

**Leisure and Health Portfolio
Councillor T A Cullen**

Report to Council – 16 July 2025

Children and Young People

The Children and Young People (C&YP) post has been vacant since Jan 2025. The successful applicant withdrew at the end of May to take up a secondment in Economic Development. We are re-interviewing on 26 June 2025. UKSPF funding has been applied for to enable the original successful applicant to deliver the Youth Conference whilst we re-recruit to the post. This is a lengthy process for the Communities Team as Police Vetting takes approximately eight weeks before a start date can be set.

Youth Conference

The Youth Conference is the result of work carried out by the CY&P Group of Broxtowe Partnership in partnership with a Researcher at Oxford University.

The Researcher conducted research in the autumn of 2024 focussing on young people's mental health needs linked to Social Media, Healthy Relationships and Community Safety issues.

It is hoped the Youth Conference will be co-produced alongside young people through focus groups.

The event will take place in the autumn of 2025 or early 2026 dependent on the deadline for the UKSPSF submission of a report commissioned from the Researcher.

The proposal creates a community event bringing together young people, parents and carers, teachers and community organisations to identify key issues and co-produce solutions alongside young people.

Active discussions are underway with multiple partners and organisations to ensure meaningful recruitment of young people and valuable contributions.

Dementia

The next Broxtowe Dementia Event is being planned for 26 September 2025 with a focus on end of life, care homes and partnership working.

From the last event, support at mealtimes in hospitals was raised as a concern. To support families and friends when their loved one attends hospital a simple information flyer has been created in partnership with Nottingham University Hospitals and the Broxtowe Action Network for Dementia (BAND).

A new 'Working to become Dementia Friendly' toolkit is being developed.

Carers Roadshows

This year, the carers roadshows will have a dementia focus. The first roadshow is at Eastwood Library on 12 June 2025, 10am -2pm and a Dementia Friend Information Session will be held to recruit new Dementia Friends. Further roadshows for Beeston and Stapleford are being planned for the autumn.

North Broxtowe Bursary Scheme

Name of Project	Overview	Start Date	Feedback
Boccia Club	For those with a Learning Disability	November 2024	<p>Delivered by Pulp Friction. Need identified following Learning Disability Roadshows in 2023.</p> <p>Meets first Friday of the month at Rumbletums Cafe in Kimberley. Approximately 19 people with a learning disability attend, including those from Broxtowe Day Service – in Chilwell, arrive by minibus. Attendees describe how much they value this club and how it has enabled them to make new friendships.</p>
Nordic Walking	For those with a Learning Disability	February 2025	<p>Delivered by Pulp Friction. Need identified following Learning Disability Roadshows in 2023. Meets first Saturday of month at Kimberly School. 16 people registered. It has become a family event rather than just the individuals as parents and carers also enjoy taking part.</p>
Menopause Group	Open to all Menopausal women including those experiencing Perimenopause	November 2024	<p>Meet third Saturday of the month, at various venues. Number of attendees fluctuate but can be up to 25 women. WhatsApp Group</p>

			<p>created and Menopause Directory created (to support signposting to additional services / help for the group). Have had exercise classes - walking, yoga and planning open water swimming in Aug / Sept. Have held talks on mental health, weight management / healthy eating. Supported litter pick events. Group signposted to LLeisure wellbeing workshops.</p>
Macular Degeneration (sight loss group)	<p>For those with visual impairment - number of registered "blind/visually impaired/ macular degeneration" people living in Eastwood and Broxtowe</p> <p>Eastwood 1615 Broxtowe 4890</p>	January 2025	<p>Meet last Tuesday of month at Eastwood Town Council. Approximately 20 -30 people attend. Supported by the Macular Society. Feedback is very positive and "Glad to have found others with the same condition". This demonstrates how much isolation has been experienced and how this group now helps to reduce this.</p> <p>The Macular Society are restructuring – awaiting to see if the Regional Manager will keep his job. There are three volunteers at the group who could step in if needed. Conversations to be held, including the Eastwood Community Coordinator (formerly Local Area Coordinator) who supports the group.</p>
Intergenerational Exercise Group	Older people and younger people exercising together	January 2025	<p>In partnership with Eastwood House Residential Care Home and Eastwood Family Hub, weekly (Tuesday 10 - 11am) exercise class for care home residents and families with children under 5 years. Pom poms, bells, beanbags, parachute and more with child</p>

