REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR TOURISM, CULTURE AND HERITAGE TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015

Visit Isle of Wight

Work is ongoing to evaluate the results of the main summer season and I hope that I will be able to present them in my next report to council. Visit Isle of Wight is in the process of considering its options for the 2016 campaign and these will need to reflect the level of funds the organisation is likely to receive from the council and its partners

Medina Leisure Centre

The Executive gave its approval to an 'invest to save bid', which will allow for an extension of the existing fitness facility at Medina and will also provide a new spin fit studio. The demand for the existing facilities has been beyond expectation and these facilities will provide a significant new source of income.

Future of the Library Service

The public and staff consultation on the future of the Library Service has now closed. Officers are analysing the data, the finding will be put forward in a report to the Executive at the end of October.

Visit of Creative England

Creative England is an organisation which promotes filming in areas of England, and first made an approach to the CTS Board through my role within the Local Government Association. They came to the Island with eight film location managers to acquaint themselves with various aspects from the logistics to sites etc. This visit was supported by local businesses at nil cost to the Isle of Wight Council. Filming (including film tourism) helped Bristol to achieve £17.5 million of inward revenue last year.

Councillor Ian Stephens
Executive Member for Tourism, Culture and Heritage