

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Commissioning</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Mike Edmonds</b>
<b>Telephone No:</b>	<b>Ext. 4416</b>
<b>Portfolio Leader:</b>	<b>Culture and Sport</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>Cabinet:20/06/13</b>

**CABINET**  
**20 JUNE 2013**  
**NAMING OF THE SENSORY ROOM AT CHASE LEISURE CENTRE**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to update members on the development of a new sensory room at Chase Leisure Centre in partnership with WLCT and to seek approval to name the room after Olivia Wilson, the Council's Paralympic Flame Ambassador for the London 2012 Games.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 To approve the naming of the new Sensory Room at Chase Leisure Centre after Olivia Wilson, the Council's Paralympic Flame Ambassador.

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 As part of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Cannock Chase District Council was chosen as one of only 36 communities to host its very own Paralympic Flame Celebration Event and in partnership with WLCT held Flame celebration events on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August last year.
- 3.2 Olivia Wilson a visually impaired 15 year old horse rider from Cannock, tipped for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio, was chosen to represent the District as its Flame Ambassador.
- 3.3 In order to achieve a lasting Paralympic legacy for disabled people in Cannock Chase, the Community Wellbeing Team –Sport have played a pro-active role in securing a capital fund bid of £68,000 from Staffordshire County Council to install a state of the art multi-sensory room and soft play area at the Chase Leisure Centre.

- 3.4 This new purposely equipped room will provide the technology to get individuals more active, try new things, improve communications, social skills and make new friends.
- 3.5 The new sensory room is nearing completion and will be open in the summer.
- 3.6 To celebrate and create a lasting memory of London 212, it is proposed to name the new Sensory Room after the District's Flame Ambassador Olivia Wilson.
- 3.7 Olivia and her parents are aware that Cabinet is considering this proposal which is considered a fitting tribute to a truly inspiring event and inspirational young woman. They are in agreement with this proposal.

#### **4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

4.1 This report supports the Council's Corporate Priorities as follows:

- (i) **People – Active and Healthy Lifestyles.** Culture and leisure are key services for the Council. They are high profile customer facing services used by many residents of the district. The services encourage participation in sport, physical activity and recreation as well as encouraging participation and attendance in cultural activities and providing activities for children and young people.

These services make a significant contribution to the Council's Priority around the health and well being agenda and this new facility will offer opportunities for those with disabilities to participate and engage in activities and recreation.

- (ii) **Place- Improved Living Environment.** Culture and leisure are fundamental to our communities offering places for people to come together, find common interests and a sense of shared identity. New improved facilities continue to provide diversionary activities, improve community safety and make places more pleasant and attractive improving the day to day life of all who live and work in the district.

#### **5 Report Detail**

- 5.1 As part of the London 212 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Cannock Chase District Council was chosen as one of only 36 communities to host its very own Paralympic Flame Celebration Event and in partnership with WLCT held Flame celebration events on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August last year.
- 5.2 Olivia Wilson a visually impaired 15 year old horse rider from Cannock, tipped for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio, was chosen to represent the District as its Flame Ambassador.
- 5.3 The Flame celebrations took place over 2 separate days with Olivia collecting the Flame in London's Trafalgar Square from the Prime Minister on 24<sup>th</sup> August

and returning to a welcome reception hosted by the Chairman of the Council at the Civic Centre.

- 5.4 On the 25<sup>th</sup> August thousands of people turned out in Cannock Town centre for the start of the Paralympic Flame relay, which saw 8 inspirational local people carry the Flame through the town centre and Cannock Park to Chase Leisure Centre for a welcoming ceremony.
- 5.5 Thousands of people followed the relay, creating a procession that grew in size as each Flame carrier took hold of the Paralympic Flame. A moving ceremony was held at Chase Leisure Centre, with the Chairman of the Council and special guest Olympian David Moorcroft addressing the crowd, after which they were entertained to an afternoon of celebrations.

### **Sensory Room**

- 5.6 In order to commemorate the day and achieve a lasting Paralympic legacy for disabled people in Cannock Chase, the Community Wellbeing Team –Sport have played a pro-active role in securing a capital fund bid of £68,000 from Staffordshire County Council to install a state of the art multi-sensory room and soft play area at the Chase Leisure Centre.
- 5.7 This new purposely equipped room will provide the technology to get individuals more active, try new things, improve communications, social skills and make new friends.
- 5.8 The new sensory room is nearing completion and will be open in the summer and to celebrate and create a lasting memory of London 212, it is proposed in this report to name the Sensory room after the District’s Flame Ambassador, Olivia Wilson. This is considered a fitting tribute to a truly inspiring event and inspirational young woman.

<b>6 Implications</b>
-----------------------

#### **6.1 Financial**

- 6.1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any expenditure will be met from grant held by WLCT.

#### **6.2 Legal**

None

#### **6.3 Human Resources**

None

#### **6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

None

**6.5 Human Rights Act**

None

**6.6 Data Protection**

None

**6.7 Risk Management**

None

**6.8 Equality & Diversity**

The aim of the sensory room is to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to engage in activities. There is considered a positive impact upon people with disabilities as a result of the development of the new sensory room and neutral impact upon other users of the facility.

**6.9 Best Value**

Funding has been secured for the development of the new sensory room and as such demonstrates the commitment to providing value for money services and facilities

**7 Appendices to the Report**

**Previous Consideration**

**Background Papers**