

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
3 MARCH 2015

QUARTER 3 2014/15 PERFORMANCE REPORT

**STATEMENT BY MR R BLUNT CC, LEAD MEMBER FOR HERITAGE, ARTS AND
LEISURE**

The Adults and Communities Department's performance report for Quarter 3 contains a short section that addresses the performance of the cultural services provided by the Communities and Wellbeing Service.

In a time of tremendous challenge and change to these services, I am pleased to note and draw your attention to the overall rise in visits to our heritage sites, 2% higher than the same period last year, and the continuing increase in success rates for the Adult Learning Service. We must also note the decline in the traditional measurement of loans and visits to our library services. In addressing the financial challenges ahead, it is worth noting that these services are reshaping their offer to ensure that they are strategically aligned to add value and contribute to the outcomes prioritised for the County Council. This means offering low cost services that are preventative in nature such as the Reading Well Books on Prescription offer, and services which target those most vulnerable, but do not result in high volume returns. This will give us an opportunity to reshape what we mean by performance in the future. It is likely that more traditional methods of reporting that focus on high volumes are replaced by more qualitative outcome based reporting which is better suited to the more targeted work that will be prioritised.

Richard Blunt
Cabinet Lead Member for Heritage, Arts and Leisure