

Title of meeting: Culture, Leisure and Sport Decision Meeting

Subject: Community Centres Update

Date of meeting: 9 October 2015

Report by: Director of Culture and City Development

Wards affected: All

1. Requested by:

1.1 Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport

2. Purpose

2.1 To inform the Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport of the contribution made by community centres to the Council's priorities.

3. Background

3.1 A bi-annual survey of the 14 community centres supported through Culture was completed earlier this year. The survey comprises two parts: details of the centre users obtained via questionnaires completed by individual users during a period of one month and a report prepared by each of the managing associations on the activities, attendances and room usage over the previous 12 months. The total number of recorded visits to all centres in 2014 was 857,307.

3.2 From these two sources, the demographic data on users is obtained and this can be compared with neighbourhood data to establish how well centres are attracting local residents of all ages, income levels and ability. The reported activity programmes are analysed to establish the breadth and richness of their offer and the room usage report identifies the spare capacity available.

3.3 Each centre receives a detailed but easily understood report of the findings and this is discussed with the managing committees. The reports contribute to the Service Level Agreement monitoring process and to the subsequent Action Plans for development. An example of a report is at Appendix A

4. Summary of findings

4.1 The surveys show that the community centres are making significant contributions to the Council's priorities in terms of both users catered for and activities on offer. The centres offer opportunities for low cost activities - social inclusion; formal and informal learning - skill development and employability; a wide range of sport and physical exercise for all ages - health and well-being; space for interest groups and

meetings - citizenship; facilities available to other agencies and services - partnership working; high levels of local usage and volunteering opportunities - community cohesion.

5. Detail of findings

5.1 The number and make up of users varies across the centres, which themselves vary in size and facilities. Some of the centres have sports halls, IT rooms and cafes and others consist of as few as 2 modestly sized rooms. The larger centres tend to cater also for city wide groups including minority religious and cultural groups.

Users:

- **Satisfaction** - the overall satisfaction level with our community centres is high, with only 1.2% of users expressing dissatisfaction.
- **Residence** - 52 % of centre users live within the neighbourhood of their local centre and 92% of all users are residents of Portsmouth.
- **Age** - the age spread of centre users is broad but includes 18.5% under 5s as compared with 6.6% in the city population and 30.7% of over 60s compared with 18.8% of the city population.
- **Ethnicity** - at 10.4% of centre users compared with 15.9% of the city population, Black and Minority Ethnic residents are under represented among centre users.
- **Disability** - 20% of recorded users report having a disability compared with 16% of the city population.
- **Income** - 76% of centre users report a household income of under £25,000, the national average, with 30% having a total household income of less than £10,000

Programmes

The analysis of the programmes across all centres gives the following proportions:

- Formal and informal learning and skill development - 9%
- Physical activity and health promotion - 40%
- Social and recreational activities such as hobby groups, trips and parties - 12%
- Community interaction such as public meetings, targeted social groups and political and religious groups - 16%
- Arts and creative activities - 10%
- Individual or community well-being such as advice services, blood donors and fundraising groups - 3%
- Group and organisation meetings - 9%
- Office space for charitable / non-profit organisations - 1%

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

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Signed by:
Stephen Baily
Director of Culture and City Development

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Fratton Community Centre usage Report

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Community Centres User Survey Reports 2015	CCD office