

Appendix 2

Economic Development Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel

Scrutiny topic: 'Engagement with Culture and Leisure - widening social participation in Portsmouth'

Recommendations and Officer Responses

	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Officer / Service contact</i>	<i>Officer response / commentary</i>
1.	Consider greater advertising of the Portsmouth Leisure Card	Business Manager	<p>The Leisure Card is currently advertised and promoted via the following routes: City of Sanctuary, Flagship, Revenues and Benefits, Children and Family Services, BH Live, City Libraries, City Housing Centres, Council website and Cost of Living hub.</p> <p>There is no budget currently allocated for a further promotional campaign.</p>
2.	Review and update the eligibility criteria for the Portsmouth Leisure Card	Business Manager	<p>The current eligibility criteria includes:</p> <p>(1) recipients of means tested income based benefits residing in PO1-PO6 (areas where council tax is paid to PCC). Means tested benefits information is provided by the Council's Tackling Poverty Officer who provides updates to the service when criteria change - for example, Universal Credit.</p> <p>(2) Foster Carers and Foster Children, and Children We Care For (including Children in Supported Accommodation and Children's Homes). Children in Supported Accommodation are aged 16-18 who are cared for by the local authority. Children's Homes covers children we care for up to (and including) the age of 17.</p> <p>(3) Asylum Seekers and Asylum Seeking Children.</p>

			<p>Any expansion of eligibility will need to be funded by the service making the request. Without funding the request, an expansion of eligibility criteria would impact on the Council's income and cash limits in the following areas: Seafront, Museums, Parks and Leisure.</p>
3.	<p>Reviews the places the Portsmouth Leisure Card can be accepted, including old and new businesses, with greater engagement with culture and leisure providers across the city</p>	<p>Business Manager</p>	<p>The business manager has this year engaged with 29 organisations across the city and had subsequent meetings. 10 new providers have agreed to join the scheme as a result.</p> <p>An annual review takes place with providers to establish their continued commitment to the card scheme.</p>
4.	<p>Creates a webpage for listing Portsmouth Leisure Card participating partners with the discounts they offer</p>	<p>Business Manager</p>	<p>There is a webpage for the Leisure Card at Portsmouth leisure card - Portsmouth City Council. This includes full details on eligibility and discounts/partners available.</p> <p>Following a transition to online application availability (in 2022), the webpage also contains the link and details to apply online.</p> <p>The benefits of the new online process include: removal of duplicate data processing, improved data security and swifter processing by putting the customer at the centre of the application.</p> <p>Digital applications can be undertaken at public access computers in the city's libraries or at Housing Centres. This enables anyone to have the option to apply online.</p>

5.	Increases the numbers of Children We Care For and Foster Carers who are aware of and take up the Portsmouth Leisure Card	Business Manager	<p>Whilst social care services are aware of the leisure card, work has taken place this year to raise the profile of the card in this area. The manager has met with various staff in the Childrens Services directorate including the Deputy Director (Children and Families) to ensure that information regarding the leisure card for Children We Care For is cascading through staff teams and foster forums. This will enable attached social workers to promote the card where applicable. The verification process provides for the supervising social worker to send a supporting letter as part of the application.</p>
6.	Reinstates the reports from the Audience Agency Project to increase the demographic knowledge on engagement with culture and leisure providers across the city	Commissioning Manager	<p>The Audience Agency have changed since they originally came and presented information to the Scrutiny panel in January 2020 and as such the options for the continuation of the previous specific commission for analysis for Portsmouth organisation audience data has changed.</p> <p>However instead of this work there are a wider number of free resources and advice which any organisation or person working in the creative industries can access for free through the Audience Agency website. A series of resources and up to date information on audience trends can be found including elements around key topics such as ticket sales trends, features such as Beyond Core Audience and explorations for Family Audiences.</p> <p>The Audience Agency are also carrying out a longitudinal panel survey of changing views to participating in culture which is broader based than the research we originally carried out but does provide interesting statistical information. There is also some key research taking place on the crucial role of creativity in partnership with Arts Council England to explore the positive impact of broader cultural engagement on mental health which again could prove to be extremely useful for Portsmouth based cultural organisations to</p>

