



Culture and Leisure Sub Committee

North Tyneside Council

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

Tuesday, 14 September 2021, Room 0.01, Chamber, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY **commencing at 6.00 pm**. (Due to Covid precautions anyone wishing to attend should notify the contact officer)

Agenda Item	Page
1. Apologies for absence	
To receive any apologies for absence from the meeting	
2. Substitute Members	
To be notified of the appointment of any Substitute Members	
3. To Receive any Declarations of Interest and Notification of any Dispensations Granted	
You are invited to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests in matters appearing on the agenda, and the nature of that interest.	
You are also invited to disclose any dispensation in relation to any registerable and/or non-registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda.	
Please complete the Declarations of Interests card available at the meeting and return it to the Democratic Services Officer before leaving the meeting.	
4. Minutes	5 - 8
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2021.	
5. Sport and Leisure Services Recovery	9 - 26
To provide an overview of the Sport and Leisure service journey over the period of the Covid Pandemic.	

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and receive information about it. However, in order to enable the meeting to be held in a Covid-secure manner, places for members of the public are limited. Please email democraticsupport@northtyneside.gov.uk or call (0191) 643 5320

**Agenda
Item**

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6. Tourism and Events Recovery

27 - 28

To provide an overview of the planning for recovery of the Authority's tourism and events sector.

Circulation overleaf ...

Members of the Culture and Leisure Sub Committee

Councillor Ken Barrie
Councillor Linda Bell
Councillor Julie Cruddas (Chair)
Councillor Margaret Hall
Councillor Gary Madden
Councillor Andy Newman

Councillor Gary Bell
Councillor Liam Adam Bones
Councillor Cath Davis
Councillor Joe Kirwin
Councillor Jim Montague
Councillor Jane Shaw

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Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee

29 June 2021

Present: Councillor J Cruddas (Chair)
Councillors K Barrie, G Bell, L Bell, L Bones, M Hall,
J Kirwin, J Montague, A Newman and J Shaw

Apologies: Councillors C Davis and G Madden

C&L1/21 Substitute Members

There were no substitute members reported.

C&L2/21 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

C&L3/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 January 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

C&L4/21 Cultural Services Recovery Planning

The Sub-Committee received a report on the Authority's Cultural Services recovery planning following the current easing of covid restrictions on service delivery.

The period since the first lockdown in March 2020, through to the current easing of restrictions on service delivery, has been especially challenging for Cultural Services. Major sections of the service had not been able to operate for much of the past 15 months, the Playhouse Whitley Bay for example having been dark for the entire period.

Other services had been able to operate for limited periods when lockdown restrictions had been eased, allowing for some access to museum facilities at Segedunum and Stephenson Steam Railway, as well as key visitor attractions such as St. Mary's Lighthouse.

The Events programme had been significantly hit with the postponement for two consecutive years of the Mouth of the Tyne Festival, and only limited events activity being permitted. Library provision has functioned on a limited basis in line with the permitted national guidance, with Order and Collect provision and limited People's Network access.

The Government guidance on restrictions during the pandemic had been used in the compilation of the report and could be viewed via the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The senior Manager, Cultural Services, presented an overview of what the service had been able to deliver over the period of the pandemic and current planning for a return to business as usual. This included:

- Covid 19 Response Phase – March to June 2020
- Recovery Phase One – July to November 2020

- Recovery Phase Two – Transition (planned) November 2020 to March 2021
- November 2020 to March (reality)
- Library visits, library book issues and people’s network logins
- Wider sector impact
- Culture Survey – the effect Covid-19 had had on the delivery of services or cultural projects; how Covid-19 had affected funding for cultural activity; and the level of optimism about the future of cultural services in the UK
- Following the Roadmap – April to July 2021
- Culture in the Council Plan – keeping libraries and leisure centres open; the destination of choice for visitors through North Tyneside’s award-winning parks, beaches, festivals and seasonal activities; outstanding children’s services, events, and facilities so North Tyneside was a great place for family life
- Current strategies – Libraries Strategy 2016-21; Arts Development Strategy 2014-21’ Heritage Strategy 2014-21; and Tourism Strategy 2014-21

