

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	14 November 2012	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2487
TITLE:	Safety Advisory Group for Events (SAGE) Report 2012	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 - Safety Advisory Group for Events - Chair's Report 2012		

## **1 THE ISSUE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to draw members' attention to the activities of the Safety Advisory Group for Events (SAGE) to date during 2012. This report follows the approval of an area-wide Events Policy by Cabinet in November 2011 (which included a clear mandate for the SAGE). This is an opportunity to review the first year of operation of the SAGE in the current form and to make minor amendments to the Events Policy.
- 1.2 The role of the SAGE chair, as outlined in the policy, included a requirement to deliver an annual report to Cabinet (S.107 Event Policy)
- 1.3 The main issues are as follows -:

Recognising the continuing need for proportionate and sensible advice on safety-related issues when Bath & North East Somerset Council is actively encouraging the delivery of more and larger events both internally and externally.

To note the work undertaken with major sporting venues under Safety of Sports Grounds legislation.

Defining the "virtual events" team drawn from various service areas who manage the delivery of events operationally on marginal time.

To recognise the successful delivery of major events in 2012 including the Olympic Torch Relay, the Paralympic Lantern and Rio Carnival parades.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet agrees:

2.1 To reconfirm S 101 of the Events Policy which states “If it is the collective view of the SAGE that the event should not go ahead then this will be communicated to the Public Protection Service Manager and Divisional Director of Environmental Services who will formally write to the event organiser. Each SAGE member retains the right to object to any event”.

2.2 The Events Policy (November 2011) be amended to include the following paragraph –

6.2 The SAGE chair will have the discretion to determine which events are considered by the SAGE - based on risk. This decision will be dependent, amongst other things, on the nature of the event, location, participants and includes events which are likely to cause significant disruption to traffic and parking arrangements.

This risk based provision will be exercised following consultation with other members of the SAGE where necessary.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no financial implications in relation to this report although Members are asked to note that if the existing level and promotion of events increases there is likely to be a future resource implication. This issue is likely to be the subject of the Tourism, Leisure and Culture (TLC) report detailed in paragraph 2.1 of Appendix 1 which will follow in Spring 2013.

3.2 This report confines itself to the activities of the SAGE which is a group made up of Responsible Authority representatives from statutory services – including Avon Fire and Rescue, Environmental Health - Health and Safety and Environmental Protection, Avon and Somerset Police etc. These representatives are exercising their statutory functions including enforcement and are therefore not permitted to recharge their costs.

## **4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

- The promotion of events across B&NES is recognised as contributing to a range of Corporate Objectives including - economic development, social and cultural regeneration, cultural vibrancy, a strong tourism base and cultural and community provision as detailed in the introduction to the Events Policy (paragraph 1.1). This work is considered to contribute towards -
- Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone
- Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live
- Building a stronger economy

## **5 THE REPORT**

- 5.1 As the information to consider is fairly extensive the detail of the policy are included as Appendix 1.

## **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 The report author and Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance. This report is an update to an existing policy and does not include new requirements.

## **7 EQUALITIES**

- 7.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed in November 2011 for the events policy. Adverse impacts were identified and have been justified/mitigated in the following ways – by the development and implementation of this review process and by the obtaining of feedback from event organisers on their experiences. The EqIA is documented in the Cabinet minutes from November 2011.

## **8 RATIONALE**

- 8.1 These options are recommended to improve the existing events policy in the light of experience. The SAGE chair is required by the policy to report annually on the activities of the SAGE as detailed in the attached report.

## **9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 9.1 None

## **10 CONSULTATION**

- 10.1 Cabinet members; Other B&NES Services; Stakeholders/Partners; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
- 10.2 Consultation was carried out through the normal report circulation process and through the SAGE meeting process.

## **11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION**

- 11.1 Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Young People; Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations

## **12 ADVICE SOUGHT**

- 12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director –

Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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<b>Sponsoring Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor David Dixon
<b>Background papers</b>	Report to Cabinet November 2011 and accompanying Events Policy
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	