			<p>friendly music – head, shoulders, knees and toes, the hokey cokey etc. “Residents absolutely love seeing the children” and it has helped with residents experiencing low mood and the exercises have helped with their mobility.</p> <p>Quote from a parent - “The Intergenerational dance class is a fun and joyful session to attend. My son loves dancing along to the different songs and handing out the bells to the residents of the care home. It’s a pleasure to watch him interact with the residents, which I think makes a difference to their day also. I would highly recommend the class to any parent.”</p> <p>Looking to increase numbers of children and explore other care homes.</p>
--	--	--	---

There is a further project planned at Eastwood Young People’s Centre but due to a staff vacancy we are awaiting a start date.

Mental Health

In response to a recent suicide, we have been working with public health and the Samaritans to raise awareness of information and support for those struggling with their mental health. Chilwell Retail Park, the Village Hotel, Attenborough Nature Reserve and Beeston Pubwatch are displaying information cards in point-of-sale areas.

Over the next few months a Samaritans stall at the Nature Reserve and in the Square in Beeston is also being planned.

A new Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Strategy and Charter has been released by Public Health and a report to GMT is being prepared.

Smoking

A new smoking clinic, supporting women in pregnancy, is starting 18 June in Eastwood.

Partner News

Citizens Advice Broxtowe (CAB) are exploring a project to support SEND families at Chelsey's Café in Chilwell.

CAB and Hope Nottingham through the Broxtowe Food Support Network are exploring a pilot project to support foodbanks with advice sessions. UKSPF funding to support this is to be confirmed.

Liberty Leisure Limited

Following a difficult end to 2023/24 with the loss of Kimberley Gym and Swim, 2024/25 was expected to be a challenging year financially, however the team have worked hard to achieve a great outcome this year. Overall, there is a surplus of £800 having only taken two thirds of the initially proposed management fee, saving the Council £123k. This was achieved by working hard to increase income in all areas by increasing membership sales and retention, increasing attendances and small price increases whilst also reducing expenditures where possible. There were also unplanned savings in insurance, business rates and utilities compared to the previous year.

With the loss of Kimberley Gym and Swim Exercise Referral delivery in the north of the Borough now operates in partnership with Greasley Sports and Community Centre and partnership has progressed well.

The Wise Moves (falls prevention) classes set up by Liberty Leisure, after initial funding from Broxtowe Borough Council, are now established in the community and will continue to be self-sustaining when the funding runs out in Q1 25/26.

The Broxtowe Learning Disability Collaborative, a joint partnership between Liberty Leisure Limited and Nottingham West PCN, successfully won the award in the category of 'Health Inequalities' at the Nottinghamshire Integrated Care board annual awards event held on 6 November. The Broxtowe Learning Disability Collaborative, which supports people with mental and physical disabilities gain access to a range of Health and Wellbeing services including GP services, physical activities, eye care services, flu and health check clinics etc.

Liberty Leisure have been involved with the development of the Stapleford Community Pavilion and will be the operator of the centre when it opens later this year. This facility will be a great asset for the community and with the partners we are looking to work with will achieve the desired long-term sustainability.

Cultural Services**Hemlock Happening**

The Council's flagship event had another successful year. Unfortunately, the army took the decision to cancel the planned Red Devil parachute jump due to the wind

speeds on the day but that did not detract from over 6,700 attending the event. The Green Festival archway crocheted by the Stapleford Yarn Bombers was a great addition and served as a perfect spot for photos. Positive comments were received from both visitors and performers and suppliers on the day. The Communications, Cultural and Civic Services Team were also praised for the event management practices by partners including Highways, Nottinghamshire Police, EMAS as part of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) and their Event Safety Management Plan will be used as an example of best practice across the County.

Friday 18

This year's live music event kicked off on 20 June and will run until 8 August with an extended finale. New artists, along with crowd favourites are included in this year's line- up to perform an hour of live music in Beeston Square from 18.00 hours, inspired by a similar event in our twin town of Gutersloh. A pilot event has also begun in Kimberley offering an hour of live music at 18.00 hours in various pubs and venues in the town.