In terms of the impact of culture, there was now a clear acknowledgement of the social and economic value of the cultural sector, and its ability to deliver growth and drive regeneration. These impacts could range from growth in tourism, creative and cultural sectors, to enhancing individual skills, knowledge and confidence, to strengthening community pride and place image. Three quarters of mental health problems occurred before the age of 25 and half before the age of 14 (*Hayes et al 2020*)(*Social prescribing and Barriers to Cultural activities – Children North East 2021*). The national gap in life expectancy between children from communities with the highest and lowest vulnerability to literacy problems in the country was staggering (*Literacy and Life Expectancy National Literacy Trust 2018*). The arts could help meet major challenges facing social care; aging, long-term conditions, loneliness and mental health (*Social Care Institute for Excellence – Policy Briefing 2017*).

The sub-committee was invited to put forward comments on the Cultural Services Recovery Planning presentation. These included the following comments with responses (*italics*) from officers, as appropriate: -

- The North of Tyne cultural offer and whether North Tyneside as a borough could expect to receive its fair share of the or instead from pooled resources on projects such as the Tour of Britain cycling. *The North of Tyne £2.6m cultural recovery fund was due to be launched this month and share details to be confirmed.*
- Covid and community projects by locals and the type of monitoring in place of new cultural projects to support them e.g., a new Playhouse, Whitley Road. *There was no systematic monitoring of community projects but that analytical data was gathered over the years and good relations with community groups developed.*
- Potential inequalities between different wards across the borough in terms of lifespan of residents and how this was addressed. *Culture and creche zones were linked to the North Shields Master Plan or Culture Strategy. Health after covid (at the coast) was linked to the Tourism offer in the borough. There were not many tourism offers available in the Benton and Weetslade areas of the borough, but the Authority was aware of this and as far as possible trying to address this imbalance.*
- The use of Parks as valuable assets in terms of inequalities and how arts and cultural services were being accessed via the parks and integrated e.g., Snowman and the dogs. *Public art and heritage were part of the cultural offer such as those in Northumberland Park. In relation to the use of arts studio, arts trail and commemorative art, work was being done such as using Waggonways or other ways to showcase these in terms of the cultural offer.*

The Chair, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, thanked the Senior Manager, Cultural Services, for his informative presentation and acknowledged the work done by him and his team(s) in delivering the Authority's cultural services during these difficult times. The Chair also commented that she, as well as other Members of the sub-committee, had a keen interest in looking at ways in which to address health and inequalities in those areas of the borough which were most in need of support.

It was **agreed** that the report and presentation on the cultural service delivery over the period of the pandemic and current planning for a return to business as usual be noted.

C&L5/21 Work Programme

The Sub-committee received a report which presented Members with potential topics for inclusion in the 2021/22 work programme.

As part of the process for establishing the 2021/22 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, suggestions had been sought for potential topics that the Sub-committee could look at. As in previous years, the focus of overview and scrutiny would be on policy development. Following discussions with the Chair and Deputy Chair of Culture and Leisure Sub-committee, and Cultural Services Sport and Leisure and senior officers, the following topics had been identified as possible areas for the Sub-committee to consider over the coming year:

- Cultural Services Covid recovery planning and Services overview
- Sport & Leisure Services Covid recovery planning and Services overview
- Tourism and Events activity
- Cultural Strategy

The report highlighted that the Sub-committee was able to establish a sub-group to carry out an in-depth investigation into a particular area but that due to resource constraints only one sub-group could operate at any one time.

Members were given the opportunity to raise other topics relevant to the remit of the Sub-committee for inclusion in the work programme. The following suggestions were put forward for consideration:

- Future developments for the Segedunum heritage site including funding arrangements and timescales for completion following the outcome of the covid pandemic.
- Work around how the Authority advertised staycations as part of the culture offer and general plan for advertising and if stats were produced pre-post covid on people visiting the borough; and whether this had made any difference to the economy of North Tyneside compared to the last 4-5 years.
- The effectiveness of the no cycling signs on pavements and pedestrianised streets across North Tyneside in terms of how many, and, if they were still needed.