			ensure they are putting in place the most methods for their delivery and evaluation techniques to monitor impact.
7.	Congratulates the Kings Theatre on their work with different ethnic groups and dementia groups	Commissioning Manager	<p>A number of the cultural organisations who the Council provide revenue funding to were requested to attend the scrutiny meetings during which they were able to expand a little more on the nature of the work they do both to address barriers to engagement and encourage participation however not all the organisations were able to attend.</p> <p>All revenue funding is linked to a detailed Service Level agreement within which details are outlined of what we expect to be provided. In all they are required to develop community outreach, education programmes and create opportunities for skills development and learning for all ages. As independent organisations it would be inappropriate for the Council to determine the exact shape and nature of this work but it has to be reported on as part of the annual reports.</p> <p>Additionally for building based cultural organisations the Council required them to provide a minimum of 1 off site project and try, where practical, to ensure a geographical spread of these elements to ensure wider participation e.g. We Shine installations in Paulsgrove and Hilsea wards. The Council also request that the core education and outreach programmes are presented in a format which can be accessed by Portsmouth City Council's Children We Care For but understand that these cannot always be provided for free.</p>
8.	Congratulates the Groundlings Theatre for their work with the	Commissioning Manager / Education & Outreach Officer	The Conan Doyle Collection hired Groundlings reception area for £90 for The Detectives Summer of Sherlock theatre performance on 25/08/2022. Groundlings Theatre provided room hire only.

	Detectives of the Conan Doyle Collection		
9.	Congratulates the Guildhall Trust on their work with schools providing workshops and Dance Live events	Commissioning Manager	Please see response to question 7.
10.	Returns the price of the piano hire in the Portsmouth Central Library to its previous price - reversing the recent 40% increase in prices	Libraries & Archives Manager	The piano hire charges have been increased in line with inflation, a 10%, rather than 40% increase. These increases were agreed by the Culture, Leisure and Economic Development Decision Meeting on 17 March 2023. Charities and not-for profits still pay a reduced fee.
11.	Congratulates the Library Service for the removal of reservation fees and fines	Libraries & Archives Manager	Portsmouth Library Service was the second library in the UK to remove fees and fines for this purpose. Since the Covid pandemic, increasing numbers of local authorities are taking this step.
12.	Keeps all library buildings open to the public as they are an essential space for the City Council and essential warm and safe spaces for residents	Libraries & Archives Manager	Portsmouth Libraries have always provided a warm welcome to our residents and have played a significant role in the wider council response to the Cost of Living crisis and the Warm Spaces, Welcoming Places campaign. For the last four months, all branches have offered free hot drinks to customers. Central Library has had a dedicated collection of books and other resources that can provide practical support to our residents, from those seeking to save money to those in need of debt advice and support.
13.	Repairs the moving floor of the Mountbatten swimming pool which is	Recreation Manager	The moveable floor and boom at the Mountbatten Centre allows the 50m pool to be split in two allowing a wide and varied swimming programme.

	<p>a key feature for accessibility of the pool</p>		<p>Through the years there have been mechanical and software problems with both the floor and boom which have caused considerable disruption to the pool programme and associated loss of income due to the pool needing to be shut for lengthy periods and in particular the need to cancel swimming lessons.</p> <p>Officers can confirm that access to the pool is currently not impacted despite the moveable floor not being operational, it is fixed at a depth that allows a comprehensive swimming programme to be delivered including activities such as learn to swim, school swimming, aqua aerobics, family swimming and general casual use together with a competition standard 25 m pool which can be used by competent swimmers and local clubs. Although the moveable floor is not currently operational a solution has been found to allow the boom to move in isolation so also allowing 50m galas and training to be hosted.</p> <p>Officers can confirm that the pool is fully accessible for the disabled with specialist changing facilities and hoists allowing access. In addition in the last couple of years access into the pool has also been improved with the installation of some new steps with a gradual gradient that allow those with mobility issues to enter the pool.</p> <p>As part of required lifecycle maintenance requirements the pool will need to be refurbished in approximately four years time in 2027 and it is intended that at that point options be considered on the provision and installation of a moveable floor if required, until then the pool remains fully accessible.</p>
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14.	Supports the mobile library service	Libraries & Archives Manager	<p>The Mobile Library enables the service to reach further into the heart of communities and enable access for vulnerable residents who are unable to reach library centres.</p> <p>Many local authorities are terminating their mobile service as part of budget pressures and reductions.</p> <p>A successful bid to Arts Council funding means that Portsmouth is due to receive 2 tuk-tuks, which will allow expansion of its mobile library service and increase the visibility and libraries and books in the city.</p>
15.	Considers the installation of new facilities in the north and north-west of the city where there is a lack of provision	Commissioning Manager	<p>The directorate is always keen to explore space usage especially in areas of the city where it is aware there are fewer specific cultural resources.</p> <p>The directorate asks cultural organisations to take their outreach programmes to areas of the city where there are fewer facilities and feel that working in such a way does help provide opportunities to all members of the community regardless of where they are in the city.</p> <p>The directorate programmes in activities, where practical, to take place in different parts of the city such as The Bandstand on Tour programme. The directorate acknowledges that the city can in some instances support only one of a specialist facility e.g. contemporary art gallery and therefore tries to ensure that there is a spread of such facilities where practical e.g. development of specialist football facilities at King George V Playing field in Cosham, BMX Pump track in Hilsea.</p>
16.	Creates a cultural network to enable all organisations within the	Commissioning Manager	<p>Significant work is being undertaken by Portsmouth Creates to establish new and relevant networks. Since the start of 2023 they have set up their new Portsmouth Creates Network events</p>

