

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 24 JULY 2012  
title: GENERAL REPORT  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: PETER McGEORGE, WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICER  
COLIN WINTERBOTTOM, LEISURE & SPORTS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

## 1 PURPOSE

To update members on the current position regarding the waste paper and card collection contract, and to inform on staffing at Ribblesdale pool, a triathlon event to be organised in the Borough, and report progress on the newly merged Platform Gallery and Visitor Information Centre.

## 2 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Discussions are still ongoing with the County Council to find a solution to the issues relating to waste paper and card collected within the Ribble Valley, with the requirements to provide at least the same level of service and that no additional costs are incurred by this authority.

Officers are acutely aware that continued delays in resolving this matter are eating into the extension of the contract we have needed to offer Viridor, our service provider.

Given the `worst case` financial implications, as reported to Committee on 13 March 2012, officers are pursuing this issue as a matter of the highest priority.

## 3 LEISURE & SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

### 3.1 Ribblesdale Pool - Staffing

Action is being taken to address the need for lifeguard and Duty Officer relief cover, due to sickness absence; (at least 3 months), of a full time lifeguard who currently provides the relief duty officer cover.

Relief Duty Officer cover has been identified and two lifeguards are to be trained in preparation for when the operation requires them. Casual lifeguards are being utilised to fill the additional lifeguard hours that will now be available over the summer, and additional casual lifeguards are being sought to maintain a supply of cover over the traditionally busy summer holiday period.

### 3.2 Triathlon Development

The Pool is currently a popular venue for a 'mini' Triathlon event which is organised in conjunction with organisers Epic Events, and both adult and junior formats draw participants from all across the region.

The three components of Triathlon; swimming, cycling and running are to be developed both separately in the form of Cycle rides running groups and dedicated swimming sessions and then collectively as participants increase in confidence and enter a Triathlon event.

Cycling rides of varying distances are organised by Clitheroe Bike Club.

Running groups are being set up across the Borough to stimulate uptake by people wanting to keep fit in a social setting.

Swimming is considered to be the element of Triathlon, which requires most instructional support and the availability of Pool space is key to establishing a regular group, and it is anticipated that there is potential to increase the numbers attending public lane swimming sessions by providing opportunities to practice and improve swimming skills with the aim of competing in an event.

### **3.3 Platform Gallery and Visitor Information Centre**

The visitor figures, exhibition sales and overall feedback for visitors to the new merged facility are very encouraging over the first 2 month period and it is proposed to present a more detailed report at your next committee.

The open exhibition is shortly to be replaced with a Pendle Witches 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme, and this will run from 28 July to 6 October.

In the education section of the Gallery, there has been a very popular workshop run by Yazuyo Cooper, which received support funding of approximately £350 from the Japan Society, and four local schools have attended workshops.

The directional signage to the Gallery/VIC located around the town has still to be altered, and this has been causing visitor confusion in finding the building. Improved signage arrangements have now been agreed with LCC Highways Section, and action is imminent.

## **4 CONCLUSION**

These items are on-going and any significant developments will be reported to future Committees.

PETER McGEORGE  
WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICER

COLIN WINTERBOTTOM  
LEISURE & SPORTS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

JOHN C HEAP  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

For further information on:

Waste Management, please ask for Peter McGeorge 01200 414467  
Ribblesdale Pool, Triathlon, Platform Gallery, please ask for Colin Winterbottom 01200 414588

CS24712/General/IW