

**Report to the Asset Management and
Economic Development Cabinet
Committee**



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Report reference: AMED-016-2015/16

Date of meeting: 11 February 2016

Portfolio: Asset Management and Economic Development

Subject: Community Day North Weald Airfield

Responsible Officer: Derek Macnab (01992 564050)

Democratic Services: Jackie Leither (01992 564756)

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- (1) To note progress on planning for the North Weald Airfield Community Day 2016.**

Executive Summary:

This report updates the Cabinet Committee on preparation for the North Weald Airfield Community Day 2016.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

Members requested an update report on the event at their previous meeting.

Other Options for Action:

None.

Report:

1. North Weald Airfield has a long standing track record of successfully accommodating a wide range of both aviation and non-aviation based outdoor events. Notably however, since 2008, the Airfield has hosted on an annual basis, a Community Day which celebrates the proud history of the Airfield, demonstrates the current diversity of uses and provides a valuable opportunity for local voluntary sector organisations to showcase their services.
2. The initial Community Day event in 2008 was specifically established to raise funds for the "Hurricane Gate Guardian" and was a joint initiative between the Council and the Squadron Flying Club. Based on the success of the event, it was felt that there was merit in continuing on an annual basis. In 2010 Weald Aviation, one of the other major aviation tenants at the Airfield, started to undertake a significant role in the organisation of the event. The event has grown both in size and popularity, with some 6000 attending the 2015 event. As well as providing a great family based day out, the event has also been successful in raising thousands of pounds for Charity.
3. 2016 marks the Centenary of North Weald Airfield since the airfield became operational as a Home Defence Flight Station in August 1918. It is, therefore, intended that this year's

Community Day forms the centrepiece of the 100 Year Anniversary celebrations. Again, Weald Aviation have indicated that they are willing to undertake the lead role in organising the event in liaison with the District Council, and are prepared to underwrite the event with respect to funding infrastructure/deposits on bookings etc. A date has been selected for the 17 July 2016 and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight have been advised in order to ascertain their availability. It should be noted that, whilst as in previous years, the intention is to include a flying element this will not constitute an air display with high velocity manoeuvres, but rather a series of fly-pasts in accordance with current CAA guidance regarding Airshows.

4. Whilst it is hoped that the North Weald 100th Anniversary Community Day will form the centrepiece of celebrating the centenary of the Airfield, a Steering Group has been set up, under the auspices of the Epping Forest Tourism and Visitor Board to organise a wider programme of celebrating events. Further reports to the Committee under the regular Economic Development report will be given as this develops.

Resource Implication

£7000 has been earmarked for the Airfield's Marketing Budget to supplement the event.

Legal and Governance Implications:

No specific.

Safer Cleaner Greener Implications

No specific.

Consultation Undertaken

Airfield Tenants, LSP Tourism Board

Background Papers

Previous report to Asset Management Committee.

Risk Assessment

Appropriate Risk Assessments will be undertaken as part of event planning.

Due Regard Record

This page shows **which groups of people are affected** by the subject of this report. It sets out **how they are affected** and how any **unlawful discrimination** they experience can be eliminated. It also includes information about how **access to the service(s)** subject to this report can be improved for the different groups of people; and how they can be assisted to **understand each other better** as a result of the subject of this report.

S149 Equality Act 2010 requires that due regard must be paid to this information when considering the subject of this report.

The Community Day will be accessible to people with disabilities.