	city to share data and information to avoid doubling up on the work being done		supporting freelance artists with meetings to enable a better exchange of information and exploration of specific topics. They have also continued to support the <i>We Create</i> Markets which were initiated during the pandemic to support creatives with sales outlets at in person events. They have most recently organised and facilitated the <i>We Connect</i> information day which was open to all cultural stakeholders across the city as a free event with presentations by national funding bodies to better share knowledge and expertise and encourage organisations to come together and network to share experiences and create greater investment potential for the city. Portsmouth Creates is one of the Council's revenue funded organisations.
17.	Welcomes the creation of the Museums Trail and recommends it should be extended to other cultural premises to further encourage engagement with culture and leisure	Visitor Services Manager	Visitor trails are available at Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery and at Cumberland House Natural History Museum. We are currently looking to create new trails for Southsea Castle and Dickens Birthplace. The Tourism team created the Seafront Trail as part of Welcome Back fund activity. The trail and activity encourage families to find out more about the culture and leisure activities in the Southsea area. The team are currently in the process of creating a further activity trail for the Old Portsmouth area.
18.	Access, health & wellbeing as provided by Museums Service	Visitor Services Manager	Portsmouth Museums can (and wish to) play a key role in improving access to culture and leisure and by doing so offer opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors. Except for The D-Day Story the Portsmouth City Council museums are all available free of charge for city residents. A range of activities, trails and events take place throughout the year and many of these are free of charge. Providing a range of activity and

			<p>taking this out to the community when possible encourages a more diverse audience to engage with the museum service.</p> <p>Recent examples of free or low cost activities include:</p> <p><u>Cumberland House</u>: Gliding Birds, Bats and Hedgehogs, Wild Escape, Women Refugees tour, Love our Pollinators (with Parks Service), Egg Detective trail.</p> <p><u>Portsmouth Museum & Art Gallery</u>: Woolly Mammoth workshop and Easter trail.</p>
19.	Outreach activity provided by Museums Service	Visitor Services Manager	<p>Following the 2018 redevelopment of The D-Day Story and the 2020 addition of LCT 7074, the museum team ensure residents and visitors alike are aware of and able to visit and enjoy this contemporary museum. Whilst being a paid attraction, the museum offers a range of ticketing options including discounted tickets through a variety of platforms and range of partner agreements in the city aiming to increase awareness of the museum as a place to visit. We also offer substantial discounts to residents promoted through the Flagship magazine during the quieter months of the year as well as promoting the Leisure Card discount prominently both at the museum and online. All of this aims to ensure there are price points available to as wider potential audience as possible.</p> <p>The 2018 redevelopment of the museum was curated with the expectations of the modern-day visitor in mind and offers a contemporary engaging experience and as such has a wide appeal beyond those purely interested in history. To compliment the permanent gallery displays, the museum offers an extensive events and activities programme throughout the year, the majority of which are included within a museum ticket price and some of which are</p>

