

Appendix C

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.

News Update for the period ending: 12/02/2016		
Service	Service Update key bullet points	Contact
Consultation & Community Relations	<p>The Consultation and Community Relations (CCR) team continues to deal with the enquiries about the consultation prior to budget agreement on 22 February. The consultation outcomes are now being analysed and used to inform further stakeholder engagement as we progress with the delivery of the Re-imagining Norfolk strategy.</p> <p>On Saturday 13 February, the Norfolk Members of Youth Parliament (MYP) with CCR will host a session at the Forum for prospective new MYP candidates ahead of the election later in March. This is an opportunity for young people to find out more about the role and how to run a successful election campaign.</p>	Paul Jackson
Customer Services	NSTR	C Sumner F Grimmer
Cultural Services	<p>Library and Information Service</p> <p>Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library (NML), Ground Floor changes - Alterations have been made to the Ground Floor layout of the NML. These changes will result in more space being given over to the Children's Library with the current children's library being devoted to Early Learning (ages 0 – 7) and the newly created children's area just outside the children's library being given over to children aged 8 – 14. This move will help us better meet the needs of children and will support the County Council's priority of Excellence in Education to</p>	J Holland

Sensitivity Classification:

	<p>support the ambition that children and young people are ready and able to learn. Feedback from customers has been favourable.</p> <p>Business courses at the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library - NLIS is working in partnership with the Council's Economic Development Department and business support provider Genix to offer business courses at the NML. The courses cover topics such as running a business from home, planning, finances, selling and marketing and will further enhance the business support provision available at the Library building on the 1:1 business support sessions delivered by Genix and New Anglia Growth Hub. This supports the County Council's objective of 'Real Jobs' and the measure of supporting more people to start their own business. Courses are monthly starting in February 2016.</p> <p>Norfolk's Great Big Read 2016 - This is our annual reading promotion aimed at encouraging adult readers to pick up a book, read more and try something new. The promotion this year will tie in with the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the death of Shakespeare. Every library will highlight a range of 20 books, written by modern authors. Each title references one of Shakespeare's works and they have been selected for their immediate appeal to a wide audience - male, female and young adult customers.</p> <p>Norfolk's Great Big Read will run from the 21st March - 24th April, the period leading up to Shakespeare's birthday on 23rd April.</p> <p>Libraries will hold shared reading sessions, offering an accessible and social way for customers to engage with some of the themes in Shakespeare's work. We will also be tying in with productions being put on at local theatres and offering a space for local actors to showcase their work.</p> <p>National Libraries Day – The NLIS celebrated National Libraries day on Saturday 6 February by holding storytelling and children's craft events in libraries across the county. To tie in with the opening of the exhibition <i>A Viking's Guide to Deadly Dragon</i> at the Castle Museum (see below) families were invited to attend a big Norfolk storytime – listening to Cressida Cowell's <i>How to be a Viking</i>.</p>	
--	--	--

	<p>The Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library also took part in the event after the library won funding from Bibliotheca - a global company which helps to support libraries. The event was covered by EDP – see link below:-</p> <p>http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/news/education/photo_gallery_and_video_vicious_vikings_chased_through_the_streets_of_norwich_by_snap_the_dragon_1_4409009</p> <p>Museums Service</p> <p>Opening of <i>A Viking's Guide to Deadly Dragons</i> - Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery's latest exhibition is <i>A Viking's Guide to Deadly Dragons</i> based on the popular <i>How to Train Your Dragon</i> series of books by Cressida Cowell. A special preview was held for Museums Passholder and Looked After children on Friday 5 February with the exhibition opening to the public on the Saturday.</p> <p>We were lucky to have Cressida Cowell with us for both the preview and opening Saturday and she engaged enthusiastically with the children, talking about her inspirations and looking at their own writing and art work. Her presence in Norwich also helped to generate excellent press coverage with Radio Norfolk, the EDP, Mustard TV and Anglia TV all interviewing her. The opening weekend was extremely successful with twice the number of visitors on the Saturday than we'd expect at this time of year – in total 1,503 visitors came through the doors over the first weekend of the show.</p> <p>The exhibition is also proving popular with schools with over 1,000 school children booked on to the two learning programmes which have been devised specifically for the exhibition, including a day-long literacy-focused session.</p> <p>The focus of the exhibition is Cressida's original artworks, presented in an imaginative and interactive environment designed to appeal to family audiences. A key partner is the Norfolk Library and Information Service, working together to make the most of the opportunity presented by the exhibition to encourage children's literacy. A special Dragon decorated mobile library van will be parked on the Castle Mound on special event days throughout the exhibition, and we linked up with libraries to help promote National Libraries Day on Saturday 6 February.</p> <p>Teaching Museum Recruitment - The Norfolk Teaching Museum Trainee Programme is mid-way through</p>	S Miller
--	--	----------

