

## SCRUTINY BOARD (CULTURE AND LEISURE)

MONDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Hanley in the Chair

Councillors B Atha, A Barker, B Gettings,  
A Hussain, B Jennings, V Morgan and  
G Wilkinson

**19 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

**20 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor G Kirkland, Councillor L Mulherin (Maternity) and Councillor L Rhodes-Clayton.

**21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 be approved as a correct record.

**22 Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007 and 4<sup>th</sup> June 2007 be received and noted.

**23 Executive Board - Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Executive Board meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 and 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2007 be received and noted.

**24 Performance Report Quarter 1 2007/08**

Referring to minute 6 of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement submitted a report presenting the **key areas of under performance** at the end of Quarter 1 (**1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007**).

Appended to the report was detailed information on the performance indicators, reported quarterly which were relevant to the Board's portfolio.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure  
Jean Dent, Director of City Development  
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer  
Catherine Blanshard, Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage  
Andrew Macgill, Head of Arts and Events

Councillor B Jennings made reference to performance indicator **BV-170a 'The number of visits/enquiries/ website hits to museums per 1,000 population'** and sought clarification on whether it was possible to show the authority's position against **All England authorities** as well as **core cities**.

The Director of City Development and the Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage responded and agreed to raise this issue with the Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement.

The Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage explained to Board Members that the comparison against the **core cities** was not necessarily a helpful point of reference for some Performance Indicators, particularly relating to **museums**, as amongst the core city authorities there was a wide divergence of provision, meaning it was difficult to compare like with like.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That this Board notes the Quarter 1 performance information outlined in the report.

**25 Indian International Film Academy Yorkshire - 9th -10th June 2007 - Evaluation**

The Director of City Development submitted a report reviewing the Indian International Film Academy weekend held between 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June 2007 as it affected Leeds.

Appended to the report was a copy of a letter to the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council from the Chief Executive, Yorkshire Forward dated 12<sup>th</sup> June 2007 thanking the Council for their support of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards weekend.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure  
Jean Dent, Director of City Development  
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer  
Catherine Blanshard, Chief Officer, Libraries, Arts and Heritage  
Andrew Macgill, Head of Arts and Events

Councillor A Hussain and Councillor V Morgan made reference to the **car parking charges** implemented at the '**Bollywood event**' at **Roundhay Park** and sought clarification of the event organisers' current charging criteria. It was noted that this was not organised by the Council and that fees collected went directly to the Mela organising committee.

The Chief Recreation Officer responded and agreed to e mail Board Members with the relevant information.

**RESOLVED –**

Minutes approved at the meeting  
held on Monday, 8th October, 2007

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That those officers who were involved with the event be congratulated on its success.

**26 Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry- Terms of Reference**

Referring to minute 14 of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report on proposed terms of reference for the Middleton Park Equestrian Centre Inquiry.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to the terms of reference for the Inquiry as now outlined.

**27 Inquiry into Leisure Centres - Response to Recommendations**

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report on a formal response from the City Development department following the Board's previous Inquiry into Leisure Centres for the period 2006/07.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Scrutiny Board (Leisure) 2006/07 Leisure Centre Inquiry Recommendations – Responses from the Department' for the information/comment of the meeting.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure  
Jean Dent, Director of City Development  
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer

Councillor B Atha made specific reference to **Recommendation 6** 'That the Sports Trust has within its governance arrangements the obligation to consult with local communities when a change to the service is proposed' and **Recommendation 7** 'That irrespective of any other consideration the Trust shall have no power to dispose of assets, to close Centres or significantly reduce services without the approval of the authority' and reaffirmed the importance of the **governance arrangements**, including adequate consultation procedures where changes to the service were being proposed and that the **Sports Trust** should not have authority to **dispose of assets** without the Council's approval.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That this Board notes the response provided to the recommendations following the Inquiry into Leisure Centres.
- (c) That this Board notes that details of the specification in respect of all of these matters would be included in the report to Executive Board in October 2007.

## **28 Wharfemeadows Fence Inquiry**

Referring to minute 13 of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007, the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report in relation to proposed terms of reference for the Inquiry into Wharfemeadows Park Fence and the Council's Water Safety Policy.

The following representatives were in attendance to answer Board Members' questions:-

Councillor J Procter, Executive Member for Leisure  
Jean Dent, Director of City Development  
Denise Preston, Chief Recreation Officer

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need for the Board to be supplied with the verbatim notes of the appropriate full Council meetings
- the need to add Counsel, a representative from RoSPA and the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council to the list of witnesses
- clarification of what written information was available regarding legal advice received by the Executive Board

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That, subject to the addition of Counsel, a RoSPA representative and the Chief Executive, Leeds City Council to the list of witnesses, approval be given to the terms of reference for this Inquiry as now outlined.
- (c) That the Board's Principal Scrutiny Adviser be requested to seek clarification of the possibility of the Board meeting with Counsel.

## **29 Work Programme**

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which detailed the Board's current work programme. Also attached to the report was an extract from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions which highlighted decisions that fell within the Board's remit.

**RESOLVED –** That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

## **30 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- (a) Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at 10.00 am (pre-meeting for Board Members at 9.30 am)
- (b) That Councillors B Atha and B Gettings advanced apologies for this meeting be noted.

(The meeting concluded at 10.40 am)