			<p>completely free and offered outside of the pay barrier. We actively ensure our events programme caters for a wide range of audiences offering events for young people and families, those with disabilities and accessibility requirements as well as those with a specialist interest in D-Day and WW2. We actively work to drive a high level of awareness of our events across a variety of communication channels.</p> <p>The 2018 redevelopment project involved extensive consultation around accessibility with the resulting main museum being step free, all gallery interpretation being accessible from a wheelchair, hearing loops being installed throughout all galleries as well as the use of subtitles on videos, the use of braille and later tactile models and BSL screens on LCT 7074. The D-Day Story has continued to build on this work ensuring the museum can be enjoyed by as wider audience as possible, creating an extensive accessibility page on our website and offering specific events for those with accessibility requirements working with a range of individual organisations to reach the individuals who would benefit from attending these events.</p> <p>Similar accessibility information is available across our museum websites to ensure visitors have full information to enable them to plan their visit. The team are currently working on sensory packs for relevant visitors - for example those with autism or a visual impairment - to borrow when they visit our sites and are looking at a regular relaxed opening of Cumberland House Natural History Museum.</p>
20.	Volunteering offered by Museums Service	Visitor Services Manager	Portsmouth Museums are also committed to offering a host of volunteering options, both with the collection team and on the frontline. Volunteering is shown to provide a range of wellbeing benefits for those taking part. We have volunteers who bring relevant experience and skills to enable the team to complete

			<p>specific areas of work, volunteers who hope to learn new skills and gain experience to enable them to move on to paid employment and volunteers who just want to share their love of museums with our visitors. Our volunteers are also crucial to the Museum's operation.</p> <p>Volunteers working on the frontline play a key role in the museum welcome. For example, the opening of LCT 7074 at The D-Day Story has allowed the museum to significantly expand the volunteering opportunities on offer and the museum has a diverse range of volunteers as part of the team continually looking to grow this further. Central to this is providing the best possible volunteering experience which the museum volunteer managers work tirelessly to achieve.</p>
21.	Contribution of Conan Doyle collection to widening access to culture	Education & Outreach Officer	<p>The Detectives is an Arts Council National Lottery Libraries Funded project, delivering two Library Offers: Culture and Creativity and Health and Wellbeing. Detectives are vulnerable adults from a range of backgrounds who learn either creative, project management or IT based skills and/or volunteer for health and wellbeing benefits. Their work is then shown to members of the public locally and internationally. Please see the following report from 8 February 2022:</p> <p>https://democracy.portsmouth.gov.uk/documents/s36574/The%20Detectives%20-%20Conan%20Doyle%20Collection.pdf</p> <p>34 Detectives have been recruited into individual roles or projects since September 2021. 8 projects have taken place already, with a further 8 planned for this year. More information about the projects can be found here: https://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/the-detectives</p>
22.	Contribution of Arts Council England	Volunteer Futures Project Officer	<p>The Volunteer Futures project concerns working with diverse groups, individuals and communities with complex needs and</p>

	Volunteer Futures project towards access to culture and leisure		<p>perceived barriers. These include recommendations for mapping opportunities and work experience in partnership with HIVE.</p> <p>The project officer regularly attends recruitment fayres hosted by the Job Centre and University in addition to other council events and opportunities including those supported by HIVE.</p> <p>In addition to this, the project officer supports individuals and groups with their own ideas for social participation such as applying funding to support groups which have been identified by residents as needed, including craft, a social group for adults with learning disabilities, and an IT support group for adults with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Volunteer engagement aims to reach 250 individuals for the first half of the project, with a further 250 during 2023-24.</p>
23.	Contribution of Seafront to health and wellbeing outcomes	Seafront Manager	<p>The wider seafront area remains very popular with the public as a space for a wide range of leisure activities which support wider health and wellbeing. The whole area saw a significant uplift in the number of people using the open spaces during the pandemic and this increased level of use has not diminished. The extensive events programme and visitor attractions bring people to the area as do the number of fitness and physical activity options which are available across the area from organised events such as the weekly Park Run to using the fitness equipment which is located at strategic points across the whole area. A number of fitness trainers are registered with the Council who deliver classes and training programmes on Council land and an area has been identified for watersports to try to ensure there is no conflict between the on-water sports enthusiasts and the swimmers.</p>

