

**Briefing Paper to:**  
Park Area Committee 13 July 2022

**Wards:**  
All

## **Holiday, Activities & Food (HAF) Programme**

### **Briefing Paper of the Director of Children, Young People and Families Services**

#### **1. Purpose of the Paper and Summary**

- 1.1 To raise awareness of the Department for Education funded Holiday, Activities and Food (HAF) programme, known locally in Hull as 'Healthy Holidays'.
- a) To brief the Area Committee about HAF activities that took place over Easter 2022 and plans for summer 2022.
  - b) To explore how Area Committees can support the HAF Strategic Group in reaching the CYP families who would benefit most from participation in Hull's Healthy Holiday programme.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 Department for Education have committed to longer-term funding of the HAF programme nationally until 2025. The intention of the HAF funding is to support families including those living in poverty, CYP with special education needs (SEND), those CYP who are at key educational transition points (ie. moving from primary to secondary school) and young carers.
- 2.2 This funding is provided to coordinate free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities for children who receive benefits-related free school meals (FSM). It is of course optional for eligible children to attend this provision if they wish. This gives the Council and its partners a fantastic opportunity to provide a wide range of quality local, fun, healthy and enriching activities for the children, young people and families of Hull after the challenges they have had to deal with due to Covid-19.
- 2.3 The aim of the programme is to make free places available to children eligible for FSMs for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week, and six weeks a year. This would cover four weeks in the summer and a week's worth of provision in each of the Easter and Christmas holidays from 2022-2025.
- 2.4 In May 2022 cabinet approved Hull's approach to delivering the externally funded HAF programme across the city until 2025. This included the oversight of project implementation to the HAF strategic group, which is made up of key partners and stakeholders, including a representative from Area Teams.

- 2.5 The HAF programme funding, as agreed by cabinet, will be invested, and delivered by a number of local partners and key stakeholders:
- a) Strategic Grants with key partners/services such as HCaL; Strategic Providers including local activity providers and trusts; Street Games UK; Hull Catering; CYPFS services; Corporate Events Team.
  - b) VCS Grants Programme – to support delivery of activities via voluntary and community sector organisations, ensuring we keep this as simple as possible to enable smaller organisations to take part in the delivery
  - c) Specific investment into activities for CYP with additional needs; ensuring the voice and influence of young people shapes the programme; recruiting and supporting young people as volunteers and ambassadors across the programme as part of a coordinated workforce development plan.
  - d) Investment in the continued expansion of Love Exploring digital app functionality to provide a permanent digital platform to engage young people in exploring the parks across the city.
  - e) Core funding for the HAF Coordination role of the Council.
  - f) Communications and marketing, branding and promotional materials.

### **3. HAF Delivery: Easter 2022 & Summer 2022**

- 3.1 For an Easter delivery report please see appendix 1.
- 3.2 Summer delivery plans are currently in development, though we do have several large-scale events that are presently been confirmed including:
- Three Play Days across the City
  - Supporting local area events such as Beach Days.
- 3.3 We have selected several key strategic partners to deliver targeted programmes aimed at primary age CYP / secondary aged CYP / CYP with SEND and a mobile provision. These strategic delivery partners are: St Games, Hull FC, Tigers Trust, First Step Sports, Sportsability.
- 3.4 Grants to over 55 local VCS organisations to deliver HAF sessions within their locality are in the process of distribution after a simple grants procedure.
- 3.5 The HAF Communications and Marketing sub-group are currently developing a communications plan to enable reach to target CYP and families. With digital poverty/exclusion very much in mind and the necessity to avoid stigmatising sessions. To avoid this in Hull our activities are open to all, we endeavour to deliver them in areas with greatest need.
- 3.6 Work is also underway with HCaL to support delivery of a comprehensive leisure, library and museum offer across summer to support the outcomes of HAF.

- 3.7 Hull CC internal services also contribute to HAF delivery, with out Children Centres (including VCSE provided), youth service (including VCSE provided) and our music service also working towards developing a quality offer to support outcomes of HAF this summer
- 3.8 The food offer will be delivered by Hull CC Catering and by some organisations preparing and cooking food on site. This will be complimented by fun nutrition education to equip CYP and families with key skills and knowledge in relation to healthier eating and cooking skills.
- 3.9 A comprehensive workforce development plan, building on past success is currently in development for summer with training on offer including first aid, nutrition skills, food hygiene and mental health.

