION TRACKER**

(See document No. 2)

The Chair updated the Committee on the outstanding actions, and this included Nichola Turner MBE, Director of Legacy for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, being invited to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the action tracker was noted.

### **6. EVIDENCE GATHERING: TAWS**

(See document No. 3)

The Chair informed the Committee that Cllrs. Mick Brown and Gareth Moore (members of the Task & Finish Group for the Promoting Health and Wellbeing – A Commonwealth Games Legacy Inquiry) had been invited to attend for items 6 and 7. Cllr. Mick Brown was in attendance and Cllr. Gareth Moore had submitted his apologies.

The Chair welcomed Erica Martin, Director, and Megan Byrne, Health Delivery Programme Manager, TAWS, who were in attendance to provide evidence to the Inquiry.

Erica Martin and Megan Byrne gave the presentation which included:

- TAWS aim was to create the stability and space for people and empowering them.

- Their approach was: co-design and collaboration, develop more resilient connected communities, systems and influencing community cohesion, enablement, and opportunity.
- Barriers to being active included: time, travel, trust, consistency and persistence, under-representation, preconceived ideas, language / communication, and lack of motivation.
- Disability can be defined in two ways, the medical model and the social model and they have these two models in mind when delivering their services and programmes.
- Their activities were open to everyone of all abilities, and they help people who were traditionally excluded from physical activity to join in. The example of the Virtual Wellbeing Programme was given.
- The Community Connect model was a mental health and physical activities engagement programme, with the aim to increase levels of connection, belonging and movement.
- The Active Travel Projects – Big Birmingham Bikes, included the Cycling for Everyone as part of the Commonwealth Games, and the provision of 25 adapted bikes available for long term loan across the West Midlands.
- They were working with GPs regarding the Bikes on Prescription Programme, and they have had a total of 3,447 referred participants to Social Prescribing since April 2022.
- The Primary Care Pedals was a partnership, and the offer was to learn to ride, and confidence building sessions etc.
- Their key recommendations were to understand the whole person, representation (marketing, volunteers, and participation), design people 'in' to services not out of them, develop a buddy scheme (people with lived experience to support), meet people where they are at, inclusive communication, co-create with communities, and always be open to learning.

During the discussion and in response to queries raised by Members, the main points included:

- They try to reach hard to reach communities in a number of ways and these included going into communities via the communities trusted source, their volunteer scheme, and walking programme.
- Bikes on Prescription was focused in the deprived areas of the city and further information will be provided on this.
- They have a Disability and Inclusion Lead, and TAWS was as inclusive as possible, and this included the work they had done on their virtual offer.
- How they encourage older men who may have long-term medical conditions to participate was questioned. Their Listening Connect Service has nearly 60% of men who are 40 to 60 year old, and they were exploring other ways, such as walking sports.
- The reach of their work, including the geography and numbers of people reached, was queried and this will be provided.

- Having the right skills set, confidence, being flexible and adaptable to safely deliver the activity was important.
- The Committee requested examples of Social Prescribing and TAWS agreed to provide these.
- TAWS had provided key recommendations for how to increase participation for disabled people, such as understanding the whole person and developing a buddy scheme, and they will have further discussions as to whether they had any other recommendations for the Inquiry to make to the Executive of the Council.

The Chair thanked them for their attendance and contribution to the Inquiry.

**RESOLVED:**

That:

- The update was noted.
- TAWS was asked to provide:
  - Further information regarding Bikes on Prescription.
  - The reach of their work, including the geography and numbers of people reached.
  - Social Prescribing examples.

**7. EVIDENCE GATHERING: ADULT SOCIAL CARE DIRECTORATE**

(See document No. 4)

The Chair welcomed Maria Gavin, AD, Quality and Improvement, who was in attendance to provide evidence to the Promoting Health and Wellbeing – A Commonwealth Games Legacy Inquiry.

Maria Gavin highlighted that she had previously attended the September 2021 committee meeting regarding the Commonwealth Games, and this was an update on what had previously been provided.

The presentation was given, and this included:

- The role of Adult Social Care.
- Adult Social Care Engagement Group.
- The Organising Committee’s Accessibility Forum and Maria Gavin represented Adult Social Care on this Forum to ensure the Games and events were as accessible as possible.
- The main role of the Adult Social Care Reach Network was to connect users and community groups that they work with to raise awareness, enthusiasm, and engagement around the Commonwealth Games.
- AccessAble and accessible tourism.

- Changing Places to improve the availability of facilities within the city.
- The Cultural and Community Programmes.
- Volunteering and employment.
- Enhancing the health and wellbeing of Adult Social Care users.
- The Queen's Baton Relay.
- Legacy projects / funding - Change kitchen and they were looking at support to increase Accessible Cycling.

During the discussion and in response to queries raised by Members, the main points included:

- The Local Government Association (LGA) has contacted them as they would like to do a case study on Birmingham in relation to how people with learning difficulties and autism were supported to be part of the Commonwealth Games.
- They were linking in with work commissioned by the Council's Tourism Team around making city sites accessible to people with disabilities.
- Whether there was a need for a more joined up approach regarding on-line accessibility information in the city was queried. One of the key things for the Council is how we support people to access quickly and easily information and Adult Social Care were keen to direct people to the best source of information. Therefore, they were part of an innovative pilot with STEAMhouse, which was part of Birmingham City University.
- The Council has 10 day centres and there were approximately 40 - 50 independent day centres. The Council uses quite a lot of them but wouldn't necessarily be the sole user of all of them. They map these through their Neighbourhood Networks, and these were in every locality and area.
- The Neighbourhood Networks provided a good service and engaged with emotional and physical disabilities and there was a need to keep raising the awareness to make the city more accessible.
- In response to the query as to what has changed because of the Commonwealth Games, Members were informed that many of the facilities were now far more accessible, such as Perry Barr Train Station and Alexander Stadium, they made connections with 400 community organisations, and there was a link created within the Council to make sure the voice of disabled people continues to be heard.

The Chair thanked Maria Gavin for attending and contributing to the Inquiry.

**RESOLVED:**

That the update was noted.

**8. WORK PROGRAMME**

(See document No. 5)

The Chair updated the Committee on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Committee Meetings.

The Committee was also updated on the Inquiry, and this included the visit to the Alexander Stadium on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023, and the T&F Group will be meeting straight after this committee meeting to discuss the evidence received and potential recommendations.

**RESOLVED:**

- That the work programme was agreed, and the Committee was updated on the Promoting Health & Wellbeing – A Commonwealth Games Legacy Inquiry T&F Group.

**9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:**

Noted the date of the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 1 March 2023 at 1400 in Committee Room 6.

**10. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

None.

**11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**12. AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**

**RESOLVED:**

In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 15.20 hours.