24.	Contribution of Libraries Service to access to culture and leisure	Libraries & Archives Manager	<p>Over 100 free activities have been delivered to families since January 2023, from school holiday activities to those marking the Coronation. These are in addition to the many regular clubs, groups and other social activities that take place in our branches that promote access to culture, including our annual 'BookFest' and Summer Reading Challenge.</p> <p>The service received the following feedback from a visitor to North End Library: <i>So unbelievably kind. I have been allowed to charge crucial electronic devices & learnt so much. I was shown the basics of how to use a desktop computer & given hot water for my tea, (I have had no electricity in my flat for a while now, long story). There is a really safe ambiance inside, everything is free to utilise, it was lovely being around children & adults of all backgrounds. I will be a regular until I feel completely self-sufficient in my flat, however will visit often.</i></p> <p>Central Library has a comprehensive selection of books and information on Health and Wellbeing, including 'books on prescription' titles for children and young people, adults, and books and resources for people with dementia. Smaller collections are available in all branch libraries. Therefore the work of the service makes a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the city's residents.</p> <p>Our Vision Impairment Services Officer has continued to grow weekly social groups at Central and Southsea Libraries. There are also eAudiobook groups and regular sessions that showcase the latest technology available to support blind and vision impaired people. Recent feedback: <i>I have come for health information and advice. Also to develop skills e.g. touch typing, use equipment to enable me to maintain my independence with my visual impairment. For my mental health too</i></p>
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			<p><i>because if jittery and frazzley [sic] at home I come to the library and because of its organised books, cds etc it calms down and quietens the internal chaos and I can breathe and think. I've used libraries for craft groups, must get back to knitting at Milton [Beddow Library]. I know some group members attend Central Library for guitar lessons.</i></p> <p>Our 'at home' library service provides regular deliveries of books and other library items to people who cannot get to a library building. These deliveries, supported by many volunteers, offer vital opportunities for residents to connect and break cycles of loneliness and isolation.</p> <p>The Library and Archive Service offers volunteering opportunities to people of all ages and abilities, which can provide people with employment skills, and improve wellbeing by building confidence and social networks, as well as giving people the chance to 'give something back'. Our Arts Council England funded projects, The Doyle Detectives and Volunteer Futures are undertaking pioneering activity, working with diverse groups of volunteers and giving them the opportunity to develop new skills and connect with others.</p> <p>As one of our volunteers has said: <i>I wasn't doing much at home, I was trying to find ways to keep active and maintain my wellbeing. I felt lonely, bored and a bit fed up, with nothing to do in my spare time so I asked for help from Youtrust with employment skills and boosting confidence.</i></p> <p><i>I was introduced to Volunteer Futures by the Youtrust IntoWork service and felt it would be good to try somewhere different. My favourite tasks have been all of it! Some people might pick favourites but I've enjoyed all of it. It makes me feel really good,</i></p>
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			<p><i>confident, and proud. I love it, it's been nice to meet and work with a new team. I feel my wellbeing has improved 100%.</i></p> <p><i>Now I'm seeking paid employment as a part of a training group that teaches people more about what it's like to have or work with people with learning disabilities, I've been joining in with a new craft group and I love it, we've got a lovely little group.</i></p> <p><i>If I wasn't volunteering I'd be doing nothing, walking around and going home.</i></p> <p>With other agencies such as Hive Portsmouth, Society of Saint James, Pushing Change, Autism Hampshire and Minstead Trust, working directly from the Central Library and the Library and Archive Service is well-placed to address the current diverse needs of the city's communities.</p>
25.	Council contracted sports provider BH Live Sports Development Programme contribution to access to leisure, health and wellbeing outcomes	Recreation Manager, Strategic Development Manager	<p><u>BH Live Junior Activities</u></p> <p>BH Live have delivered school swimming to over 50 local schools in Portsmouth working towards the three Key Stage 2 National Curriculum outcomes for school swimming. The pool hire is free for local schools. They also continue to support Portsmouth Northsea through subsidised pool hire and access.</p> <p>Their junior activity timetable continues to grow with new sessions being introduced. The timetable has a variety of sessions across all sites, providing opportunity for children from 6 months to 16 years. Their weekly programme has over 25 sessions, and incorporates discounted leisure card sessions for Exploria, clip'n'climb and they will be introducing the new Aqua Park at Mountbatten Centre.</p>

