

## Community Committee Fortnightly News Update

This news update gives committee members a swift update on known plans/activities within their remit and highlights any new issues they may wish or need to take account of.

If a service has nothing significant to report, the relevant column will state '**NSTR**' (Nothing significant to report)

Committee Spokespeople continue to have the opportunity of receiving more detailed briefings, including those that may be of a more confidential or complex nature at the scheduled spokes meetings through which they are able to keep their own members further updated as necessary.

<b>News Update for the period ending: 18/12/2015</b>		
<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Update key bullet points</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Consultation & Community Relations	<p>We designed a survey to find out what members of staff thought of the proposed changes to car parking at County Hall. 796 people responded to the survey. We analysed the results and produced a report for the Council meeting.</p> <p>The Consultation and Community Relations team continue to support delivery of the budget consultation including recording and filing of responses, ensuring consultation systems are operating correctly and continuing delivery of the remainder of the consultation events.</p> <p>The team are working with Economic Development and the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce to host the annual Business Rates Consultation event on 13 January 2016. This year the event, aimed at medium-sized and strategically significant businesses, will cover our budget, financial prospects, Re-imagining Norfolk, devolution and proposed changes to the collection of business rates.</p>	Paul Jackson
Customer Services	Nothing significant to report.	C Sumner F Grimmer
Cultural Services	<p><b>Library and Information Service</b></p> <p><b>Kids Lit Competition</b> - In the annual international Kids Lit competition, which is promoted locally by the School Library Service, Litcham High School has come second in the UK final. The school won the UK competition last year and progressed to the international finals in the USA, so it's quite an achievement to do so well for a second year running. Three young women from the school are now</p>	J Holland

	<p>taking part in the wider library service volunteering programme for young people, known as Reading Hack. They will take over producing the library service blog which encourages young people to read and share reading with their peers.</p> <p><b>Takeover day</b> - The library service took part in last month's Takeover day for young people. You can see what the young people did here  <a href="https://norfolksls.wordpress.com/2015/11/20/takeoverchallenge-2015">https://norfolksls.wordpress.com/2015/11/20/takeoverchallenge-2015</a></p> <p><b>Norfolk Community Learning Services</b></p> <p><b>Ofsted Inspection</b> - The report following the recent Ofsted monitoring inspection visit on 24th/25th November 2015 has been published and reports that the Service has made 'significant progress' which is the highest grade that can be given at this stage in the improvement journey. This is the third re-inspection monitoring visit to the Service following the judgement of 'inadequate' in March 2015.</p> <p>This inspection looked at 2 themes, improvement in leadership and management and improvement in teaching, learning and assessment. Both themes are judged to have made significant progress.</p> <p>The new Ofsted monitoring report (which is viewable at <a href="http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/53545">http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/53545</a> ) states that 'with support from elected members and senior officers, the service is being positioned such that it can respond to, and inform, wider county council priorities'.</p> <p>Other comments include:</p> <p>'Operational improvements are evident' and 'the service is succeeding in attracting its target group of learners, often those with poor previous experiences of education, or seeking the qualifications needed to secure employment or gain promotion'.</p> <p>Headline data for 2014/15 for retention and achievement is said to</p> <p>'indicate an improving trend for adult learners', with apprenticeship success rates continuing 'to be strong'.</p>	<p>H Wetherall</p>
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	<p>This is a very encouraging report that recognises the significant progress the service has made and that the actions being taken are the correct ones.</p> <p><b>Service Restructure</b> - Now the vision and operating model have been approved by both Steering Group and Communities Committee, plans are being put in place to restructure the service to ensure that the structure supports the new ways of working. The process by which this will take place has been approved by the Personnel Committee and a full consultation document is currently being finalised. The consultation with staff will commence at the end of February. Trades unions are being kept informed of developments regarding the process and the consultation document will be presented to Steering Group at the February meeting.</p> <p>In addition, a full business case for the new look service is being finalised and this will be presented to CLT on 8th January, the NCLS Steering Group on 26th January and Communities Committee on 27th January.</p> <p><b>SFA Update</b> - The SFA visited the service on Tuesday November 24th. There were no issues of concern raised and the representative is content with progress to the extent that they no longer wish to visit the service every month and are content to progress to with a two-monthly catch-up with service senior leadership team.</p> <p><b>Museums Service</b></p> <p><b>British Museum Partnership Event at Norwich Castle</b> - On 19th November Norwich Castle hosted a special event with the British Museum as part of Museum of the Citizen, a national conversation about the role of the British Museum beyond Bloomsbury. Norwich Castle is one of only five museums taking part in this series of events examining the social, political, financial and educational value of museums working in partnership around the country. The themes of the Norwich event were Norfolk's internationally important tourism, including the developing Deep History Coast partnership and the growing links between the museum sector and the creative industries in the East of England.</p> <p><b>EDP Tourism Awards: Ancient House Museum wins Best Visitor Attraction (under 50,000 visits)</b> – the Ancient House Museum has won the highly competitive Best Visitor Attraction (under 50,000 visitors) at the recent EDP Tourism Awards. The fact that the initial nomination</p>	S Miller
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	<p>came from a member of the public makes the Award all the more special.</p> <p>The Museums Service was also nominated in the new 'Golden Years' category, and while Age UK won the award for their work on dementia awareness in the county, it was very positive that the excellence of NMS' work in welcoming older visitors was recognised by the judges. Both the win and the shortlisting will feature prominently in advertising for the Service in the coming months, helping to drive visitor numbers. With tourism playing such a key role in the economic life of the county, it's valuable to have the cultural sector's contribution to this success recognised.</p> <p><b>Norfolk Arts Service</b></p> <p><b>Building Creative Local Growth in New Anglia: 2016-19</b> - On behalf of the New Anglia LEP Cultural Board, NCC (Arts Service) is applying for Arts Council England (£500,000) and European Regional Development Fund (£593,599) funding to develop a 31 month sectoral growth programme. As one of 10 regional priority growth sectors, it will build on the significant partnership work already achieved between Norfolk and Suffolk's cultural sectors and the LEP.</p> <p>The Programme will be managed by NCC on behalf of the New Anglia Cultural Board and led by 6 regional delivery partners, including New Wolsey Theatre, Writers' Centre Norwich, SeaChange Arts, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, Aldeburgh Music, and DanceEast. For further information on Building Creative Local Growth in New Anglia please contact <a href="mailto:arts@norfolk.gov.uk">arts@norfolk.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>NRO – NSTR</b></p> <p><b>Active Norfolk - NSTR</b></p>	
<p><b>Community Safety and Fire and Rescue</b></p> <p>Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>Following the Paris attacks, counter terrorism response arrangements for emergency services have been reviewed. Norfolk Fire &amp; Rescue Service provides a range of relevant specialist response capabilities, integrated into overall local and national mutual aid and resilience plans.</p>	Roy Harold



