

Sports Development

1. Executive Summary:

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| <p>1.1 The Overview Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a review of 'Sports Development' in the borough. A Task Group consisting of five Members of the Scrutiny Committee carried out this review.</p> | <p>throughout the borough and where these could be strategically placed to feed into the creation of a list of potential projects/ regeneration.</p> |
| <p>1.2 The terms of reference for the review were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the current provision, accessibility and availability of outside sports activities throughout Gravesham. • To consider whether the current provision offers opportunities to the young and old alike. • To understand the effect existing provision has had on healthy living, crime reduction and community cohesion in Gravesham. • To study existing partnership working and how this might be developed/ expanded in the future. • To make recommendations to Cabinet based on the committee's findings and conclusions. | <p>1.3.3 To encourage increased community access to existing educational facilities and to secure and negotiate formal community use agreements for new establishments and those that receive relevant funding for enhanced sports facilities through the Building Schools for the Future Programme.</p> <p>1.3.4 To seek funding to improve existing Council facilities including ancillary provision and to provide support to external facility providers where appropriate.</p> <p>1.3.5 Concentrate on the community aspect of projects to maximise the multiple funding opportunities available.</p> <p>1.3.6 Promote a culture of co-operation and information sharing between the Sports Development Officer, External Funding Officer and Private Sports Clubs within Gravesham to ensure positive and beneficial partnership work.</p> |
| <p>1.3 Recommendations to Cabinet are:-</p> <p>1.3.1 A borough-wide strategy be developed to co-ordinate and ensure the continued support of sporting facilities through planning restriction on future developments and the support for those sites under pressure.</p> <p>1.3.2 Evaluate what sporting facilities are desired</p> | <p>1.4 The context in which this review was undertaken was a Cabinet report in November 2004 which sought to set out a vision for Sports Development within Gravesham. Sports Development is an important area of activity for the Council. Nationally, activities in this field are increasingly</p> |

being recognised for their value to the social and environmental well-being of the community. In particular, the contribution they make to healthy lifestyles, crime reduction, educational attainment and community cohesion is regarded by professionals in those areas as being of equal value to their worth as leisure and recreational pursuits.

1.5 Evidence Gathering

1.5.1 Three evidence gathering sessions were held with Gravesham Borough Council's Sport and Recreation Manager, Sports Development Officer and External Funding Officer. Evidence was also gathered from John Moxham representing the views of private clubs within the Gravesham Borough.