			<p>In October 2022, they relaunched and organised BH Live City Games for 14 schools that saw schools come together to compete in a variety of sports and games. This was the first time since the pandemic.</p> <p>BH Live have operated children activity camps during holidays to help working parents across Portsmouth. They provide activity camps that are part funded through the HAF programme targeting those children that have access to free school meals. The camps are delivered at Mountbatten, Tennis & Gymnastics Centres.</p> <p>The Portsmouth Gymnastics Centre continues to be popular in the community and has over 1,300 participants attending each week. BH Live supports the running and delivery of Portsmouth Gymnastics Club where they have successfully achieved multiple gold medals in the Junior British Championships.</p> <p>BH Live also continues to provide a diverse programme for SEND children with weekly sessions at the gymnastics & tennis centre, Mountbatten and Exploria. Their weekly use is in excess of 100 children each week.</p> <p><u>BH Live Health and Wellbeing</u></p> <p>BH Live's Health & Wellbeing programmes target a number of different groups including those with long-term health conditions, over 50's, low-income families and BAME groups.</p> <p>According to the latest DataHub & 4Global data, BH Live's Portsmouth centres are generating a social value of over £3.5 million.</p>
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			<p>Their long-term health condition scheme is operating at c.120% of pre pandemic levels with over 400 members in Portsmouth. They have seen on average over 1,000 unique users per week attend their long-term health condition sessions, classes and social events.</p> <p>BH Live have also received over £25,000 of funding initiatives to deliver schemes, working closely with EnergiseMe, Sport England, Parkinson UK, BreathEasy and the City Council's Public Health team.</p> <p>They have extended their partnership and funding work to deliver the city's stroke rehab sessions, they have also extended their offer for Parkinson's sessions to include two weekly swim sessions. This is in addition to their current group exercise and gym sessions.</p> <p>From February 23, they started a new outreach partnership with St James Hospital. They have two instructors going onto the mental health ward to deliver exercise sessions to pilot the success of physical activity for those suffering, creating pathways to get them back into mainstream society.</p> <p><i>Let's Bounce Back</i> is a Portsmouth City Council initiative that encourages healthy and sustainable weight loss through weekly classes around Portsmouth. BH Live are funded to provide residents with a 2 month complimentary membership with them, which includes a consultation and programme from an Exercise Referral instructor. They have had over 250 users on the weight management initiative, with over 50% joining on a membership after the 2-month trial.</p>
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			<p>BH Live's Pyramids wellbeing class offering has increased with an additional COPD class and mental health assisted gym session. This is an addition to the already setup exercise referral scheme.</p> <p>Headway is a charity for those who have suffered a head injury, they partner in Mountbatten whereby they operate weekly gym and tennis sessions. Due to the popularity, they have launched a new seated chair class for this user group.</p> <p>Mountbatten has been consistently running three ESCAPE pain courses each week that targets those with osteoarthritis of the knee and hip. Mountbatten has had individuals who have come onto the course being inactive that they now see up to 4 times a week in the gym, and at classes or swimming. This is testament to how effective the course is at both improving the outlook of those with Osteoarthritis and as a pathway to the wider activities that Exercise Referral can offer customers, for example their Osteo circuits, low-impact circuits, and GP aquafit classes, which are well attended weekly. Alongside the physical benefits exhibited from the course, it also allows socialisation and group discussion on all topics surrounding Osteoarthritis.</p> <p>Walking Football is operating at the Mountbatten Centre with over 50 players each week. Walking Netball was a new initiative that launched at Wimbledon Park in September 22 and BH Live are delivering two sessions per week with double figure attendees.</p> <p>TOFFs (Portsmouth's over 50's group) has continued to grow since BH Live started operating the group. TOFFs have gym sessions and sports hall activities including badminton and tennis. On average they see around 15 people per session. Nordic Walking operates in Portsmouth with two sessions per week. One based</p>
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			<p>from Mountbatten and another from Pyramids. These are instructor led sessions that see a dozen customers attend each session.</p> <p>BH Live's Portsmouth Interaction scheme for the recovering mentally ill has over 100 users attending at least one session a week across the region. They are currently averaging around 20 new referrals per quarter. Sessions take place at Mountbatten, Wimbledon Park, Charter, Tennis centre and other community locations.</p> <p>BH Live have also completed a soft launch of the Paediatric referral scheme, starting to take referrals for those under 16 years old who have complications due to excess weight.</p> <p><u>Disability</u></p> <p>Highbury College in Portsmouth have set up sessions for their SEND unit. BH Live have engaged them in Tennis, Glo in the Dark Sports sessions, and Clip n Climb sessions. They have over 20 teenagers a week attending.</p> <p>BH Live also now have a consistent group attend their SEND Adult Gymnastics Class at the Portsmouth gymnastics centre every week. Their structured SEND gymnastics class is also fully booked with 14 gymnasts.</p> <p>The SEND sessions at Exploria continue to provide an exclusive and safe space with c.60 children attending each session.</p> <p>BH Live also operate two visually impaired tennis sessions and a gym session across Portsmouth with those with sight difficulties.</p>
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			They also operate a disability swim session in partnership with Portsmouth Penguins at Charter and see on average around 20 users every Sunday.
26.	Sports and leisure infrastructure in Portsmouth	Strategic Development Manager	<p>The provision of sports and leisure facilities in the Portsmouth is a citywide issue and does not just rely on Council provided facilities. Leisure infrastructure is provided by a range of organisations:</p> <p>Portsmouth City Council (e.g. Mountbatten Centre, Tennis Centre, Gymnastics Centre, Pyramids, Portsmouth Watersports Centre).</p> <p><u>Educational establishments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools across all sectors (e.g. Ark Charter Academy, St Edmunds Catholic School, Redwood Park Primary School, Portsmouth High School; • Colleges: e.g. Portsmouth College, Highbury College • University of Portsmouth <p>Royal Navy establishments (e.g. HMS Temeraire)</p> <p>Private facilities (e.g. David Lloyd, Nuffield Health, Pure Gym).</p> <p>It should be noted that the Council does not have a statutory obligation to provide adequate sports and leisure facilities, however strives to maximise provision by working in conjunction with other providers across the city to provide the overarching outcome of improved participation in sports and leisure.</p> <p>This objective informs the Council's choice of organisations to operate our facilities. The choice of BH Live - a non profit</p>

