

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
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Report of the Executive Director of Operations

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INSPIRE PETERBOROUGH

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Committee at the request of Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Cohesion to discuss the impact Inspire Peterborough will make on the creating opportunities and tackling inequalities agenda

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Scrutiny Committee note the contents of the report and presentation and provide advice guidance and suggestions for improvements to this initiative

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Inspire Peterborough will help to deliver the outcomes contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy; particularly around tackling inequalities and creating strong and supportive communities. We would also expect this work to have a strong impact on improving mental and physical health for disabled people, including veterans from the Armed Forces.

- Tackling inequalities by improving information, access and opportunities to engage in physical activities for disabled people.
- Creating strong and supportive communities by giving more people the opportunity to have a better quality of life through sport and volunteering.
- Helping people to live more healthy and sustainable lives. The benefits of participating in sport and physical activity are well known. Not only can sport improve physical and mental health, but it can provide social interaction and friendship.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Peterborough City Council and DIAL Peterborough are working in partnership to improve participation in and choice of disability sports in Peterborough. We want Inspire Peterborough to be the vehicle that enables more disabled people to take part in sport, providing enhanced life opportunities for all and reduce inequalities.

What is Inspire Peterborough?

Inspire Peterborough will be a charitable organisation that will promote sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing to disabled people of all ages. Building locally upon the legacy of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, we will support and inspire all disabled people to have better life outcomes through participating in sport, physical activity and volunteering.

How will the charity work?

Inspire Peterborough will be a charitable organisation associated with DIAL Peterborough. This will allow the charity to take advantage of the track record, reputation and established relationship with people with disabilities or long term health conditions whilst operating independently.

The charity will work in partnership with Peterborough City Council, Vivacity, health care providers, PCVS, Sports clubs, venues and national governing bodies and the armed forces to increase awareness, access and participation.

What will Inspire Peterborough Do?

Continue to develop a network of sports providers within the city that will for the first time, provide a joined up approach and offer pathways to new sports and physical activities. We will work with disabled people, sports venues and providers to facilitate greater access and choice of sport in the city. We want everyone to have the opportunity to take part in sport from the social level through to competitive and even elite standard, should they wish.

Through our partnership links, we will provide access to specialist advice and support for venues to enhance their facilities. We will assist sports venues and providers to apply for funding opportunities and link with volunteer centres to create opportunities for more people to become involved in sports volunteering.

What role will Vivacity play in this?

The work of Inspire Peterborough is far broader than the role Vivacity has to deliver sport within the city. We are working closely with Vivacity who is fully supportive of this initiative. This ranges from the strategic engagement at board level, through to more operational issues. Inspire will bring together people with disabilities and sports providers who will identify where the barriers to access are, introduce new disability sports and the opportunity to take part in them. In addition Inspire Peterborough will create and promote volunteering opportunities within the sporting arena for disabled and able bodied people.

How will we achieve this?

Through developing a single brand and access point, we will improve awareness and marketing of sports and physical activity that will lead to increased participation.

We will employ a project co-ordinator who will work with our partners (for example community groups, sports venues, GPs, schools/colleges and funding bodies) to raise awareness, development relationships and galvanise support.

Our aim is simple; everyone can take part.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 Inspire Peterborough is still in the early stages of development but we have identified three key objectives, namely:

- Register the charity with the Charities Commission and Company House
- Secure further funding
- Develop a work plan that will enable Inspire Peterborough to meet its objectives

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

The project is currently being seed funded by the cohesion board and donations through the Community Leadership Fund. It is also being supported by the City Council through some officer time to kick start the initiative. The initial funding will be used to employ a project co-ordinator and developing work streams that will increase participation, volunteering and accessibility. We do not anticipate any longer term financial liability for Peterborough City Council. Longer term we are exploring further funding opportunities through Public Health (in terms of commissioned service), Sport England and the National Lottery (in terms of grant funding)

The cost both for the individual and the city for supporting lifelong medical conditions is considerable. A relatively small amount of funding to support the work of Inspire Peterborough will help to reduce the long term costs for the city and bring greater life opportunities for the

individual. In addition we would anticipate increase business and footfall for sports clubs and providers thereby generating additional income for the city.

Legal

Inspire Peterborough will be an independent charity associated to DIAL Peterborough. The Inspire Peterborough board will have representatives from Peterborough City Council, DIAL, Vivacity, PCVS and other interested stakeholders. The charity, as an independent body, will be responsible for raising its own funding and associated legal liabilities.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Inspire Peterborough has already established a steering group and sports provider network. We have engaged with a number of key stakeholders such as Sport England (National Governing Body), English Federation of Disability Sport (The Strategic Lead for Sport and Physical Activity for disabled people in England), Vivacity, Living Sport (County Sports Provider for Cambridgeshire), Public Health, the Strong & Supportive Scrutiny Committee and the Cohesion Board. Further opportunities for consultation with other key stakeholders are scheduled for the near future.

A conference was held at the end of October for sports providers, partners and wider stakeholders and another one is planned for the end of February 2013

Feedback from consulted organisations has been extremely positive for this initiative.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 For the Inspire Peterborough board to consider the feedback and recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee and to use it as part of the consultation process

For Inspire Peterborough to return to the Scrutiny Committee in six months to update them on progress

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Inspire Peterborough overview

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