	<p>and engagement could be more proactive and planned – people need to know what we do and how to contact us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have an important role to play in providing leadership on public health issues but we must remain respectful of the contribution our partners can make to the public health agenda.</li> <li>• We are a knowledgeable and passionate team but we need a clear strategy to focus our efforts and ensure the best possible outcomes for Norfolk.</li> </ul> <p>With this we will</p> <p>Work as a team to deliver tangible programmes that address our priorities, as identified in a clear and aspirational public health strategy.</p> <p>Work with others in partnership, particularly county and district council colleagues, to ensure that public health activity in Norfolk achieves optimal outcomes for our population.</p> <p>Communicate clearly and proactively, making ourselves accessible and showing an understanding of the needs of our stakeholders.</p> <p>Our next steps is to agree a strategy and priorities with Communities Committee and a workshop is being held on 9<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p><b>HIV Testing at Home</b></p> <p>As part of a national programme, the public health team have commissioned a new service providing HIV testing kits through the post to people's homes through the website <a href="http://www.freetesting.hiv">www.freetesting.hiv</a>. Whilst HIV is still rare, over 100,000 people are living with HIV in the UK. In Norfolk our rates are as high as 2 in 1, 000 people and people often find out they have HIV when they are already ill. We need to get better at diagnosing infection earlier because it can improve the outcomes and reduce the risk of further spread.</p> <p>The home testing service was launched on-line on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015. We don't have local data yet but nationally the response has been good and by 4<sup>th</sup> December, over 12,000 people have ordered tests and over 2,000 kits had been returned.</p> <p>This approach to testing is very innovative and a lot of research work has been done by Terrence Higgins Trust to make sure it is safe and acceptable for</p>	
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	<p>users. Feedback has been good, and a similar approach is already in place for Chlamydia testing. This is a good example of where innovation helps us promote self-help and reduce pressure on our local clinics. Pathways are in place to follow up anyone who has a positive results and make sure they can access treatment services.</p> <p><b>Tobacco Control Alliance</b>  The Tobacco Control Alliance chaired by Paul Smyth met on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The Alliance received and approved two Regional projects working with Cambridge, Peterborough and Suffolk. The first project using Regional funding aims to reduce demand for illicit tobacco and support trading standards through social marketing campaigns and information exchange. The second project focusses on illicit tobacco use and sales in Portuguese, Polish and Lithuanian speakers.</p> <p>The Alliance have started work on a self-assessment reviewing whether strategy and actions are in line with best practice. Once this self-assessment is in place the Alliance will invite an external peer review as part of the Public Health Directorate's sector led improvement work.</p> <p><b>Community Alcohol Partnerships</b>  One of our public health staff, Carol Doherty, has received a special thank you from the national Community Alcohol Partnerships who say</p> <p>"Thank you for all of your commitment to the CAP in Great Yarmouth and for your support in getting CAP known amongst colleagues in Norfolk. The support of Public Health is of great importance to CAP as your strategies link so clearly with our aim of reducing underage drinking and associated harms in local communities. You have always been a real CAP advocate and have gone the extra mile to publicise our work amongst colleagues.</p> <p>"If you do come across anyone who you would think would benefit from a CAP in their community in Norfolk, please do put them in touch with me and I would be more than happy to explore this possibility."</p> <p>The work that has been done by a wide group of partners is summarised in the attached</p>	
Registration Services	<p>The Ceremony Team has moved into the Shirehall, which means that work can commence at the Norfolk Record Office ready for the Norwich Registration Office Team to arrive. The feasibility study is underway and costs will be reported once we have them. Discussions aiming to ensure a continued registrar presence in some of the</p>	Caroline Clarke

	offices under public consultation for closure - Fakenham, Watton and Downham Market - continue.	
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