			<p>organisation sharing the Council's vision <i>'to encourage more people to take part in physical activity'</i> and the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation <i>'to remove any barriers to enable and encourage all young people to participate in sailing and watersports'</i>.</p> <p>The Strategic Development Manager (Sports and Leisure) and the Recreation Manager hold the Council's sports and leisure operators to account and work in partnership with them towards improved participation. The officers take a strategic approach, to operate in accordance with recognised sports and leisure sector leadership (Sport England (Public Sector Leisure), Local Government Association, Energise Me (Hampshire and Isle of Wight)).</p> <p>The Council project to deliver the new leisure centre at Bransbury Park is derived from the sector leadership principles and is based on strategic need to provide city wide coverage of access to fit for purpose leisure facilities to serve all of Portsmouth's communities. The need for the project is evidenced and fits with residents requirements, to improve participation in physical activity for groups of greatest need.</p>
27.	Community Centres contribution to health & wellbeing (Housing)	Housing Operational Manager and Housing Community Services	<p>Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services directly manage 4 community centres within the city: Charles Dickens Centre (Buckland), Cosham Community Centre, Paulsgrove Community Centre, and Somerstown Community Centre. All four centres sit in areas of high social housing stock but operate in a tenure blind way. The aim is that the centres cover their costs to enable them to operate to the benefit of the whole community.</p> <p>The facilities at each of the community centres differ for each site, some have dancehalls, sports halls, community cafe and music studios, others have splash pools, snooker and community facilities.</p>

