

## 5. PHYSICAL RECREATION AND SPORT STRATEGY – IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

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The purpose of this report is to outline the implementation framework for the Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy and to seek a representative to form part of the Implementation and Monitoring Group.

### INTRODUCTION

At the October meeting of the Committee the Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy was approved. One of the recommendations in the report was *'that staff continue to work on developing a framework for implementation of the strategy that builds on the cooperation and collaboration between agencies used in the development of the Strategy.'*

Subsequently the Recreation and Sport Strategy Steering group has met to further consider the implementation framework.

### IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

The Physical Recreation and Sports Strategy is based on a belief that by working together in more co-ordinated and collaborative ways those organisations involved can provide better recreation and sports experiences (and consequently more of the benefits from participation) than by all working alone. The process to develop the Strategy has been centred on this belief and it is important that the framework for implementation also remains true to this approach.

The Strategy is necessarily broad with very many elements to it. There are a huge number of organisations participating in activities contributing to one or more element of it already consciously or unconsciously. The fact that there are so many groups involved is a strength but also presents difficulties in developing a systematic and planned implementation.

The framework identified involves creating a small implementation and monitoring group and lead agencies for each part of the Strategy (see attached diagram).

The Implementation and Monitoring Group will have the following roles:

- Identify priority areas within the Strategy for additional focus (recognising that there are groups working on each element anyway).
- Advocate to other agencies that should be involved in specific parts of the Strategy.
- Maintain Strategy overview and monitor progress on the implementation of the Strategy and report it to the wider recreation and sport community.
- Identify and initiate changes to the Strategy where necessary (a living document).
- Receive and endorse action plans from lead agencies for each section of the Strategy.
- Identify synergies/overlaps between work being lead by different lead agencies.
- Identify ways to overcome issues and blocks identified by the lead agencies.
- Communicating with the wider recreation and sport sector what is happening on the Strategy (provide opportunities for others to express an interest/desire to be involved).
- Identify evaluation needs and processes.

A fairly small group covering the types of organisations is involved. The composition is anticipated to include representatives from:

- Sport
- Physical Recreation
- Education
- Health
- Commercial Recreation
- Council

There is a need for the Council to select a representative.

The group will meet 3-4 times a year at which time it will receive reports from the lead agencies for each part of the strategy.

It is anticipated that this group will be provided with secretarial and other support by Leisure Unit staff.

The role of lead agencies will be as follows:

- Pulling together the agencies involved in a particular area of the Strategy.
- Identifying what is already happening relevant to the area of the Strategy.
- Planning the way forward in the relevant area of the Strategy.
- Seeking sign off for plans from Implementing and Monitoring Group.
- Raising issues and blocks to moving forwards with Implementing and Monitoring Group
- Reporting to the Implementing and Monitoring Group on progress.

Lead agencies have tentatively been identified for all parts of the Strategy. These groups are being approached currently to ascertain their willingness to act in this role. Council units are the natural leaders for some parts of the Strategy and will take on lead agency roles as appropriate.

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Chairperson of the Community and Leisure Committee represent the Council on the Implementation and Monitoring Group.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion.