

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C-019-2011/12
Date of meeting: 12 September 2011



Portfolio: Leisure & Wellbeing

Subject: 2012 Olympic Games, High Level Operations Plan for the White Water Centre and joint working with Broxbourne Borough Council

Responsible Officer: John Gilbert (01992 564062)

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470)

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- (1) To agree to joint working between Epping Forest District Council and Broxbourne Borough Council in respect of street scene issues; and**
- (2) To receive the final version of the City Operations Plan at a future Cabinet meeting along with any financial implications arising from “Look and Feel” and the Torch Relay.**

Executive Summary:

The Olympic venue for the white water canoe and kayak events is situated at the newly constructed Lee Valley White Water Centre located in Broxbourne Borough Council adjacent to this District's border in Waltham Abbey. The transport and taxi hubs are both located wholly within this district. Host authorities have had to draw up a high level operations plan to cover a range of operational and local issues to ensure that the events at the location are successful and contribute fully to the overall success of the Games. Broxbourne Borough Council has also produced a high level plan, and that will ultimately be merged with this Council's to form the overarching operations plan for the venue.

A key component of the delivery of the combined Operations Plan will be joint working between this Council and Broxbourne Borough Council, especially on matters pertaining to street scene.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

With less than 12 months to the Games, it is essential for host authorities to be able to demonstrate to LOCOG and Government that they are well prepared with their plans for delivering successful Games' venues.

Other Options for Action:

The only alternative action is to reject the principle of joint working which will render the Operations Plans for this Council and Broxbourne more difficult to deliver. This cannot be recommended due to the LOCOG requirements associated with Olympic venues.

Report:

1. The Olympic venue for the white water canoe and kayak events is situated at the newly constructed Lee Valley White Water Centre located in Broxbourne Borough Council adjacent to this District's border in Waltham Abbey. The transport and taxi hubs are both located wholly within this district. Host authorities have had to draw up a high level operations plan to cover a range of operational and local issues to ensure that the events at the location are successful and contribute fully to the overall success of the Games. Broxbourne Borough Council has also produced a high level plan, and that will ultimately be merged with this Council's to form the overarching operations plan for the venue.

2. The High Level Plan has to deal with issues such as:

- transportation to and from the venue;
- parking controls;
- safety;
- street trading & licensing issues;
- emergency planning;
- public health;
- street scene; and
- "look and feel".

3. The Plan is not yet complete, with the sections on public health and emergency planning yet to be completed. It will also be necessary to develop the management plans to deal with the identified risks and to also develop working protocols to ensure the delivery of these high level proposals. It is proposed that once the Plan is complete, and merged with the Broxbourne Plan, it is brought back for Cabinet consideration.

4. A clean and pleasant local street scene will be very important during the Games period. There will be a commitment required to additional street cleansing, local grounds maintenance and additional emptying of litter bins etc. In order to ensure that this is effectively and efficiently carried out, it is prudent for the two Councils to work closely together and to enable cleansing teams to operate on both sides of the border. Cabinet is requested to agree this general principle which will then enable officers to discuss how best this can be achieved with colleagues in Broxbourne and Hertfordshire.

Resource Implications:

Every effort will be made to accommodate additional work within existing work schedules and by rescheduling existing work to different times of the day. However, the main issues which may generate additional costs are:

- (a) enhanced street cleansing frequencies;
- (b) enhanced grounds maintenance works adjacent to or on the routes to and from the venue; and
- (c) "look and feel" not covered by the venue specific LOCOG allocation.

At this stage it is considered that the costs associated with (a) and (b) are minimal and officers will continue to try to amend existing schedules to create the additional capacity required. Item (c) will require a further report to Cabinet once the outcome of the LOCOG allocation for the venue is clearly understood. It is suggested that Cabinet may, at a future meeting, wish to consider allocating a budget for "look and feel" to enable towns, villages and communities not near to the venue to also be able to celebrate the Games through

decorations in their areas. This could require local communities to match fund to enable a small budget allocation to go further.

Legal and Governance Implications:

LOCOG require all host authorities to develop an operations plan for venues in their area. They provide a template which venue authorities should follow. Although this Council is not strictly a host authority, the Council is ‘hosting’ the transport hub, taxi hub and a park and ride facility at North Weald Airfield. Therefore, it seems appropriate for the Council to develop its own operations plan, based upon the LOCOG template, to cover those operational areas. This plan, if agreed, will be merged with the main Broxbourne BC Plan to form the final plan to be submitted to LOCOG.

A degree of joint working between this Council and Broxbourne will be required to enable a sensible use of resources throughout the event. It may also be prudent to look at authorising enforcement officers from both Councils to act on both sides of the border. Should this be considered appropriate, a further report will be brought to the Cabinet.

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:

It will be essential to ensure that the street scene in the area of the Games and the routes leading to it is in good condition for the duration of the events in Broxbourne. This will, in the main, be achieved through amending existing work schedules in order to keep additional costs to a minimum.

Consultation Undertaken:

Broxbourne BC.
LOCOG.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:

Risk Management

The Operations Plan has within it a comprehensive risk assessment section although the management plan for those risks has yet to be completed.

Equality and Diversity

Did the initial assessment of the proposals contained in this report for relevance to the Council's general equality duties, reveal any potentially adverse equality implications? No

Where equality implications were identified through the initial assessment process, has a formal Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? No

What equality implications were identified through the Equality Impact Assessment process?
N/A.

How have the equality implications identified through the Equality Impact Assessment been addressed in this report in order to avoid discrimination against any particular group?

N/A.