Summer events

A host of summer events are taking place over the coming weeks including:

- Nuthall Play Day - 30 July
- D. H. Lawrence Festival - 1 August - 14 September
- Chilwell Play Day - 5 August
- Eastwood Play Day - 7 August
- Stapleford Play Day - 11 August
- Beeston Summer Fete - 16 August
- Green Festival - 20 September

D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum Performance

In 2024/25, the museum attracted 4,544 visitors and income was increased by 13.7% to £14,949 thanks to a review of admission charges as part of the 2024/25 budget. Expenditure has also decreased to £83,598.63 compared to £118,487.00 in 2022/23 when the museum transferred back into the Council.

This brings the subsidy per visitor down to £15.10, compared to £31.07 in 2022/23 when the museum transferred back into the Council. This is also lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Since 2023/24, engagements have also been recorded as the museum has explored ways to engage audiences about D.H. Lawrence and local heritage in new ways, beyond the museum building itself. Activities have included the D.H. Lawrence music festival, the D.H. Lawrence Children's Writing Competition, a five facts about D.H. Lawrence campaign and travelling exhibitions in other cultural venues in the Borough.

The number of engagements for 2024/25 was 11,493. This is a 48% increase on 2023/24 at 7,724 engagements. This gives a subsidy per engagement of £5.97.

For 2024/25, there was also an increase in volunteer hours undertaken from 348 to 392.

D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum Activities

This year's D.H. Lawrence Children's Prize Writing Competition attracted 601 entries, which is the highest to date. Entries were received locally, as well as from across the world, including USA, Thailand, India, Seoul, Madrid, Ireland and United Arab Emirates.

The Museum has recently provided the setting for a recording of a BBC Radio 4 documentary about Lawrence.

The monthly Wellbeing Walk Programme continues to be well attended, with recent attendance from an NHS Social Prescriber and their patients as a wellbeing activity as part of their care programme.

Following last year's success, the Museum will be delivering Pop Up Museum's as part of the D.H. Lawrence Festival at various events in Council's summer event programme.

External Funding

Over £204,000 funding has been secured to support cultural activities since 2023/24. This includes:

- £25,000 from UKSPF to support CCity projects on literature, music, food and lifestyle, visual arts, history and custom and wellbeing.
- £10,000 from UKSPF to create a new D.H. Lawrence walking trail in Eastwood, inspired by the Blue Line Trail
- A further £98,500 UKSPF funding was secured for a project to create an augmented reality and audio trail about D.H. Lawrence and Eastwood heritage. This project has been managed by the Economic Development Team.
- £13,000 ground rent income from Council events.
- £27,000 sponsorship to support the events programme.
- £30,000 from the Arts Council to support the Broxtowe Creates Festival in June 2024.
- £1,000 from local partners to support museum events and projects.

In 2025/26, a further £47,500 UKSPF funding has been secured to support cultural activity including Proms In The Park events, Outdoor Theatre Events, enhancements to the Green Festival and a cover for Beeston bandstand which will make the space more accessible for events.

Work is ongoing in conjunction with the Asset Management and Development Team to identify external funding for works to support the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the Museum building. This includes an application which was submitted in June to the Arts Council's Museum Estate and Development (MEND) Fund. Work is now underway to assess the museum's eligibility for the Government's new Creative Foundations and Heritage Lottery Funding.

C-City Project

A cookbook co-produced with the four other C-City locations, has won an international cookbook award. 'Cooking and Culture!' won first place in the 'Best Plurinational Book in the World' category at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards in Lisbon last month. The book aims to bring people from different cultures together through the universal language of food.

Copies of the book are available to purchase from the D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum, will be on sale at various summer events in the Borough or on request via the Communications Team.

A new exhibition entitled 'Broxtowe: A Journey Through History and Custom Exhibition' has opened at the D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum detailing our Borough's recent past from 1945 to present day.

Exploring the distinct changes Broxtowe has undergone in the last 80 years, the exhibition will showcase the changes that have helped shape the area's identity, culture, and community. The other C-City locations have also put together an exhibition for their own areas and the full collection will be available to view online soon.

Music exchanges have also taken place with local musicians across the five countries.