In discussing the sub-committee's work programme, the Chair informed Members that a meeting of the scrutiny Chairs and Deputy Chairs was due to take place on 30 June 2021 to consider amongst other matters, topics that had been put forward by Members for potential inclusion in the work programmes' of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and its sub-committees; and that any potential items of business arising from the meeting relevant to this sub-committee's terms of reference in addition to the above suggestions, would be considered for inclusion in the work programme

It was **agreed** that (1) the proposed work programme for 2021/22 be approved; and (2) the suggestions put forward by Members of the Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee and any further potential items of business arising from the meeting of the scrutiny Chairs and Deputy Chairs meeting be considered by the Chair for inclusion in the work programme relevant to this sub-committee's terms of reference.

C&L6/21 Date and Time Next Meeting(s)

It was **agreed** that the meetings due to be held on 31 August 2021 and 4 January 2022 both following immediately after Bank Holiday's, potentially reducing Members' availability, each to be re-arranged in consultation with the Chair and all Members of the sub-committee informed of the alternative dates accordingly.

Meeting: Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee

Date: 14 September 2021

Title: Sport and Leisure Services Recovery Planning

Author: Paul Youlden

Tel: 0191 6437430

Service: Environment Housing and Leisure

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report and the linked presentation is to give the Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee an overview of the journey Sport and Leisure service has been on over the period of the Covid Pandemic.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Sub-committee is recommended to note the report and comment on the presentation.

3. Details

3.1 The period since the first lockdown in March 2020 through to the current easing of restrictions on service delivery has been extremely challenging for Sport and Leisure Services. Major sections of the service have not been able to operate for much of the past 18 months and some aspects have remained closed throughout.

3.2 Other services have been able to operate for limited periods and with reduced capacity when lockdown restrictions have been eased. For example, reduced numbers with booking systems for our pools and gyms. This has had significant impact on customer numbers and subsequent income and it will take a considerable period to build back up pre pandemic activity.

3.3 During the same period the majority of the Sport and Leisure team at some point were redeployed to other keys services to support our corporate response to the pandemic. In addition, The Parks Leisure centre became a major Covid vaccination and testing centre for the Borough

3.4 The presentation will cover what the service has been able to deliver over the period of the pandemic and how it planned for a return to business as usual.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report: Government guidance on restrictions during the pandemic <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

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Culture and Leisure
Sub-Committee

14th September 2021

Sport and Leisure

Overview of service and our Covid Journey

Paul Youlden

Senior Manager – Sport and Leisure



What is Sport and Leisure ?

- Tynemouth Pool
- Waves Leisure Pool
- Lakeside Centre
- The Parks Leisure Centre
- Hadrian Leisure Centre
- Shiremoor Adventure Playground
- Outdoor Sports Facilities inc. pitches and pavilions,
- Whitley Bay Mini Golf, Tennis courts and Churchill track
- Active North Tyneside
- Sports Development
- Facility Development

Facts and Figures(normal year)

- £5.2m in income generated by Leisure Centres
- Overall income £6.96m
- Expenditure £ 8.4m
- Net budget £1.44m
- Turnover £15.36m
- 277 posts – 131 FTE equivalent
- c1.5million visits to Leisure Centres
- c250,000 visits elsewhere

Covid 19 Timeline

March-June 2020

23rd March 2020 - National Lockdown 1

- All office-based staff encouraged to work from home
- Staff redeployed to essential services including:
 - Food bank
 - Local Support Service
 - Bereavement Services
 - Environment
 - Call centre
 - VODA
- All buildings closed including Leisure Centres and outdoor sports facilities
- Major Projects continue at Churchill Track and Burradon Welfare

Covid -19 Timeline

June – August 2020

June

- Majority of staff redeployed back into substantive roles
- A number of staff continue in redeployed roles including beach warden, Covid marshalls and contact tracing in addition to those previously listed
- Test and Trace protocol in place at facilities
- Parks Sports Centre started hosting diabetic eye screening clinics in July
- Parks Sports Centre started hosting blood donor clinics in September
- Mobile COVID-19 Testing Unit deployed at Parks Sport Centres

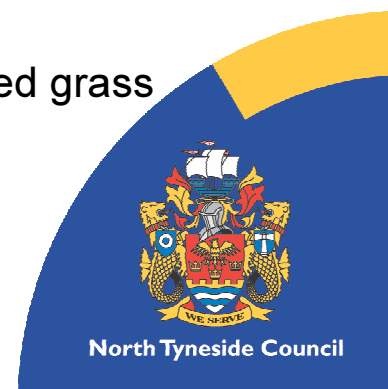
July

4th July 2020 – National Lockdown eased

- Re-opening of outdoor sports facilities (Whitley Bay Mini Golf, Churchill Community Track, Tennis Courts and Cricket pitches) with restricted capacity, booking systems implemented and NGB guidance adhered to.
- On-line summer of Cycling campaign launched
- **27th July** Leisure Centres reopened – Reduced capacity/booking system

August

- Safe return to Football and outdoor organised sports – all NTC managed grass pitches re-opened. Changing and shower areas remained closed.



