

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 19 July 2022

Decision No: (CAB 22/23 34044)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	HEALTH, ADULTS AND LEISURE
SUBJECT:	ST MARY'S LEISURE CENTRE
AUTHOR:	Debbie Chase, Paul Paskins

THE DECISION

- (i) On an interim basis, for a period of up to eighteen months, to recommence leisure services and associated additional services from St. Mary's Leisure Centre (SMLC) and to delegate authority to the Head of Supplier Management - following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health, Adults and Leisure, the Executive Director for Finance and Commercialism and the Service Director Legal and Governance – to enter into contractual and any associated arrangements with Active Nation UK Ltd (“AN”) or an alternative operator to give effect to this recommendation.
- (ii) To note that a General Fund revenue saving of £148,000 relating to the closure of SMLC will now not be achieved from 2022/23 onwards. To approve the reinstatement of the operational budgets of £148,000 in financial year 2022/23 and £100,000 in 2023/24. This will be funded from existing resources.
- (iii) Further General Fund revenue budgets of £30,000 in financial year 2022/23 and £20,000 in 2023/24 be allocated to the running costs for SMLC. This would be funded from existing resources.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council intends, subject to the approval of the recommendations of this report, to recommence - at the earliest possible opportunity - services from SMLC for the benefit of the community.

AN are the operating sub-contractor for the Council's main leisure contract and are therefore best placed to mobilise and commence services within the Council's preferred timescales.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

To proceed with the Cabinet decisions of 21 February 2022, which included a decision to “permanently cease leisure services at SMLC and approve in principle the disposal of the site”. This option was rejected as it does not meet the Council’s objective of re-opening SMLC in order to provide a facility which offers leisure and other community services.

Undertake a competitive process to select an alternative operator or partner on a long-term basis and delay the commencement of services from SMLC until this operator or partner was appointed and could commence services. This option was rejected as the Council intends to work closely with the local community and other users and potential users of the facility before designing a proposed approach to the long-term future of the facility. The Council would, following the completion of this engagement, then undertake a formal twelve-week consultation process regarding the plans developed; this option would therefore not meet the objective of recommencing services from SMLC at the earliest possible opportunity.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

Cabinet took into consideration recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (14th July) specifically i) to iii):

- i) That, to enable value for money to be demonstrated, Cabinet postpones the scheduled decision on the re-opening of St Mary’s Leisure Centre to enable full financial modelling to be undertaken and success metrics to be developed.
- ii) That, irrespective of Cabinet agreeing to postpone the decision to re-open St Mary’s Leisure Centre, success metrics for the initiative are developed and performance against the key indicators, including user numbers, is reported to the Committee after 6 and 12 months of the centre re-opening.
- iii) That the Administration gives due consideration to the potential impact on the viability of other community venues across the City when developing the future activity programme at St Mary’s Leisure Centre.
- iv) That the Committee are provided with information detailing how much of the Council’s repairs and maintenance budget has not been committed for 2022/23.

Cabinet rejected Recommendation (i) above and approved Recommendations (ii) to (iv) above.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 19 July 2022

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No:

Decision No:

Forward Plan No:
This record relates to on the agenda for the Decision-Making