	<p>recruiting for its 2016 intake. This year's 6 posts were advertised in November 2015 and 180 applications were received, with a final shortlist of 40 candidates. These shortlisted candidates have been invited to an assessment centre at Norwich Castle in late February with a view to the successful candidates commencing the programme on 20 April.</p> <p>The Teaching Museum Trainee programme is an innovative project which seeks to both broaden entry routes into careers in museums and cultural heritage and make the most of the skills, experience and knowledge of colleagues working for NMS. Traditionally, entry to museum jobs has been restricted to graduates of MA programmes and those who have been able to devote hours of their time to voluntary work. By contrast the minimum level of education for the Norfolk Teaching Museum is A level or equivalent. In addition, it focuses on experience of, and commitment to, customer service and an enthusiasm for and engagement with museums and heritage which has not necessarily been gained through formal education.</p> <p>Trainees are appointed to a specific role but are expected to participate in a development programme of training, mostly delivered 'in-house' by NMS colleagues. The development programme gives them exposure to and experience of a wide range of museum work and means that at the end of the programme trainees are appointable to a variety of museum roles.</p> <p>Norfolk Arts Service</p> <p>Building Cultural Tourism in Norfolk and Suffolk: Update</p> <p>The New Anglia LEP Cultural Board initiative, <i>Building Cultural Tourism in Norfolk & Suffolk</i> has now reached the 'Amplify' phase. Funded by Arts Council England, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and seven regional arts organisations, it runs until the end of 2017 and is designed to encourage collaboration between cultural organisations and tourism bodies to the mutual benefit of both sectors, and specifically to increase the impact and scale of cultural tourism in the region.</p> <p>Norfolk Community Learning Services (NCLS)</p>	<p>S Miller</p> <p>H Wetherall</p>
--	---	------------------------------------

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCLS is bidding to the Tinder Project for £15,000 worth of ICT equipment to be used for community engagement activities. • The service is working with Corporate HR to ascertain the implications of the Government's apprenticeship levy on the Council. • NCLS adult learners with learning difficulties ran a 'bake off' in early February and raised over £100 for Macmillan Cancer Relief. <p>NRO - NSTR</p> <p>Active Norfolk - NSTR</p>	
<p>Community Safety and Fire and Rescue</p> <p>Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>16th February is the 50th anniversary of the RAF Neatishead fire, in which 3 firefighters lost their lives. On Sunday 7th February, a memorial service was held at Neatishead parish church, attended by survivors, family members, emergency services and RAF personnel. The Neatishead fire led to profound changes to national firefighting tactics, which continue to this day, and the Chief Fire Officer would like to record his appreciation of the work done to organise this commemorative event.</p>	Roy Harold
<p>Trading Standards</p>	<p>The Local Government Association (LGA) has released the summary report of their review of trading standards, which has been published on the LGA website.</p> <p>The key messages from the review are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commitment to trading standards remaining within local government, due to the synergies between the work of the service and other local government services and trading standards' ability to respond to local priorities ○ Acceptance of the different levels of trading standards work and a suggestion that existing frameworks for managing regional and national priorities via National Trading Standards (NTS) need to be strengthened ○ Larger services, often covering more than one council area, offer the most sustainable future for local trading standards services 	Sophie Leney

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central and local government need to be more honest and transparent about what is deliverable under current resource restraints <p>As a result of the review, the LGA has committed to a programme of further work to encourage councils to consider combining services to create larger units of trading standards or wider regulatory services.</p> <p>Trading Standards Officers continue to visit takeaway food establishments in the County to ensure that the businesses are fully aware of their responsibilities with regards to the allergens in the food they supply. Recent new food law requires that allergen information must be available and easily accessible by the consumer when they are making their choice of food. This can be done by providing information on the menu or a general notice or it can be provided verbally by staff. It is essential that such information is available and accurate as consumers with allergen sensitivities can, in the worst case scenario, suffer extreme reactions to allergens that can prove fatal. There are approximately 10 fatalities every year in the UK from adverse allergen reactions. In 2011 a restaurant in the County was prosecuted by the Trading Standards Service following a complaint from a consumer who suffered a severe reaction to dairy products in her curry after seeking assurances from the business that it was dairy free.</p> <p>Trading Standards Officers will be checking the accuracy of weighbridges across the County this month. The accuracy of such weighing instruments is essential for a number of reasons. For example, they are used to determine the payments to suppliers, in particular farmers, for incoming goods, such as grain, at production premises. Weighbridges are also used by heavy goods operators to ensure that their vehicles are not overloaded and in breach of road traffic legislation. Overloaded vehicles can present a danger on the road as their handling and braking can be adversely affected and over time they can cause damage to the roads themselves.</p> <p>The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 has been enacted. It defines a psychoactive substance as any substance which is capable of producing a mind altering effect in a person who takes it, and which is not an exempt substance, such as caffeine or alcohol. It creates offences of production, supply and possession. It is enforceable by both the Police and local authorities, who can issue</p>	
--	--	--