Covid -19 Timeline

September – October 2020

September

18th September 2020 – LA7 Local Restrictions

- Launch of workplace health campaign, 'Look after your self this winter', live Facebook exercise classes available for staff and learning pool resources to support good sleep, nutrition and manage stress
- Virtual 10-week weight management programmes delivered via Teams for adults and children / families
- Bikeability training re-started in schools
- No changes to Leisure Centres

October National tier system introduced

14th October 2020 - Tier 2 Restrictions

No impact on services



Covid -19 Timeline

November 2020 – January 2021

5th November – National lockdown 2

- Full closure of indoor and outdoor sport and leisure services
- 142 frontline staff now redeployed
- Virtual 10 week programmes delivered for adult and child weight management (Active North Tyneside)

2nd December – Tier 3 restrictions

- Parks Sports Centre started hosting Vaccine clinics in December
- Outdoor group activities resumed, tennis courts, Churchill athletics track and Shiremoor adventure playground were all re-opened
- Grassroots outdoor team sports resumed, Football sites were re-opened in line with FA guidelines at our outdoor grass pitches.
- Leisure Centres gym and swim only

31th December – Tier 4 restrictions

- All outdoor sport facilities remained open with the exception of Football pavilions (Football suspended)
- All indoor Leisure Centres closed again

5th January – National Lockdown 3

- Outdoor facilities remained open except for Football
- All indoor Leisure Centres remain closed

Covid -19 Timeline Following the Roadmap March – May 2021

8th and 29th March - Roadmap Step 1 Lockdown Easing

- Re-opening of all outdoor sport and leisure facilities
- No spectators allowed

12th April – Roadmap Step 2 Lockdown Easing

- Indoor leisure sites re-open with restrictions/bookings in place Gym and pool only.

17th May – Roadmap Step 3 Lockdown Easing

- Indoor adult group sports and exercise classes restart with restrictions in place

