

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 22 April 2008

Subject: Leisure and Young People

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Cohen

Item:

Recommending:

That the report of the Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder be noted

Report:

As this is the last full Council Meeting of the current Municipal Year, detailed below are a number of significant successes for 2007/08.

Social Inclusion Programme at Limes Farm, Chigwell

In the Summer 2007, Leisure Services established a very successful working partnership with Tottenham Community Foundation, to provide diversionary leisure activities for young people living on Limes Farm Estate. The partnership has gone from strength to strength and an application has been submitted to the Football Foundation to replicate the programme in Waltham Abbey and Debden.

Fit as a Fiddle

In October 2007, Leisure Services were successfully awarded £150,000 from Big Lottery Well Being Fund, to deliver the first ever cross - district health improvement initiative, to deliver physical activity programmes to people in their fifties and above.

District Play Strategy and Big Lottery Award

In December 2007, Leisure Services were successful in securing £243, 871 funding towards the improvement of children and young people's play and leisure facilities in priority areas across the district. This funding will enable the provision of new facilities for 0 – 16 year olds in Limes Farm, Nazeing and Lambourne.

Touring Exhibition Programmes

During 2007, the Museum successfully attracted £60,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund 'Renaissance in the Regions', to design and develop 'Tales of the Boarder' (an oral history project focussing on ex- boarders at Great Stony School, Ongar) and a Slavery exhibition (commemorating the abolition of slavery), that toured Essex and the East Region.

Epping Forest Youth Council

Throughout the summer of 2007, work was undertaken with local schools and other stakeholders, to develop a 'youth voice' for the district and in January 2008, Epping Forest Youth Council (EYC) was officially launched.

The Youth Council consists of representatives from each LEA Secondary school in the district, Public Schools and young people that live, but do not go to school in the area. Since their appointment in January, Youth Councillors have undertaken a range of intensive training and mentoring aligned to their roles and have conducted two formal EYC meetings.