

Report to: CABINET

Date: 7 AUGUST 2008

Subject: LONDON OLYMPICS 2012

Report of: Director of Adult Services and Chief Executive of Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust

Contact officer: Rodney Hill 01942 828500

Purpose / summary: The purpose of the report is to update Cabinet on progress on Wigan's Cultural Olympiad and to seek endorsement for the Cultural Olympiad process.

Alternative options considered and reason for selecting the one recommended: The alternative is not to be involved in 2012 but the Council has already given a commitment to use it as an opportunity to achieve wider objectives.

Recommendation / decision: Cabinet is asked to note the progress and agree to membership of the steering group, which will be chaired by the Leader of the Council.

Key Decision: This report does not involve a key decision. The decision made as a result of this report will be published within **48 hours** and cannot be actioned until **seven working days** have elapsed, i.e. before 18 August 2008

Risks / Implications:

Financial:	At this stage, within current resources.
Staffing:	At this stage, within current resources.
Policy:	Getting Wigan Active.
Equal Opportunities - Has a Diversity Impact Assessment been conducted?	No. When the programme is developed a Diversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Wards affected:	All

Property Implications – Does the proposal involve a reduction, addition or change to the Council’s asset base or its occupation?

No

If yes, have the property implications been agreed with the Corporate Property Officer?

Does this proposal have significant implications for the Council and the local population?

The engagement in 2012 should have positive benefits for the community.

Does this proposal involve a new policy or procedure or significant changes to an existing policy or procedure?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Has the Service Director - Borough Solicitor confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council’s Constitution? **Yes**

Has the Service Director - Corporate Services confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council’s budget? **Yes**

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? **No**

For Cabinet reports only :

Categorisation of the report:	x
Discussion leading to a decision	
Monitoring	
Sharing for corporate understanding	x

	x
Discussion	
Decision	x
Information	

Tracking/Process:

	Consultation	Ward Members	Partners
			Wigan Borough Partnership
Panel	Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet	Council
		7 August 2008	

List of Background Papers in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:

Title of document	Which meeting did it go to?	Date of meeting	Copy available from?
Wigan Borough Partnership	Cabinet	13/12/07 and 31/03/08	WLCT HQ

Proper Officer Bernard Walker

Date 28 July 2008

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In July and August 2012, London will host the largest sporting and cultural event ever held in the United Kingdom. Over 200 nations will be participating, along with an estimated 23,000 competitors and officials. The Government is making a major investment in the Games, partly to regenerate an important and deprived area of London, but also to use it as a vehicle to strategically drive a number of key priorities. The Olympics and Paralympics are, for the first time, sharing the same branding and are seen to be inextricably linked.
- 1.2 The Government has made a successful Olympic Games a key priority. CSR07 includes a set of 30 new PSAs which set out the Government's priority outcomes for the CSR period. One of these is focused on the Olympic and Paralympic Games. **PSA22: Deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high-quality PE and sport.**
- In this context, a sustainable legacy is a national one, not just a London one.
- 1.3 A previous report was considered by Cabinet on 13 December 2007, and Wigan Borough Partnership agreed that Wigan should take every opportunity to use the build-up to 2012 in the form of Wigan's Cultural Olympiad.

2.0 WIGAN'S CULTURAL OLYMPIAD PROCESS

- 2.1 The attached diagram (Appendix A) demonstrates how the Cultural Olympiad will be progressed in the borough, with Wigan Borough Partnership taking the overseeing ownership for the programme. The Steering Group will be chaired by the Leader of the Council. The proposed membership is as follows:-

Chair: Councillor Peter Smith
Voluntary Sector Champion: Trevor Barton
Private Sector Champion: Nick Yates (Chamber of Commerce)
Cabinet Champion: Councillor Brian Baldwin
Chair of SHAPE Board: Councillor Jim Moodie
Backbench Champion: Councillor Eunice Smethurst

3.0 WIGAN'S CULTURAL OLYMPIAD PROGRAMME 2008 – 2012

- 3.1 A report went to the Wigan Borough Partnership (31 March 2008), outlining some of the areas that have been drawn together to ensure that Wigan Borough maximises the opportunities arising from London hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.
- 3.2 The proposal has been through a wide consultation process and there is genuine enthusiasm in the borough to maximise the benefits.
- 3.3 We are also working with the ten districts of Greater Manchester and Manchester International Festival on a five-year Arts Festival Development Project, which will include showcasing work developed in the ten districts at the bi-annual Manchester International Festival in 2009, 2011 and 2013.

4.0 FLYING THE FLAG – HANDOVER WEEKEND 22 – 24 AUGUST 2008

- 4.1 We will be celebrating the handover weekend in two ways. The Sports Development Unit is organising Olympic Summer Sports Festivals which are culminating on Friday 22 August with Olympic Sports Games at Robin Park Arena and Leigh Sports Village on the Friday of the handover weekend.
- 4.2 On Sunday 24 August, to commemorate the handover from Beijing to London, there will be free entry for everyone to all leisure centres and pools across the borough and access to all sports activities will be free of charge.
- 4.3 We will be flying the 2012 flag at Leigh Sports Village, as this venue is one of two facilities which have been included in the London 2012 Olympic Training Camp Directory. Leigh Indoor Sports Centre will have large screen TVs installed on this date to televise the closing ceremony of the Beijing Olympics, followed by an on-site Flying the 2012 Flag ceremony.
- 4.4 The event will be marketed via the leisure centres and pools and in the local media. We will also feature details of the borough-wide event on the Trust's web site www.wlct.org

5.0 TRAINING CAMPS

- 5.1 Wigan's Cultural Olympiad Steering Group, chaired by the Leader of the Council, will decide on options and a strategy for using our facilities as training camps for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Robin Park and Leigh Sports Village have both been included in the Training Camps Manual for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 5.2 As well as the Ukraine option for Leigh Sports Village, interest has been expressed by the Oceania Federation, made up of countries within the South Pacific, including Fiji.
- 5.3 A strategic approach will be required to ensure that Wigan borough gets the best option for achieving wider community objectives. It may also be useful to put any final decision in the context of Glasgow's hosting of the Commonwealth Games in 2014.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Wigan, both through the Council's Cabinet and Wigan Borough Partnership, has already recognised the potential benefits of using the build-up to London 2012 to support local objectives. The handover to London on 24 August will mean increased activity, not least from countries wishing to establish training camps for their teams.

WIGAN'S CULTURAL OLYMPIAD / 2012 TRAINING CAMPS

APPENDIX A