Covid -19 Timeline

Following the Roadmap

July to present

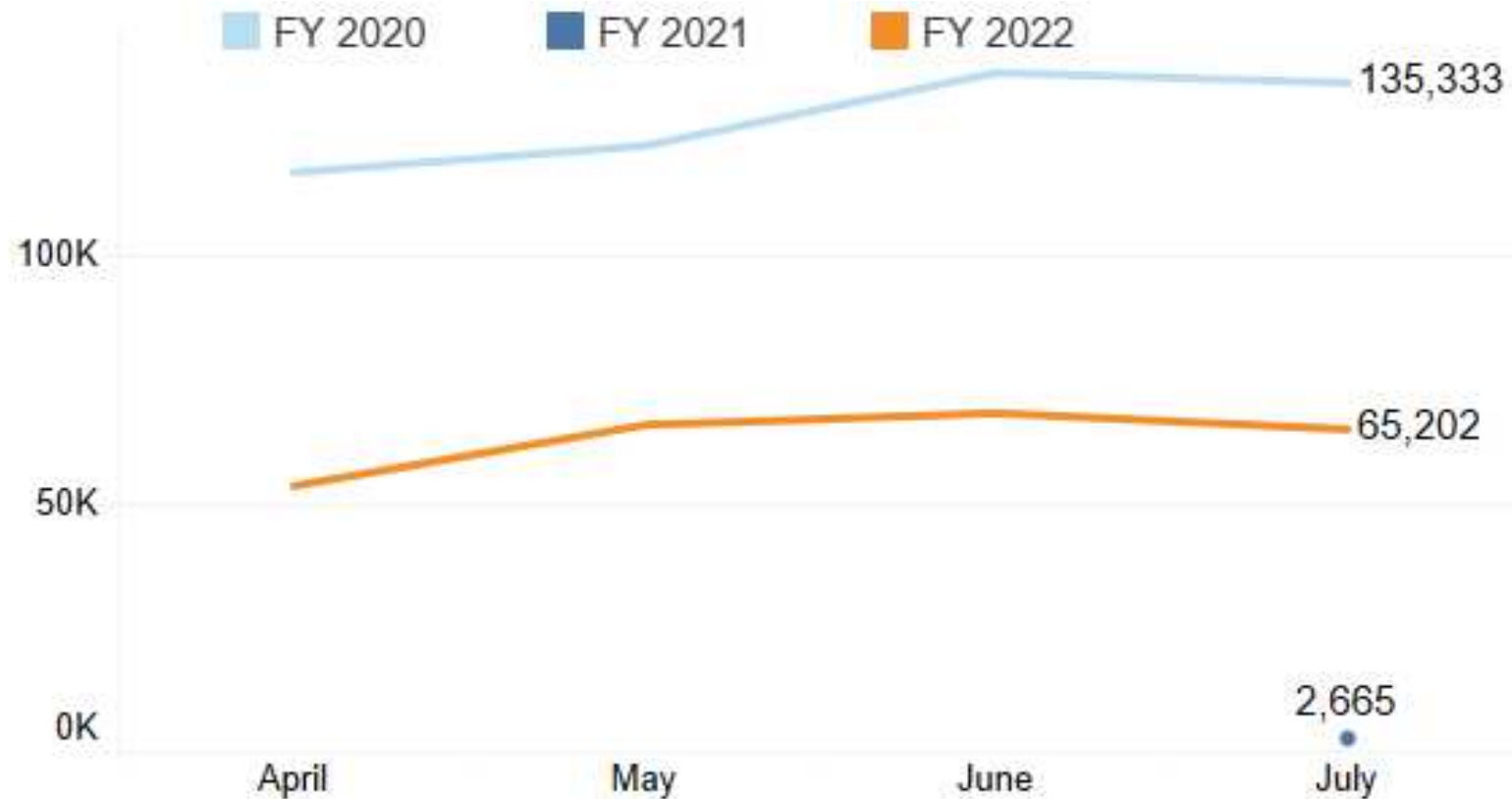
19th July - Step 4 Roadmap Lockdown Easing

Easing back to “normal”

- New adapted cycling programme has been developed – one of only handful in the region
- New maternal obesity project started, Active Mams
- Wellbeing walks and beginners running groups relaunched
- Weight management programmes restarted
- 600 starter physical activity packs – a canvas bag which includes low level physical activity equipment and an information leaflet have been supplied free of charge from Rise (previously Tyne and Wear Sport).
- Bikeability back in schools and local community
- Face to Face summer of cycling campaign delivered
- Parks Sports Centre hosted a Covid secure triple election count
- Maximum capacities removed at outdoor sport and leisure sites and changing rooms re-opened.
- Leisure Centres reopened but still with booking systems to restrict numbers
- From 31st August booking for swimming and soft play removed
- From 6th September booking for the gym lifted and health suites reopen

Leisure centre visits 3-year comparison

There have been 254k visits to Leisure Centres between April-July 2021, which is 50% lower than the same period in 2019.

