



Doncaster Council

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on Tuesday, 3rd September, 2019 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Thursday, 5th September, 2019

The end of the call in period is 5.00 p.m. on Monday 16th September, 2019 and therefore, the decision can be implemented on Tuesday, 17th September, 2019

Present:

Vice-Chair - Councillor Glyn Jones (Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Equalities) (in the Chair)

Cabinet Member for:

Councillor Nigel Ball	Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure and Culture
Councillor Joe Blackham	Portfolio Holder for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services
Councillor Rachael Blake	Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board
Councillor Nuala Fennelly	Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools
Councillor Chris McGuinness	Portfolio Holder for Communities, Voluntary Sector and the Environment
Councillor Bill Mordue	Portfolio Holder for Business, Skills and Economic Development
Councillor Jane Nightingale	Portfolio Holder for Customer and Corporate Services.

Apologies:-

An apology for absence was received from the Chair, Mayor Ros Jones.

PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS

Public Questions and Statements

There were no public questions or statements made at the meeting.

Decision records dated 20th August, 2019 be noted.

DECISION 1.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

6. Approval of the 'Get Doncaster Dancing' Strategy

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) endorsed the Get Doncaster Dancing Strategy;
- (2) committed to supporting the development of the recommendations within the strategy; and
- (3) championed the role of dance in contributing to a wide variety of outcomes for Doncaster residents.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet were presented with a report detailing Doncaster's first Dance participation strategy, which was described as the first of its kind in the Country.

The Strategy described how the Council intend to work together with the local dance sector to increase levels of physical activity through dance participation in Doncaster.

Doncaster has some of the lowest physical activity levels in the country and some of the highest levels of adult obesity. Dance is uniquely placed to help people get active and to improve physical, mental and social outcomes, promote creative expression and community networks. Dance can also engage people who are not motivated by formal fitness because it is viewed as a fun and social activity and engages a diverse population from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures.

The Council have received over 500 views from residents, community organisations, dance providers and stakeholders to develop the strategy and thanks were given to those who had contributed to enable the Council to achieve the vision of the strategy and ambitions for the future. It was noted that over 70% of the views received were from people who did not currently dance so there had been significant interest.

Doncaster is lucky that it already has a strong sector offer, which the Council are looking to engage further and support to broaden the dance opportunities available across the borough. The Get Doncaster Dancing Steering Group will work with the dance sector to raise the profile of dance opportunities across all ages and all areas of the borough, allowing it to take centre stage as an activity to all.

There are six ambitions of the Strategy detailed at paragraph 15 of the report. Cabinet were advised that an action plan will be developed to deliver the ambitions of the strategy and performance will be monitored by the Get Doncaster Dancing Steering Group and Get Doncaster Moving Board.

Councillor Rachel Blake welcomed the approach stating that Doncaster showed real creativity and applauded the report. She sought clarity with regard to funding of the scheme. It was reported that initial engagement with existing partners would be carried out and a mapping exercise be undertaken to assess what funding streams could be accessed across the borough. At this stage DMBC funding is not required. It was also advised that there was also potential to access monies through ARTS and Sport England funding streams.

Councillor Joe Blackham recognised the value behind the strategy and sought assurances that residents in Doncaster with lower incomes would not be excluded from participation as many dance activities can be costly. Officers advised that they were aware of those issues and the strategy sought to develop an all age asset based community development dance model in all localities of the borough to reduce health inequalities and get more people involved to increase their social capacity. This would include potentially accessing funding through Doncaster Community Arts (DARTS) and Sport England.

Councillor Nuala Fennelly applauded the Strategy and asked that children be encouraged to be involved by engaging with schools.

In conclusion, the report and strategy was welcomed highlighting that whilst there are aspects of dance, which are at a high level, the Strategy focussed on the social aspect of dance and enabling people and communities to become more active and enjoy dance purely as an inexpensive leisurely pastime.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do nothing – The absence of an adopted Dance Strategy may restrict the ability of stakeholders and the dance sector to work in a co-ordinated and cohesive way, ensuring best value for the resources that we have and maximising the expertise within the local dance sector. This could result in opportunities being missed and in particular have a weaker position when applying for external funding.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Rupert Suckling, Director of Public Health

Signed..........Chair/Decision Maker

