

**Written response to question / issue
raised at Council**

Meeting Date: 14th July 2020
Public / Private*: Public
Minute Reference: C.73/20 – Portfolio Holder Reports
Written response to: Cllr Dr L Tickner
Written response from: Cllr S Higgs

Resolution / Question:

Please provide Cllr Dr Tickner with written clarification expanding upon the increase in patronage at Stony Holme Golf Course, the response to include figures both prior to and after the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Response:

DATE	SEASON TICKET	VISITORS	TOTAL
13 TH MAY 2020 TO 16 TH JULY 2020	1534	3910	5444
13 TH MAY 2019 TO 16 TH JULY 2019	750	1031	1781

THE USAGE SHOWS OVER A THREE-FOLD INCREASE FOR THE SAME PERIOD AS 2019.

Date: 4th August 2020

**Written response to question / issue
raised at Council**

Meeting Date: 14th July 2020
Public / Private*: Public
Minute Reference: C.73/20 – Portfolio Holder Reports
Written response to: Cllr Ms J Ellis-Williams
Written response from: Cllr S Higgs

Resolution / Question:

Elaborate upon the work undertaken by the City Council as part of its participation in the Cumbria Arts and Culture Network.

Response:

A member of the Healthy City Team currently attends the weekly Cumbria Arts & Culture Network zoom meeting as a representative of the City Council. The Network is performing a valuable function during the Coronavirus Crises and from our point of view, it is a good way of engaging and co-ordinating with a wide range of arts and cultural organisations. Our 'Show and Tell' feature on the Discover Carlisle website (<https://www.discovercarlisle.co.uk/Show-Tell>) has been developed with the Network and has proved popular with artists and audiences. For example, at the last meeting they discussed:

- Recent commissions for the new cancer centre at the Infirmary – they are looking for artists work to display in the centre for its opening next year.
- Interest in printing press artwork and the problems being faced during Covid-19.
- New Arts Council funding that is now available, and the relevant application criteria.

Date: 6th August 2020

**Written response to question / issue
raised at Council**

Meeting Date: 14th July 2020

Public / Private*: Public

Minute Reference: C.73/20 – Portfolio Holder Reports

Written response to: Cllr Miss L Sherriff

Written response from: Cllr Elizabeth Mallinson, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Health & Wellbeing

Resolution / Question:

Detail the outcome of the Community Neighbours telephone befriending scheme, together with details of the impact should continued sponsorship not be forthcoming at the conclusion of the first year which would end in September 2020.

Response:

The Community Neighbours telephone befriending scheme presently has approximately 40 volunteers at various stages of the application. The target was 50 partnerships within the first year but there are only 10 to date. There was a delay in the Spring after the scheme was launched in February as we were unable to progress DBS applications internally and we also found that referrals of service users from Health and Social Care dropped significantly during COVID lockdown. The scheme is unlikely to meet its target outcomes of 50 partnerships (35 active partnerships by the end of August) due to staffing issues and a lack of referrals into the scheme. The long term continuing absence of the Community Neighbours Coordinator and difficulties with referrals has meant consideration is being given to alternative providers of the scheme that would ensure its success going forward. We would expect a decision on this by early September.

Date: 14th August 2020

**Written response to question / issue
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Meeting Date: 14th July 2020

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Minute Reference: C.73/20 – Portfolio Holder Reports

Written response to: Cllr Miss R Alcroft

Written response from: Cllr Elizabeth Mallinson, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Health & Wellbeing

Resolution / Question:

Clarify whether there has been an increase in benefits claims across Carlisle during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Response:

As highlighted below, there has been an increase in new claims made in Carlisle during the COVID-19 period to date; however, the rate of new claims in Carlisle is slowing.

Carlisle - Universal Credit New Claims April 2020 – July 2020

Month	New Claims Made	UC Live Load
April	2290	7428
May	1372	8800
June	245	9045
July	383	9312

DWP update 13/08/2020

There is a significant rate of youth (18-24) looking for work in Carlisle. There is much work going on to help these young people either into work or training or jobs.

The DWP expect these claimant figures to continue to fluctuate while the Furlough Scheme is being wound down as some furloughed workers who were claiming benefits will sign off and return to work but others, who may not have been claiming benefits, will be made redundant and make a claim for benefit.

Despite the fluctuations in claimant data, the DWP advise there are signs that the job market is opening up to some extent in Cumbria particularly due to self-employed clients returning to work and the hospitality sector opening up.

Date: 14th August 2020

**Written response to question / issue
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Minute Reference: C.73/20 – Portfolio Holder Reports
Written response to: Cllr J Paton
Written response from: Cllr N Christian

Resolution / Question:

Respond in writing to Cllr Paton clarifying when Warwick Road would reopen.

Response:

The works on Warwick Road have been United Utilities water main renewal works. I'm told that this phase of the project is now complete and that they will be moving on to Victoria Place in September but the traffic management requirements for that phase are not known at this time.

Cumbria County Council still need to complete the resurfacing on Warwick Road (Eastern Way to Victoria Place) that was delayed due to the United Utilities works. Investigations carried out as part of the EA works found Botcherby Bridge needs the waterproofing renewed. County Council Highways will therefore be looking to coordinate these works and undertake them during Summer 2021.

Date: 27th August 2020