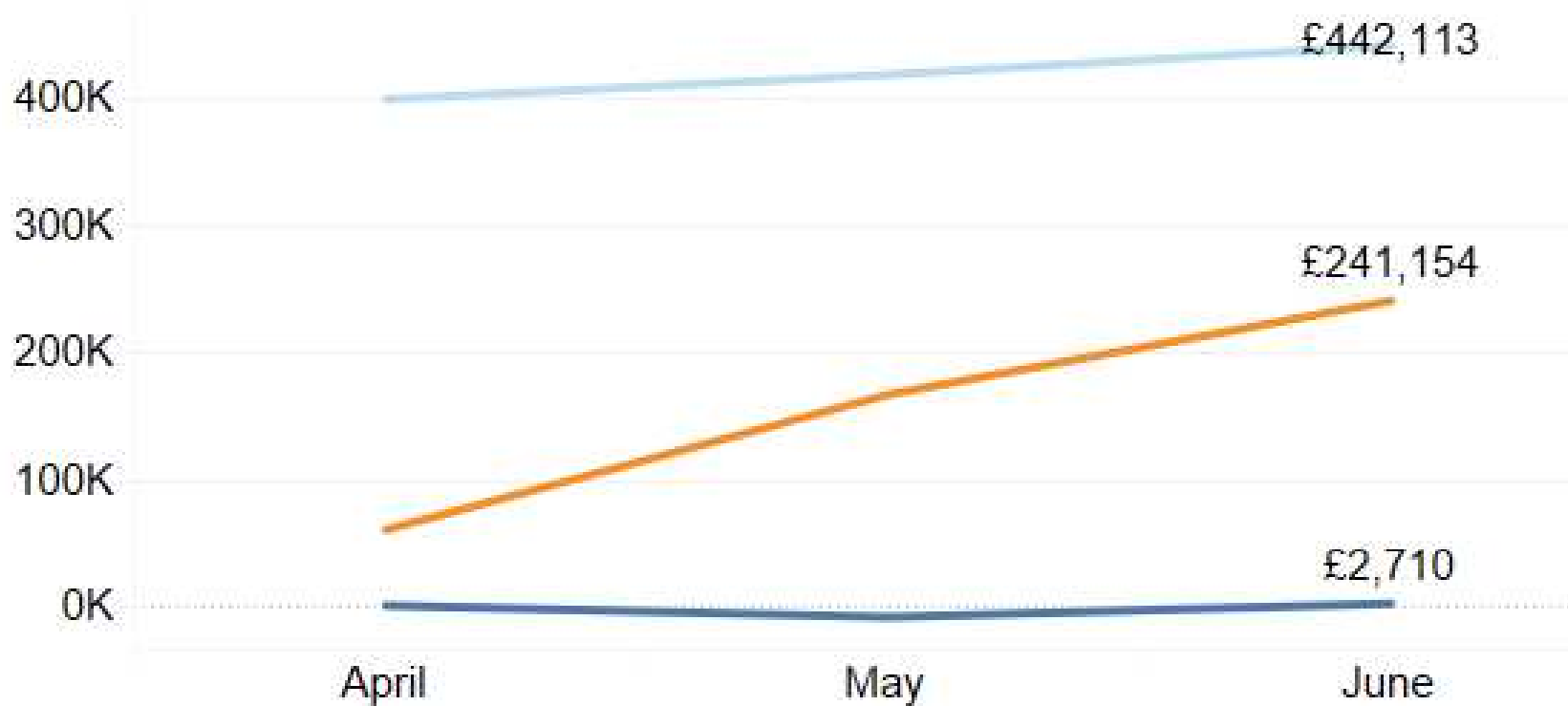


*Leisure facilities closed April-most of July 2020

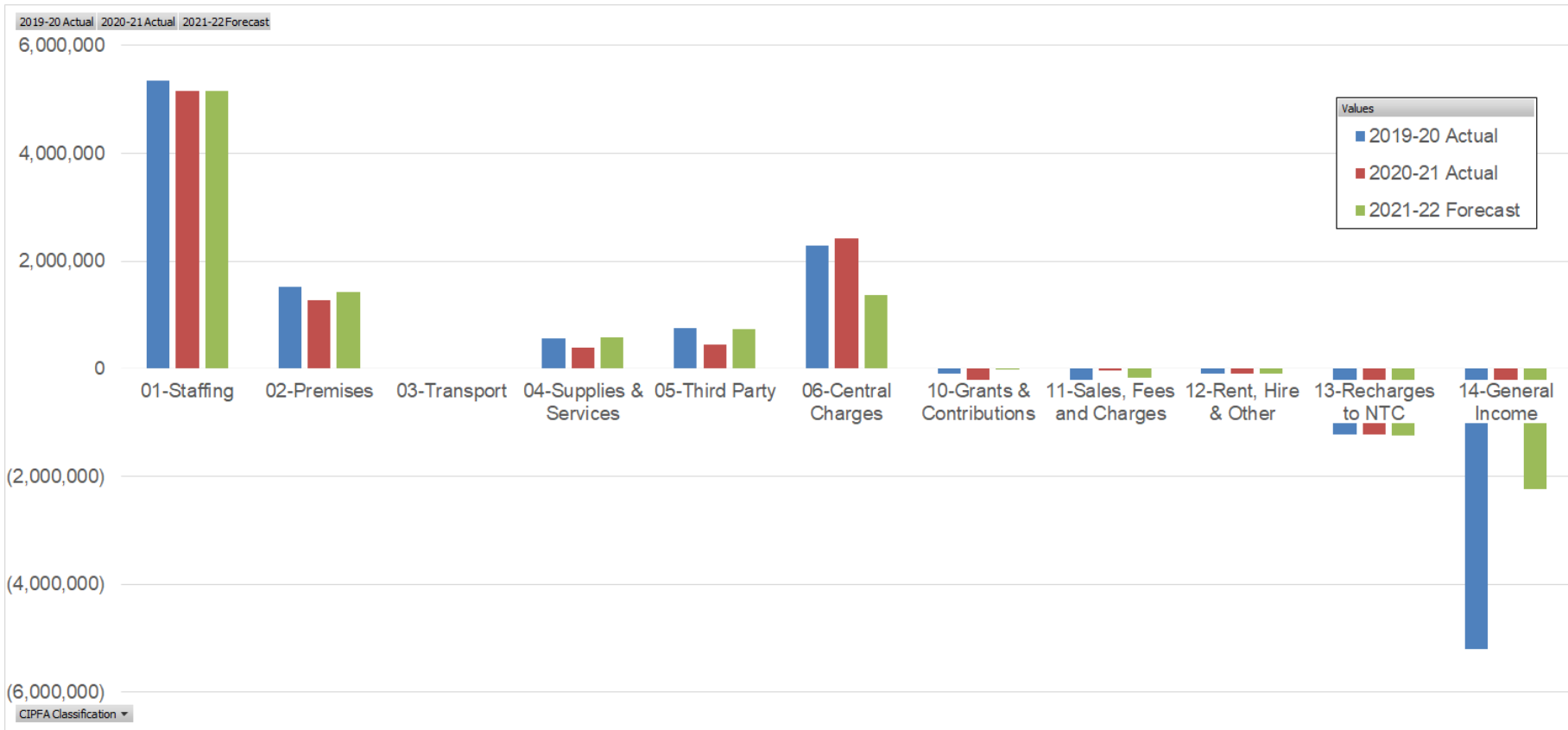


Income Graph

£470k in income has been generated April-June 2021, which represents a third of income of during the same period in 2019



Spend & Income 3-Year Trend



Sport and Leisure in the Council Plan

A Thriving North Tyneside

- We will keep our libraries and leisure centres open as part of a vibrant cultural and leisure offering;

A Family-Friendly North Tyneside

- We will provide outstanding children's services, events and facilities so North Tyneside is a great place for family life

A Green North Tyneside

- We will increase opportunities for safe walking and cycling, including providing a segregated cycleway at the coast



Recovery Priorities

- Building back the business
- Support to Public Health – Active North Tyneside



Questions?



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Meeting: Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee

Date: 14 September 2021

Title: Tourism and Events Recovery

Author: Pete Warne

Tel: 0191 6437413

Service: Environment Housing and Leisure

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to give the Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee an overview of the presentation regarding planning for recovery in the tourism and events sector.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Sub-committee is recommended to note the report and comment on the presentation.

3. Details

- 3.1 The period since the first lockdown in March 2020, through to the current easing of restrictions on service delivery, has been especially challenging for the tourism industry. The entire hospitality sector has struggled with the uncertainty of lockdowns and visitor hesitancy around returning to indoor venues, along with safety concerns relating to major events.
- 3.2 Services within the sector have been able to operate sporadically, when lockdown restrictions have been eased, allowing for some access to tourism attractions. More recently, with a greater push for people to holiday in the UK, the domestic tourism industry has begun to see a degree of recovery.
- 3.3 While the planned the Events programme for the Summer in North Tyneside has been significantly reduced, including the postponement for two consecutive years of the Mouth of the Tyne Festival, a range of smaller scale events have continued and helped support town centre economic recovery.
- 3.4 The presentation will cover how tourism and events have survived over the period of the pandemic and current planning for a return to business as usual.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report:

- Government guidance on restrictions during the pandemic
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

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