

Report Title: **Update on Learning & Community Programmes**

Report of: Isobel Aptaker, Learning Officer

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To advise inform and update the Committees about Learning & Community Programmes

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 1 To note the contents of this report

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**3. Executive Summary**

In 2015/16 the Learning & Community team to date has achieved 1,500 pupil visits to the Palace, applied for funding for a Haringey wide flash mob to encourage pupils to exercise and are working with the Commercial Director to align the department with wider organisational strategy.

**4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)**

N/A

**5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A

## 6. Go Crackers for Christmas

To engage with family visitors attending Cinderella on Ice the Learning and Community Team ran free family activities in the East Court. The inter-generational activities looked at the Victorian invention of the Christmas Cracker, significance of the hat, what inspired the bang and how the contents have changed over time. Children were then encouraged to make their own Alexandra Palace themed cracker to pull on Christmas day. Over the 2 days over 80 people attended the activities. The data captured will enable the team to inform attendees of future events.



## 7. Schools

Alexandra Palace's new Learning Leaflet was distributed (electronically and in hard copy) to all schools in Haringey, Barnet, Enfield and Islington in November. Since the start of January a number of new bookings have been made for new and repeat visitors. From the start of this financial year the Palace has welcomed over 1,500 visitors from schools, which already surpasses last year's total of 1,280.

The Transmitter Hall has been allocated to Wilmot Dixon, the contractors for the East Wing restoration programme, from January. Throughout the construction phase workshops will take place in PC4 or 5 depending on other events taking place.

## 8. Streetz Ahead

Working with a local Street Dance Company a funding application has been submitted to Awards for All for a Haringey Flash Mob. If successful, schools from across the borough will be encouraged to take part in a borough wide activity to encourage exercise and well-being. Schools taking part require agreement from the Headteacher for a dance teacher to attend regular assemblies to teach the whole school. All participants will be invited to take part in Haringey's largest Flash Mob as part of the Summer Festival planned for July 2016.

The Learning Officer will be attending one of the rehearsals at Alexandra Palace School on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January to speak to teachers and pupils taking part about their experiences so far and how being part of the Summer Festival would enhance the experience – a verbal update will be given at the meeting.

## **9. Aligning with Trading Company**

To achieve greater engagement with what is happening at the Palace we will start to align our learning and community activities with events already taking place. Rather than running one-off projects (dependent on funding) for community groups, developing opportunities for families, community groups, schools.

Activities could include circus skills for families during the Moscow State Circus tenancy, Haringey schools' bake-off linking in with the cake decorating show, BTEC Music visits during concert months and model making during London Model Engineering. Projects would be run alongside the events and would be managed by the Learning & Community Engagement Department.

We will be communicating with all clients, suggesting activities to engage with the Learning & Community Department. With the financial support of the client it is hoped to increase the numbers of people engaging with the Palace as well as diversifying the current visitor demographic.

## **10. Partnership Working**

The Learning Officer has identified a list of partners to target for future projects. The Palace's most successful community projects have been run in partnership with local established partners (Haringey Shed & Accuml8). Discussions with staff from partner organisations ensures that projects fit with the needs of users. Another significant advantage is that we can benefit from the expertise of our partners to recruit participants.

## **11. East Wing Restoration Project**

Contact has been made with the Learning and Development Team at Wilmot Dixon to discuss the opportunities proposed as part of their tender. With work starting on start at the end of January it is key to engage with the local community from the start and opportunities may include school creating art for the hoardings as well as work placements, internships and apprenticeships.

## **12. Legal Implications**

The Council's Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no comments.

### **13. Financial Implications**

The Council's Chief Financial Officer has been consulted on this report and been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no further comments.

### **14. Use of Appendices**

None.