

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	Yes
Included within the Forward Plan?	Yes (395)
Equality & Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken	No
Assessment will be undertaken as part of the procurement process.	

Item 8 / Page 1

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report asks Executive to agree to officers commencing a procurement process to commission health and wellbeing activities for the residents of the District with particular focus on those who live on the Forbes Estate.
- 1.2 The report asks that the £120,000 set-aside in the Council's St Mary's Lands/Forbes Estate Reserve is utilised to procure the delivery of the activities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Executive agrees to officers commencing an open and transparent procurement process to commission health and wellbeing activities for the residents of the District with particular focus on those who live on the Forbes Estate.
- 2.2 That Executive agrees to the £120,000 set-aside in the Council's St Mary's Lands/Forbes Estate Reserve being utilised to procure the delivery of the activities referred to in recommendation 2.1.
- 2.3 That Executive agrees the key principles for the delivery of the activities as detailed at 3.6 and notes that the activities will be complementary to services recently commissioned from The Gap as part of the Community/Voluntary Sector commissioning process.
- 2.4 That Executive delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (AJ), in consultation with the Head of Cultural Services and the Portfolio Holder for Culture, to oversee the procurement process including the award of the commission.

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members will be aware that Warwick West is a priority ward within the District's Sustainable Community Strategy and is consequently recognised as such within the strategic objectives of Fit For the Future. More particularly, the Super Output Area (SOA) which covers the Forbes Estate is one of the most deprived communities in the whole of Warwickshire (see plan attached).
- 3.2 There are 32,482 SOA's in England and each is ranked against seven domains. An SOA also receives an overall ranking where 1 is the most deprived and 32,482 the least deprived. The Forbes Estate scores poorly in terms of Income Deprivation and Education, Skills and Training (approaching the bottom quarter) but also with respect to Health Deprivation and Disability.
- 3.3 The Council's recognition of and commitment to helping its most deprived communities was recently demonstrated through the Community/Voluntary Sector commissioning process whereby The Gap has been commissioned to provide a number of community support and development services for Warwick West's community. Notwithstanding this investment, officers consider that the Council has an opportunity which could further improve the lives of those in that local community and more broadly, residents throughout Warwick District.

- 3.4 Forbes Estate does not have a play area and has no green space. This issue has been highlighted at recent community forums where a community priority was identified as creating activities for both elderly and young people. However, in close proximity to the Estate are a number of Sports Clubs. At least two of these Clubs has approached the Council and stated that they would like the opportunity to provide activities for local residents either in partnership or as a separate "delivery agent".
- 3.5 Up until recently, the Council has not had the funding to support this aspiration, however, at its meeting of 12th October 2011, Executive decided that £120,000 remaining from the St Mary's Lands scheme should be appropriated to a new reserve entitled St Mary's Lands/Forbes Estate Reserve. Members made it clear that this sum must only be used for investment in the St Mary's Lands/Forbes Estate area. Consequently there is now an opportunity for the Council to commission health and wellbeing activities for the residents of a key target area of the District.
- 3.6 Should Members agree that health & wellbeing activities are commissioned, it is suggested that the following key principles need to form the framework of the commission:

- A broad range of activities should be developed covering but not limited to:
 - Art
 - Dance
 - Fitness
 - Sport

(It is recognised that further consultation with the local community (including those with disabilities) will need to take place to ensure that the most appropriate activities are commissioned)

- That activities should promote community wellbeing and tackle social exclusion;
- That access to those activities must be available to all but that preference would be given to local residents where the number of users needs to be restricted;
- That activities should be developed to tie-in with the way people "live their lives";
- That the setting of any charges for activities must take account of the likelihood of potential users' ability to pay;
- That the needs of those with physical and mental impairment must be reflected in the design of activities;
- That a contract between the Council and successful bidder shall be for the period up to 31st March 2015 and that the maximum Council investment shall be £120,000;
- That the contract will be clear about the expectations of both parties;

- That the Council's funding may be used for both capital and revenue investment but that claw-back provisions will be put in place should activities not be delivered in accordance with the contract.
- That the successful bidder shall be a properly constituted body whose aims and objectives are not in conflict with the Council's Vision, whose membership is available to all and has no political affiliation;
- That the successful bidder has a track record of working in partnership with the Council or other statutory bodies;
- That the Council would make available for use other land in its ownership where this could be demonstrated that it supports a bid;
- That there is local community representation on the Club's Management Committee.

3.7 The procurement process will be in accordance with the Council's Code of Contract Practice. This ensures that the process is open to all, clear about what is expected and will provide the greatest value for money for the Council

3.8 Should Executive agree to this initiative, this would be a significant partnership for the Council. The Deputy Chief Executive (AJ) is the Corporate Management Team lead officer for Warwick and it is therefore recommended that he oversees the work at the current time.

3.9 Following the award of the tender, officers from Cultural Services would monitor the contract on an ongoing basis with formal quarterly meetings to ensure that agreed outputs and outcomes are achieved.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED

4.1 No alternatives to the recommendations were considered.

5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

5.1 The commission can be awarded within officer resources and available funding so there is no increased revenue or capital budget requirement.

5.2 The Council currently has a St Mary's Lands/Forbes Estate Reserve of £120,000 with no commitments against it. The report seeks Executive approval to take account of this sum in the development of the business case.

6. POLICY FRAMEWORK

6.1 The Council's vision, as contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy and consequently Fit For the Future, is to make Warwick District a great place to live work and visit.

6.2 Fit For the Future has identified key target wards where the Council will endeavour to make a real impact on the quality of life of residents. This report supports that ambition.