

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

COMMONWEALTH GAMES, CULTURE & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

O&S COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING

**1400 hours on Wednesday, 11 January 2023, Committee Rooms 3 & 4,
Council House**

Action Notes

Present:

Councillor Jack Deakin (Chair)

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

Also Present:

Mike Chamberlain, Chief Executive, Sport Birmingham

Nikki English, Development Manager – Inclusion, Sport Birmingham

Amelia Murray, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

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) 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.

RESOLVED:

None were declared.

4. ACTION NOTES

(See document No. 1)

RESOLVED:

That the action notes of the formal meeting held on 7th December 2022 were agreed.

5. ACTION TRACKER

(See document No. 2)

The Chair updated the Committee on the following actions:

- Whether it would be appropriate for Nichola Turner MBE, Director of Legacy for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games to be invited to a future meeting of the Committee was still being explored.
- The use of parks for physical activity and events, and visitor numbers following parking levies, does not need to be scheduled on the work programme as it has been decided not to introduce parking charges.

Cllr. Deborah Harries informed the Committee that she had been contacted by Dave Wagg regarding the lack of provision within her ward.

RESOLVED:

That the action tracker was noted.

6. EVIDENCE GATHERING: SPORT BIRMINGHAM

(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 submitted their apologies.

The Chair welcomed Mike Chamberlain, Chief Executive, Sport Birmingham, and Nikki English, Development Manager – Inclusion, Sport Birmingham, who were in attendance to provide evidence to the Inquiry.

Mike Chamberlain highlighted that they were the 'Active Partnership' for Birmingham, part of an England-wide network of 43 partnerships, significantly funded by Sport England as a 'System Partner' to help address inactivity, and particularly inequalities that exist in the provision of sport and physical activity through partnership working. Information on their strategy, mission, values, priorities, collaborative structures, and examples of their current work were provided.

Nikki English gave a presentation to the Committee which included the level of participation in Birmingham, details of the Together Fund, and their close working relationship with organisations such as Sense and Mencap to address barriers to participation.

One of the Commonwealth Games legacies has been closer partnership working. The partners were working on a signposting platform so people can access local inclusive opportunities and this would include wayfinding. This was scheduled to be launched next month and it was acknowledged that this needed to be promoted and sustainable, so the information was kept up-to-date.

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

- The funding available via the Together Fund would be promoted and delivery needed to happen by the end of September 2023. Members were encouraged to notify them of any groups that may be interested in applying for this funding.
- Managing investment into Birmingham Schools – Opening Schools Facilities funding 2022-2024:
 - This was funded by the Department for Education (DfE).
 - Schools need to submit a plan on how they will use funding for sports and physical activity.
 - Sport Birmingham employ a PE Adviser to help influence schools to enrich their curriculum.
 - A summary document for this funding, including the total amount was requested.
- Recommendations arising from this Inquiry could include:
 - Sport Birmingham worked with all the delivery partners, however, it was acknowledged that the relationship with the Council was not fully developed. This needed to be a relationship that added value and recognised and addressed the importance of inactivity of disabled people with Councillors and officers.
 - There was a need for wider Public Health involvement and the Moving Lives, Healthy Minds project was referenced. This included signposting to quality provision, intensive guidance so the experience was good for them, and working with the Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Trust. Therefore, recommendations to keep this issue high on the agenda and connections with other organisations was key.

- They were looking to develop a network for disability and were currently looking at providers and organisations outside the sector.
- The ability to proactively engage with the city was about capacity building, especially where there were gaps in provision, and the need to work with neighbouring providers to plug those gaps.
- The Sport England legacy funding for the Commonwealth Games was £1m and focused on the five most deprived wards.
- Best practice regarding accessibility for disabled people included the need for a qualified workforce who understood the audience and being able to provide carers and buddies. They work with partners, such as Midland Mencap.
- Sport Birmingham may be able to share a breakdown of disabilities in April 2023 from the Disability Sports Forum.
- The 'See My Voice' project has just finished, and they were leading co-ordination of volunteering for the International Blind Games 2023.

The Chair thanked them for their attendance and contribution to the Inquiry and suggested Sport Birmingham attend a future committee meeting.

RESOLVED:

That:

- The update was noted.
- Sport Birmingham were asked to:
 - Share information on the Together Fund so Members can promote this.
 - Provide a summary document on the Managing investment into Birmingham Schools – Opening Schools Facilities funding 2022-2024, so Members can promote this.
 - Share a breakdown of disabilities in April 2023 from the Disability Sports Forum if possible.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

(See document No. 4)

The Chair updated the Committee on the Inquiry, and this included the visit to the Alexander Stadium on 25th January 2023 from 11am, and the questionnaire on the Council's Be-Heard website closing on the 13th January 2023. Information had been tweeted on the Scrutiny twitter account and the Committee agreed to promote the Inquiry.

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.

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

Noted the date of the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 1 February 2023 at 1400 in Committee Rooms 3 & 4.

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

None.

10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. Marcus Bernasconi raised the footpath closure at Edgbaston Reservoir and the issues with communication and the route remaining closed. As the committee will be evidence gathering at the 1st February 2023 committee meeting, the Committee agreed for a written briefing to be provided prior to send out.

RESOLVED:

Officers to provide a written briefing regarding the footpath closure at Edgbaston Reservoir and the issues with communication and the route remaining closed, prior to send out for the 1st February 2023 committee meeting (23rd January 2023).

11. 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.

The meeting ended at 15.30 hours.