

CABINET STATEMENT

TITLE: - RCT CHALLENGE: OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT.

DATE: - 4th March, 2015.

BY: - Councillor K Montague, Cabinet Member for Service Delivery, Communities and Housing.

Members will all be aware of the Cabinet's commitment to engaging with the community and residents over the difficult challenges we face in delivering services in the future.

The last two years have seen the Council receive significantly less funding due to cuts to public sector funding which has resulted in some facilities and services being reviewed, reduced and in some cases, unfortunately cut.

To protect our frontline services as far as we practically can, we need to find alternative delivery models and wherever possible, where services or facilities have had to be cut, positive engagement with our communities has resulted in facilities and services being maintained for community use.

Clearly, given the bleak public sector financial forecasts, further reviews of Council run facilities and services will be required and we want to engage early with our communities to talk about the opportunities open to them.

This is why on the 25th March, as the Cabinet Member responsible, I have organised an event specifically to support this agenda titled RCT Challenge: Opportunities in your Community. This event will bring together colleagues from the third sector, community groups and individuals with an interest in exploring the opportunities there may be in the future to operate facilities and services which are currently funded by the Council.

We have said all along in the face of the difficult decisions we have had to consider that we want to minimise the impact of the continued cuts from the CONDEM Government on the residents of RCT by engaging with our communities and working with them to forward plan the future delivery and running of services and facilities.