

**REPORT TO:** Employment Learning & Skills and Community Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 20 November 2023

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Executive Director Environment & Regeneration

**PORTFOLIO:** Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community

**SUBJECT:** Halton's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**WARD(S)** Borough wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 A verbal update on the activities and events planned for Halton's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be provided at the meeting.

**2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the report be noted.**

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Halton was formed on 1 April 1974, it will be 50 years old on 1 April 2024. To recognise this momentous occasion, there are plans for HBC, external organisations and groups to hold activities and events throughout 2024. The aim is to involve as many schools, local community groups, individuals as possible and small grants will be available to assist in the planning and delivery of activities.

3.2 A temporary externally funded Culture Officer post has been created, utilising UK Share Prosperity Funding. This Officer will assist in the preparations for Halton's 50<sup>th</sup> Celebrations, working alongside colleagues in Leisure Services.

3.3 To provide the Board with the very latest information, the update will be provided at the meeting.

**4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The ethos behind the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebrations is that it is for Halton's residents, community groups and businesses. The grants will only be available to those who satisfy a strict Halton based criteria.

**5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities and events managed by Halton

Borough Council will be funded using a grant already secured from the UK Share Prosperity Funding, a small amount of Council funding from the existing Events budget and from applications to external funders such as the Heritage Lottery Fund, should they be successful. No additional funding will be sought from the Council. Grants will be offered to groups to assist in their activities and other Cultural organisations such as Norton Priory and Hazlehurst Studios will host and fund their own events as their contribution to mark the occasion.

- 5.2 The Council will seek sponsorship from the private sector and in return their brands will be promoted at any event they support.

## 6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### 6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

All primary schools will be encouraged to get involved and training will be provided to teachers for specific activities such as the 'tile' project.

### 6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

There will be opportunities to develop skills and build capacity within community groups.

### 6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Increasing the opportunities for local people and providing access to local activities and events, will increase the opportunities for wellbeing and healthier living.

### 6.4 **A Safer Halton**

All large-scale Council led events will be required to submit an Event Plan to the Halton Events Safety Advisory Group and Risk Assessments will be undertaken for smaller scale activities and events.

### 6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

## 7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

- 7.1 Given the cost-of-living crisis there may be some opposition to spending money on activities and events. This has been the case with the boroughs Fireworks display in 2022 and 2023. However, given there is a cost-of-living crisis, providing a number of activities and events that are free and providing support to local community groups with grants, can only benefit the local community directly.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Everyone is invited to get involved and with the diversity of activities and events planned, we expect there to be something for everyone. Also, other activities and events can be added to the 'What's On' guide throughout the year if suggestions are provided.

9.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Activities and Events will give due consideration to Climate Change and some events, such as Ecofest and activities such as 'Rubbish Science' will proactively support and engage the local community on Climate matters.

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

10.1 None under the meaning of the Act.