

## **Cabinet Response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board – Youth Provision and Physical Activity**

### **Recommendation 1:**

That Torbay on the Move and Councillors be recommended to engage with more schools to support them in opening up their facilities to the community outside of the normal school day.

### **Response/Update:**

Off the back of the Opening Schools Facility (OFS) programme that was delivered across Devon, Active Devon are developing guidance to encourage, enthuse and enable schools that were not able to access the OFS funding, to be able to do it themselves. This information and all toolkits will be housed on the Active Devon website and support will be given to schools via the Council's early life team. Torbay on the Move will ensure that we share with all schools through our Partnership Officers and our 0-19 team.

### **Recommendation 2:**

That Torbay on the Move be recommended to engage with early years providers and family hubs as part of the joined-up partnership working to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity in early years development.

### **Response/Update:**

Torbay on the Move is already linking in with the public health team around the 0-19 agenda and planning to bring Healthy Movers, an initiative focused on promoting physical activity in early years, to the Bay, which will include delivery within Family Hubs. Torbay on the Move are also engaged with the steering group of the **Imagine This** network and through this connection continue to promote the importance of the role physical activity plays in child development. As part of the communications strategy for Torbay on the Move, we will ensure that we work with partners within early years to plan key messages and link opportunities.

### **Recommendation 3:**

That the Director of Pride Place be recommended to engage with Torbay on the Move in the development of the Play Parks Strategy.

### **Response/Update:**

Officers within the Pride in Place Directorate have regular monthly meetings with SWISCO colleagues. Through this connection Torbay on the Move has been linked into the development of the Play Parks Strategy and the possible inclusion of outdoor gym equipment.

**Recommendation 4:**

That opportunities be explored to provide free sports taster days for children and young people.

**Response/Update:**

Sport Torbay have previously delivered Talent Scout Days and have expressed an interest to deliver similar days in the future. Our Sport Development officer meets Sport Torbay regularly and will raise this with them at the next regular meeting.

**Recommendation 5:**

To provide targeted physical and sports activities to children and families in the deprived wards within Torbay.

**Response/Update:**

Torbay Council delivers "Free Movement" which enables access for children and families in deprived areas and this will continue throughout the winter months. Sports clubs will continue to be able to access 'More Active More Often' funding to deliver subsidised or free sessions for children and young people. We will ensure that information is targeted to activity providers within our deprived wards to encourage them to apply for this funding.

**Recommendation 6:**

To explore why 46% of children and young people perceived that spaces were not safe or accessible and report back to a future meeting.

**Response/Update:**

Torbay Youth Service, in collaboration with a number of partners, delivers a comprehensive programme of youth activities ranging across arts, sports and general socio-wellbeing sessions. The response noted above followed engagement with over 200 young people aged 11-18 years old. The 46% represents how those surveyed think about their area and the environments that they want to socialise in. One of the over-arching messages that came through from the surveys was young people telling us that they need more to do and more clubs and parks. However, as can be seen from the Youth Service programme of activities, there are numerous opportunities being provided so this does raise the question with regards to engagement and particularly reaching out to the more vulnerable young people in the area. The Youth Transformation work going forward will seek to address this matter and ensure all partners work together to provide services and opportunities for all young people that are aligned with their wishes and feelings and are accessible. As part of this workstream further work will be undertaken with young people to understand better what activities they want and how this can be constructed into an appropriate place-based model of delivery.