Emergency & Resilience	<p>prohibition/premises notices to prevent a person carrying on a prohibited activity or to prevent prohibited activity taking place on premises. The Trading Standards Service will liaise with our enforcement partners on how best to utilise this new legislation with regard to the supply of psychoactive substances in the County.</p> <p>The Resilience Team has recently facilitated an external debrief on an incident which impacted a doctors surgery in West Norfolk and an internal incident which affected NCC IT services. Debriefs are important in the identification of what went well and what could be improved to strengthen responses to emergencies. The debrief outcomes will be fed back to relevant parties for action to enhance future resilience.</p> <p>The IT debrief followed a day of major disruption to the NCC IT network on 4th February. ICT were supported by the Resilience Team and other colleagues in managing the situation. The incident emphasised why it is important for teams to have Business Continuity plans to respond to a variety of potential disruptions. The Resilience Team advocates business continuity arrangements for Norfolk businesses and voluntary organisations through the provision of advice and guidance and offers a consultancy service through Norfolk Safety.</p>	Jan Davis
Public Health	<p>Public Health Working Group The first meeting of the public health working group will be on Wednesday 24th February 1pm in the Edwards Room. You may have seen it advertised on the Democratic Calendar as a Member Development workshop on public health. Our agenda for that meeting is to provide an introduction: to our context and agree the terms of reference, and to have a short group session to develop the vision and principles for public health. The current members of the group are Cllr Alison Bradnock, Cllr Julie Brociek Coulton, Cllr Jonathan Childs, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr Harry Humphrey, Cllr Chrissie Rumsby and Cllr Paul Smyth.</p> <p>Town and Country Planning Association: Tackling Obesity Through Planning and Development Norfolk is to feature as an example of best practice in a publication from the Local Government Association and the TCPA. Public Health hosted a workshop and the TCPA visited Norfolk. They commended our proactive</p>	Louise Smith

	<p>obesity action plan, particularly the outcome to 'Make the most of potential of planning system to create a healthier built environment', the Health and Wellbeing Board's a county-wide healthy weight strategy, and the 'Tackling obesity – a health needs assessment for Norfolk' published by public health.</p> <p>Tackling Teenage Pregnancy Reducing teenage pregnancy is one of the big success stories in the public health field over the last decade. Teenage pregnancy rates are coming down in Norfolk, and are at their lowest recorded level. But we are not complacent, there are still over 300 teen parents a year in Norfolk. We are working with Children's services to make sure we continue to keep this issue a strategic priority. Unplanned early parenthood can have devastating impacts on young parent's educational outcomes and aspirations, and on their future employment. At a recent workshop feedback from delegates suggested that one of the key factors helping prevent teenage pregnancy was that the new integrated contraceptive and sexual health clinics (iCASH) commissioned by public health are accessible for young people.</p> <p>New sexual health clinic in Kings Lynn We are officially opening the King's Lynn Integrated Sexual Health Hub on 18th February 2016. It has been operational for a few months in new clinic facilities, and we are delighted to now have the chance to celebrate our partnership with the providers. A briefing on the iCash services is attached. There is already a clinic in Oak Street in Norwich, and a new facility is being prepared to bring family planning and GUM clinics together in Great Yarmouth.</p>	
Registration Services	<p>Registrars Consultation with staff on changes to the registration service structure to deliver planned savings begin in March.</p> <p>Improved figures for the register office building work at the Norfolk Records Office have been received and planning is underway to ensure the service can be in situ as little later than planned as possible. Ensuring sufficient public parking for customers of the register office once it moves into the Norfolk Records Office is a key area for consideration given the severe pressure on the existing space. We are endeavouring to get accurate costs for</p>	Caroline Clarke

	<p>dilapidations to the current register office, Churchman House, but have no firm idea yet what the plans are for the building, making financial planning difficult.</p> <p>Liberty Bell / Avalon Productions are filming a TV 'commissioning taster' at the Norwich register office and other related locations during the first week of March. If commissioned by BBC or ITV this will mean an extended period of filming for a six part series. The producers are seeking to film a series about the life affirming role of registration services and Norfolk has been chosen after a nationwide search.</p>	
--	--	--