

## **WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**TO: LEISURE COMMITTEE - 21 SEPTEMBER, 1999**

**SUBJECT: WARWICKSHIRE ACTIVE SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

**FROM: HEAD OF LEISURE AND AMENITIES**

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To seek Members approval to participate in the Warwickshire Active Sports Partnership for the next 5 years.

### **1. BACKGROUND**

2.1 This new initiative was announced by Sport England earlier this year and an interim report was considered by this Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1999.

2.2 The broad aim of Active Sports is to help develop sporting skills through access to coaching opportunities, club sport and governing body programmes. This should be achieved through partnership working and improved co-ordination of the activities of a range of organisations including local authorities governing bodies of sport, sports clubs, etc.

### **2. CURRENT SITUATION**

3.1 Meetings have taken place between the five District and Borough Councils of Warwickshire; Coventry City Council; Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Sport England and a format for a 5 year partnership agreement drawn up.

3.2 It is anticipated that Coventry City Council will act as the 'host' authority for the programme and be responsible for the appointment of the Active Sports Manager and provide all the office administration, day to day monitoring audit requirements etc that are required for the post.

3.3 The overall monitoring See Appendix 1 will be undertaken by groups of each authority as follows

- a) Warwickshire Sports Partnership Forum
- i) This group will consist of Members and Senior Officers of the partnership and Sport England

- ii) It will meet on an annual basis receiving a presentation and report from the Active Sports Manager
- b) Warwickshire Sports Partnership Steering Group
  - i) This group is the main strategic planning and management group for the Partnership
  - ii) The group will consist of one Senior Officer from each of the partners
  - iii) It is anticipated the group will meet quarterly
- c) Warwickshire Sports Development Officers Group
  - i) This group is the main implementation group for the Partnership
  - ii) The group will consist of Sports Development Officers from the Partnership, representatives from other bodies e.g. governing bodies of sport, LEA's will be invited as required
  - iii) Initially, the group will meet monthly although once established it is anticipated these will become bi-monthly
- d) Local Sports Specific Groups
  - i) The group will seek to establish new and maintain existing development groups and work in collaboration with the National Governing Bodies
  - ii) The group will consist of Sports Development Officers, governing body representatives, Education, School staff, Sports Centre staff, Volunteers, Coaches and others
  - iii) Initially the group will meet monthly but once established it is anticipated this will be bi-monthly

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Active Sports manager when appointed later this year will have the first task of applying for lottery funding which has already been set a-side by Sport England to fund the 49 active sport programmes throughout the country. The costs involved in 4.2 below.
- 4.2 As host authority Coventry City Council will provide in kind costs for the appointment of the Active Sports Manager as indicated in 3.2 above. As all the authorities have Sports Development Officers this is also counted as in kind contributions.
- 4.3.1 However, there is an anticipated shortfall of funding and this authority is being asked to contribute £4,000 per annum towards these costs, which would need to be increased by inflation annually. It is considered unlikely that money can be

found from existing resources as indicated to this committee in January. It has therefore been necessary to include a bid for additional resources of £4000 per annum over the next 5 years in our service plan for 2000/01 which will be discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

4.3.2 It is hoped as indicated in 4.1 the active Sports Manager will be appointed during the current financial year and any proportional costs prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2000 will be found from existing budgets.

4.4 In the event of one of the partners withdrawing they would need to give six months notice but obviously all the costs would then fall on the remaining partners. If this situation arose or for some reason excessive costs were identified for future years a report would be prepared for this Committee.

## 5. **KEY ISSUES**

5.1 The Active Sports Programme will meet many of the Council's Key Issues especially relating to equal opportunities.

## 6. **CONCLUSION**

6.1 Entering into the Active Sports Partnership will further raise the profile of sports opportunities in the District.

6.2 The programme should also ensure the standard and numbers also increase for a minimal cost to the Council.

## 7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Members are requested to agree to this Council's participation in the 5 year Warwickshire Active Sports programme contributing £4,000 per annum subject to a bid for additional resources of £4000 per annum over the life of the Partnership being approved by Strategy Committee later in the year.

7.2 If they agree to 7.1 then a nomination for the Warwickshire Sports Partnership Forum (see 3.3 (a)) be agreed.

Pete Rourke  
Sports, Leisure and Community Manager

Background Papers - Leisure Committee Report 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1999

Contact Officer: Dale Best 01926 317850 Pete Rourke 01926 317871

Areas in District  
Affected: All