#### **4. Next Steps**

- 4.1 For Area Committees to have more awareness and visibility of Hull's Healthy Holiday programme and help support the HAF Steering Group to reach the target audiences across their areas including:
- For Area Committee members and Area Teams to follow @Healthyholshull on Facebook and Twitter and promote.
  - For Area Committee members and Area Teams to view the website for more information on specific activities for the summer in their areas (split into North / East / West / Central) [www.healthyholidayshull.org](http://www.healthyholidayshull.org) (nb. As of May 2022 sessions have not yet been confirmed but will be added as soon as possible).
  - For Area Committee members and Area Team's to support reach to those who might be digitally excluded for example: displaying banners and sharing leaflets.
- 4.2 For the HAF Steering Group to continue to develop, coordinate and deliver the HAF summer programme and send specific programme of activities, to members, relevant to this Area Committee geography before summer delivery commences.

#### **Director of Children, Young People and Families Services**

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## APPENDIX 1:

### Holiday Activity & Food Programme Portfolio Holders Briefing – April 2022

#### Activities

The HAF programme delivered a total of 438 separate activity sessions over eight days of the Easter Holidays from Monday April 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup> (not including the Easter weekend).

This programme provided a total of 16,762 participation opportunities, including provision from a range of internal services and external partners, including;

- Hull Culture & Leisure
- Four strategic partners (Hull FC Community Foundation, Tigers Trust, Sportsability and the First Step Sports Group).
- 46 Voluntary and community sector providers.
- LAFSS
- Healthy Lifestyles Team
- Childrens Centres
- Youth Development Service
- StreetGames (Volunteer Training and Sports Festival).

Where possible partners were encouraged to offer a blended programme of sports, games and enrichment activities to cater for a broad range of interests in the same locality.

One or two notable activities include the partnership between Ground and Solidarity. Ground provide urban farming and craft activities with natural materials to the rear of the Kingston Youth Centre. Solidarity is a self-help group of predominantly Somali and African families who have come together to provide activities for their own families.

This perhaps unlikely partnership saw 90 young people meet at the Charles Street multicultural Centre to enjoy some crafting activities before visiting The Deep in a walking-bus. Many of the young people also had their first visit to a swimming pool, a completely new and exciting experience.

The finale to the Easter programme is the exclusive hire of the Ice Arena with 500 hundred tickets distributed amongst a number of community providers to offer skating to families who would not normally have the opportunity.

#### Food Provision

Following on from the success of the Christmas programme, all of the community partners again provided the food offer to support their activities with a range of provision from simple packed lunches to hot meals and soups.

As the HAF programme is evolving providers are being encouraged to work together to diversify provision and ensure quality standards remain high. One notable case is with EMS based at the Freedom Centre; although they did not directly deliver any activities themselves they provided 250 healthy pizza kits including all ingredients and instructions on how to prepare the pizza. These were distributed to a number of community providers for families to make pizzas at home.

A total of 3288 packed lunches were ordered for the Easter programme.

HCaL provided meals for activities at the Ice Arena and the Woodford Leisure Centre, and Hull Catering supplemented this with hot meals for the Holiday Camps at Costello and Ennerdale.

## Other Activities

A range of activities, games and craft ideas were again made available for download from the Healthy Holidays web site, and 20,000 Magical Museums Booklets were distributed through the city's primary schools.

## Highlights

Young Leaders supporting the StreetGames HAF Sports Festival at the University of Hull on April 14<sup>th</sup>.



Feedback from a parents of children attending the SEND swimming sessions at Frederick Holmes School with Sportsability:

*'I wanted to write this email after my children have their final Easter holiday swim session but I wanted to give you feedback on how the sessions are going for us.*

*I just wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for these sessions. My children are enjoying every day and after every session they are already looking forward to the next session. I would like to thank Angie, Marc, Hamina, Tracy and anyone else I may have missed from the Frederick Holmes sessions, they are amazing. Your swim instructors are excellent at what they do but who knew they had legs to play games outside the water. They keep the kids entertained before the lessons and they are brilliant and we have a good lunch too. Again, thank you so much'*