			<p>It is important that our centres run a diverse programme of activities to reach all members of the communities they serve. The service seeks to align with Portsmouth City Council's corporate priorities and aims, with an offer that ranges from learning new skills such as craft groups, choirs and learning a new language to improving health and care access through hosting weight management and smoking cessation sessions and encouraging people to live healthy active lives through the range of sporting activities available.</p> <p>Our community centres operate in areas of deprivation and therefore there are affordability issues with accessing paid-for activities and travelling to free provision outside of the local area, with greater impact to those in the Paulsgrove area as many services and facilities are based in the south of the city. Offering locality-based services aids accessibility for local communities. We have supported other directorates in increasing local opportunities e.g., the library service ran a space-based activity at the Charles Dickens Centre, and we have supported the organisers of the Live Well events and the We Shine event in Paulsgrove.</p> <p>There is no 'one size fits all' approach. Each community has differing needs which can change over time, and it is important that the service continues to reflect and seek feedback to ensure we are meeting those needs.</p> <p>The HNB community centre service are a front facing service who deal with a vast range of enquiries. The team, on a daily basis, signpost to a range of services, such as the Cost-of-Living Hub, CAB, the local housing office, Safe Clean and Tidy and You Trust.</p> <p>The community centre service is always keen to seek opportunities to work with other departments and organisations to best serve the</p>
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			<p>communities that the centres are situated in. The centres have a fixed pricing structure and offer a 20% discount to charities and CiCs. https://www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/community/</p>
28.	Community Centres contribution to health & wellbeing (Culture & Leisure)	Community Centres Officer (Culture & Leisure)	<p>Nine of the community centres which sit in Culture and Leisure are run by charitable associations, managed by committees of trustees elected by and from local residents and centre users. The centres vary greatly in size and facilities, but all run or host activities to offer broad and balanced programmes to appeal to all ages and at a reasonable cost. The associations operate under a Service Level Agreement with the council, which is monitored on an annual basis and their programmes are analysed on a biennial basis, along with data on their users; all of which monitors that they are meeting the needs of their communities.</p> <p>The most recent analysis of the programmes for all centres shows the following:-</p> <p>29% demand for physical activity - all sport and exercise sessions from armchair aerobics to football and including dance sessions, walking groups.</p> <p>18% demand for community interaction / social inclusion - including opportunities for people to come together e.g. faith based or political based meetings, jumble sales, coffee mornings, public meetings, elections, targeted social groups e.g. day services groups.</p> <p>17% demand for social / recreational need - parties, functions, trips, cafes, social clubs, hobby groups.</p> <p>16% demand for formal/informal learning / skill development - this is met through formal or informal classes with a stated learning aim</p>

			<p>e.g. adult education classes, U3A, supported IT sessions, BSL classes, dog training, pre-schools, language classes.</p> <p>9% demand for health promotion - services such as smoking cessation, Alcoholics Anonymous, drug recovery groups, Narcotics Anonymous.</p> <p>4% demand for arts / creativity - for example arts groups, craft groups, drama groups, performance groups and choirs.</p> <p>3% demand for meeting space - such as committee or group meetings, AGMs (not public meetings).</p> <p>2% demand for individual or community wellbeing - services provided to improve people's lives e.g. advice services, blood donor groups, fundraising groups such as Lions or Rotary Club.</p> <p>1% demand for office space for small community groups.</p>
29.	Contribution of events team towards access to culture and leisure and wellbeing outcomes	Events Manager	<p>The events team organise a range of free to access annual large-scale events including the International Kite Festival, Live at the Bandstand programme of music events, Armed Forces Day and the KGV Fireworks Display.</p> <p>The events are advertised across the city in a variety of media including Flagship, PCC social media, PCC website, Visit Portsmouth website and through local media. In addition, printed posters are displayed in the city's poster boards and at libraries and community centres.</p> <p>The events are located across the city. The team are developing the annual events programme as well as one off events such as the</p>

		<p>Coronation Big Lunch, looking at alternative locations to take the events to residents to minimise travel. This includes taking the Bandstand programme on tour in the city visiting Victoria Park and KGV Playing Fields in 2023.</p> <p>The annual events programme remains very popular with local residents providing a wide range and type of events to suit a wide variety of tastes and preferences. Attendance figures rose significantly following the pandemic and have not dropped off since.</p> <p>The events team encourage and support a wide range of community organised events and fit in as many as our open spaces allow. In 2023 the seafront event spaces are fully booked from April to September offering a variety of events for residents to attend.</p> <p>The team fully supports national initiatives and provide opportunities for communities to come together to celebrate. The team works with individual streets to make the street party application process straightforward. The city saw 109 street parties taking place to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee and 74 street parties celebrating King Charles III coronation. We were awarded a Star Council status by The Eden Project, the organisers of the Big Lunch initiative. The was recognition for making the street party organisation process straight forward.</p>
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