

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR LEISURE & CULTURE

### LEISURE SERVICES – MAINTAINING SERVICE DELIVERY

- Leisure Services are working to implement the reduced staffing structure as part of the service review to respond to budget challenges with a continued focus on front line services and delivery which positively contributes to the health and well being agenda.
- Programme changes within the buildings will be implemented over the coming weeks to respond to budget reductions.

### RE:FRESH – CONTINUED INCREASES IN PARTICIPATION

- Results from the latest National Active People Survey shows that Blackburn with Darwen's participation levels (3 x 30 mins per week) has increased to 23.8%.
- This is an increase of 7.5% from the 05/06 baseline of 16.3% and exceeds re:fresh's 4% target.
- This was supported by a 4% increase in visits to leisure centres – equating to over 12,000 extra visits per week.
- Blackburn with Darwen has achieved the 2nd highest national increase in adult participation (APS1 to APS4), a huge turn-around from the third lowest participation rates in the country 4 years ago.
- Over the same period, the percentage of inactive adults has decreased by 15% or 14,959 people (the re:fresh target was 8% or 8,464 people).
- This provides further evidence to support the positive impact that the re:fresh partnership investment has achieved locally to improve citizens' engagement, activity and health

### YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICES

- Young Peoples Services delivered a reduced holiday programme over the Christmas period; programmes for children with disabilities were delivered over three full days plus additional work in children's homes. The Christmas Day football competition, supported by the North West Street Games, was extremely well attended with 250 young people taking part at Audley Sports and Community Centre
- Other provision continues to deliver work with young people across the borough despite ongoing budget pressures.
- Service supported work continues with Educational workshops and creative performance events connected to World Aids day.
- January volunteer event was attended by 13 potential new participants looking for experience working with children and young people across all areas of the service.