

<b>Title of meeting:</b>	Communities and Central Services Meeting
<b>Subject:</b>	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Events
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
<b>Report by:</b>	Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Full Council decision:</b>	No

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## **1. Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To update the Cabinet member for Communities and Central Services on the delivery of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee events.

## **2. Recommendations**

**2.1 To note the success of the delivery of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee programme and the range of projects which took place across the city with communities to mark this significant occasion.**

**2.2 To apply the learning from the delivery of this programme into future work and preparation for forthcoming significant national celebrations such as the anticipated Coronation events in 2023.**

## **3. Background to the Platinum Jubilee Events**

3.1 In 2022 the country celebrated the Queens Platinum Jubilee from 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June. Portsmouth City Council was one of the many cities that held a wide range of celebratory events all across the extended bank holiday weekend. The primary purpose of our events was to provide an opportunity for communities to come together to celebrate and mark this very significant anniversary and to help communities celebrate in a positive way following the pandemic.

3.2 Portsmouth City Council offered three different types of community events for people to be able to come and enjoy across the whole weekend as well as a legacy programme of environmental projects which are still in the process of being delivered. The core focus on the community events were street parties, beacon lighting as part of the national network and the Jubilee Big Lunches.



3.3 Of the events offered to communities the most popular activity was street parties. Using a revised application process we were able to approve and enable 110 street parties across the city attracting to over 11,500 attendees across the city. These events were organised by community co-ordinators and were shaped to work for the environment where they occurred.

3.4 Officer time was involved in supporting the street party co-ordinators with the following:

- A revised and more streamlined event application form that was specific for the Street Parties.
- Arrangement of Jubilee party specific Portsmouth Events Safety Advisory Group meetings who reviewed all the applications and provided guidance and advice for any changes which were required
- Provision of examples and guidance for all supporting documents needed for a safe event including Risk Assessments and Traffic Management Plans
- Provision of insurance cover for all street parties which occurred during the extended bank holiday weekend
- Co-ordinating with colleagues in the Transport team for the detailed Road closure notice to be submitted along with any other traffic requirements such as parking bay suspensions
- With sponsorship support from Colas we provided, delivered and collected, road closure signage, barriers and cones for each street party at no charge

3.5 All street parties were extremely well received and many were visited by members including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and the Cabinet member for Communities and Central Services who had a very active schedule over the four days visiting as many as possible. Ward members were also kept fully informed of which roads in their ward were hosting street parties.

3.6 Community members were extremely grateful for the help and support in enabling their parties to proceed and below are several examples of the feedback the Events team received:

- Thank you so much for all your help and guidance with setting up our street party, I thought you made it easy and simple, thank you!
- I just wanted to say that we had a great street party on Saturday. Everyone had a brilliant time. Thank you so much for your help it getting all the administration sorted.
- I just wanted to say well done and thank you with all the support given during the run up to our street party in Godwit Road...especially Rhiannon who answered my questions on a couple of occasions. The party was a huge success for the right reasons...celebrating the jubilee, bringing our community together and providing much needed company to some residents! We are now all looking forward to the next opportunity for a gathering! Anyway thanks again...your hard work was very much appreciated.



3.7 Our Jubilee programme commenced with the lighting of two beacons as Portsmouth took part in the National 'Platinum Jubilee Beacon Lights' programme. Across the country over 1,000 beacons were lit on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to make the official start of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We held two official beacon lighting events with a ceremonial one on Portsdown Hill at Fort Widley, and another at Southsea Castle. Both of these sites have historically held beacon lighting events on key occasions as part of national celebrations and also as part of the original beacon messaging system across the country.

3.8 Both beacons were positively received with Southsea Common's expanded free event attracting around 3,000 attendees. This event brought the communities together to come and share in this occasion to mark the start of the national celebrations.

3.9 Alongside the Beacon Lighting, we also hosted two 'Big Lunch' events on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June one in the north of the city at King George V Playing Fields, Cosham and another in the south on Southsea Common. The two events, again part of the national programme of Big Lunch events, had the same format with free live performances available at both supported by a range of catering and activity providers. The events started at 10:00 and finished at 17:00 and were programmed with a range of community groups performing along with professional groups and bands to entertain throughout the day.

3.10 We were very surprised by attendances at both events where, despite the poor weather, they retained a steady 2,000 people at each event through the day with people coming and going accordingly so we have estimated . Both Big Lunches were well received, and having two locations allowed individual's to come to the closest event which created a great atmosphere with a continuous flow of individuals.

3.11 In asking for feedback at the KGV Big Lunch event we received the following:

- Residents loved the multiple location events as meant that more individuals could enjoy within their local area.
- They liked the spread of activities so they could do something to celebrate each of the Bank Holiday days
- Liked that it was all free so everyone could come and enjoy something

3.12 The final core part of the Council's Jubilee programme was the provision of the Queen's Jubilee Neighbourhood Grants: Nature on your Doorstep. The purpose of the grants was to provide an environmentally focused community legacy project which would benefit people in Portsmouth in linking them and inspiring them with nature.

3.13 An application process was devised and a panel considered the 19 applications which were received. Of these 14 grants were awarded, for projects across the city of which two have to provide evidence of successfully securing additional funding in order for the Council's allocation to be released. Many of the projects are part way through and reminders have recently been sent out to them that their projects need to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

#### **4. Platinum Jubilee and beyond**

4.1 Subsequent to the Jubilee events themselves it was decided that it would be good to enable those roads where street parties had taken place with a small plaque which the community organisers could either have fixed to a lamp post or put in a community location in their immediate street scape. It was felt appropriate to put the distribution of these plaques on hold during the national period of mourning for the Queen but these are currently being put up across the city with support from Colas.

4.2 In light of the recent death of Her Majesty we anticipate that there will be a desire to enable communities to come together again to mark the coronation of King Charles III and the Events team are in the process of preparing elements for consideration at a future meeting to support areas such as street parties again which we anticipate will be requested.

## **5. Integrated impact assessment (IIA)**

5.1 Integrated Impact Assessment attached at appendix 1

## **6. Director of Finance Comments**

6.1 There is a specified approved budget allocation of £50,000 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee for the delivery of the events outlined in this report. This budget is currently forecast to be sufficient to cover these costs.

## **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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Signed by  
**Stephen Baily**  
**Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services**

**Appendices:** IIA Queen's Platinum Jubilee 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:

<b>Title of document</b>	<b>Location</b>
Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 Report	<a href="#">Communities &amp; Central Services Report</a>