

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET
20TH NOVEMBER 2008

Activity Referral Scheme

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME	Improving Health and Wellbeing
CORPORATE PLAN AIM	A Better Quality of Life
CABINET MEMBER	Cllr Marcus Hart
HEAD OF SERVICE	Head of CAPS
CONTACT OFFICER	Kay Higman ext 2902
APPENDICES	None

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members about the Activity Referral Scheme.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 The Activity Referral programme be endorsed and the external funding of £24,000 be added to the revenue budget over a period of 3 years from 2008/09 to 2010/11 in accordance with paragraph 5.3.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The County Sports Partnership applied for funding from Sport England Community Investment Fund (CIF) to develop a county wide scheme for Activity Referral in Worcestershire.
- 3.2 Activity Referral is dependent upon a health professional referring patients for exercise/activity where it will realise health benefits for the individual. The partnership arrangements between GP surgeries, PCT and leisure centres are key to the success of the initiative. The staff at the leisure centres are being trained by the Wright Foundation.
- 3.3 The scheme can deliver potentially life changing results such as lowered blood pressure, weight loss, lower cholesterol or improved mental well being.
- 3.4 The bid to CIF was successful and now the project will become active in each of the 6 districts.
- 3.5 The programme will operate over the next 3 years.
- 3.6 A database of participants and outcomes will be collected.

3.7 The scheme is due to commence in January 2009.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Activity Referral Scheme will be overseen by a local task group (PCT and Wyre Forest Sports Development Officer). There is also a County Steering Group which in turn has input from the Worcestershire Primary Care Trust and County Sports Partnership.
- 4.2 There is a Service Level Agreement which is signed by the partners which details responsibilities of each of the organisations including health referral criteria.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 £24,000 of funding has been brought in to deliver the project over a period of 3 years.
- £12,000 from Worcestershire PCT (can be accessed in 1 up front payment)
 - £12,000 from CIF via the County Sports Partnership which will be available in smaller instalments of £4,000 per year over the 3 years
- 5.2 The funding will be used by the Council to pay DC Leisure for the management, delivery and promotion of the scheme.
- 5.3 The programme of expenditure to be added to the revenue budget is as follows:-
- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| 2008/2009 | £8,000 |
| 2009/2010 | £10,000 |
| 2010/2011 | £6,000 |
- 5.4 There are no staffing implications for this Council, as existing officers will act as facilitators for this scheme and make grant payments to DC Leisure.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There is a service level agreement which will be entered into between the Council and DC Leisure which will ensure the grant conditions are met fully.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The funding for the scheme is for a period of 3 years and therefore if the scheme is to be sustainable additional resources will need to be found from other sources or the 'business case' potential be further examined.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The Activity Referral scheme has been a desirable project for WFDC for the last 15 years but has never previously been able to be realised due to procedural and insurance issues. Now these issues have been resolved, the scheme will be an ideal project to realise major health benefits for the local community.

9. CONSULTEES

- 9.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- 9.2 Head of Financial Services
- 9.3 Head of Community and Partnership Services
- 9.4 Councillor Marcus Hart, Cabinet Member for Leisure Services

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Service Level Agreement

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