

# Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny



## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Briefing Note: Community Centres

#### 1. Introduction

The transfer of the community centres commenced more than 12 months ago. The purpose of the report is to provide an update.

#### 2. Context

19 Community Centres have been transferred over to management organisations, with the remaining two, Parklands and Weston Favell Parish Hall, to transfer over the coming weeks.

It has been more than 12 months since the centres were handed over. Due to changes in operational staff at the centres, an initial Health check has been carried out to ensure that the management organisations are complying with the requirements of the Lease and Management Agreement.

In addition all centres are being asked to provide an update against their original business plan, including activities delivered and those planned for the forthcoming year and copies of appropriate certificates and insurances.

13 of the Community Centres have completed their annual review and are making good progress against their business plan. A number have increased the usage of the centres and as a result increased income.

An overarching group has been formed to include representation from all of the community centres. The group is being supported by NBC, the purpose of the forum is to share practices and services, i.e. training, caretaking, equipment and policies.

#### 3. Conclusions

- 19 Centres have been transferred, remaining two to be transferred by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014
- Overarching forum developed
- Health Check being completed
- Annual Review being completed

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#### 4. Recommendations

NBC will continue to support and develop the overarching Forum, working with the centres, providing guidance and support as appropriate.

Report Author: Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager

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