

Public Document Pack

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Thursday, 13th April, 2023
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Council Chamber, Civic Centre,
Southampton

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Fuller (Chair)
Councillor Houghton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Cooper
Councillor Guthrie
Councillor Moulton
Councillor Savage
Councillor Shields
Councillor White
Councillor Winning
Councillor Fielker
Councillor Keogh

Appointed Members

Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Francis Otieno, Primary Parent Governor
Rob Sanders, Church of England

Contacts

Emily Goodwin
Democratic Support Officer
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Mark Pirnie
Scrutiny Manager
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PUBLIC INFORMATION

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee holds the Executive to account, exercises the call-in process, and sets and monitors standards for scrutiny. It formulates a programme of scrutiny inquiries and appoints Scrutiny Panels to undertake them. Members of the Executive cannot serve on this Committee.

Role of Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny includes the following three functions:

- Holding the Executive to account by questioning and evaluating the Executive's actions, both before and after decisions taken.
- Developing and reviewing Council policies, including the Policy Framework and Budget Strategy.
- Making reports and recommendations on any aspect of Council business and other matters that affect the City and its citizens.

Overview and Scrutiny can ask the Executive to reconsider a decision, but they do not have the power to change the decision themselves.

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2022-2030 sets out the four key outcomes:

- Communities, culture & homes - Celebrating the diversity of cultures within Southampton; enhancing our cultural and historical offer and using these to help transform our communities.
- Green City - Providing a sustainable, clean, healthy and safe environment for everyone. Nurturing green spaces and embracing our waterfront.
- Place shaping - Delivering a city for future generations. Using data, insight and vision to meet the current and future needs of the city.
- Wellbeing - Start well, live well, age well, die well; working with other partners and other services to make sure that customers get the right help at the right time

Procedure / Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Access is available for disabled people.

Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

Fire Procedure: -

In the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound, and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

Mobile Telephones: - Please switch your mobile telephones to silent whilst in the meeting

Use of Social Media: - The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording, or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Smoking Policy: - The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Dates of Meetings for the Municipal Year:

2022	2023
9 June	12 January
14 July	2 February
11 August	9 March
8 September	13 April
13 October	
10 November	
15 December	

CONDUCT OF MEETING

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The general role and terms of reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with those for all Scrutiny Panels, are set out in Part 2 (Article 6) of the Council’s Constitution, and their particular roles are set out in Part 4 (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – paragraph 5) of the Constitution.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 4.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any “Disclosable Pecuniary Interest” or “Other Interest” they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

- (iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.
- (iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.
- (v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.
- (vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.
- (vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:
- a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
 - b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an, 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

- Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature
- Any body directed to charitable purposes
- Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

4 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

(Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2023 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

7 CONSIDERATION OF A PETITION

(Pages 5 - 12)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager recommending that the Committee discuss a petition that meets the threshold for consideration at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, and the officer response provided.

8 FORWARD PLAN

(Pages 13 - 34)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

9 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

(Pages 35 - 40)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

Monday, 3 April 2023

Director – Legal, Governance and HR

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2023

Present: Councillors Fuller (Chair), Houghton (Vice-Chair), Cooper, Guthrie, Savage, Shields, White and Winning

Apologies: Councillor Moulton

44. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

The apologies of Councillor Moulton were noted.

45. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED: that the minutes for the Committee meeting on 2 February 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

46. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND FLY-TIPPING POLICY 2023-2026

The Committee considered the briefing paper attached to this item detailing the forthcoming Cabinet Decision regarding the Household Waste and Fly-Tipping Policy 2023-2026

Councillor Leggett – Cabinet Member for Finance & Change; Ian Collins – Director of Environment; and Dave Tyrie – Head of City Services and a number of community representatives were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The poor recycling rates being achieved in Southampton that were consistently well below the national average.
- The high contamination rates for recycling.
- The strong performance relating to the number of bins being missed.
- Progress delivering the Waste Improvement and Transformation Programme and preparation for the forthcoming changes specified within the Environment Act 2021.
- The need for flexibility regarding side waste.
- The contribution that can be played by a number of Council services in supporting the waste objectives.

RESOLVED:

1. Following consideration of the briefing paper relating to the forthcoming Cabinet Decision on the Household Waste and Fly-Tipping Policy 2023-2026 the Committee recommended that:
 - a. the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Customer Engagement amended the draft policy to allow limited flexibility with regards to occasional side waste being collected in addition to household waste wheeled bin collection.
 - b. the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Customer Engagement gave consideration to developing processes to deal with complex waste problems that can create significant problems to local communities if not resolved swiftly.
 - c. the Council's response to the Government's consultation on charging for DIY waste at household waste recycling centres would be circulated to the Committee.
 - d. the Executive explored how Planning and HMO Licensing could help support delivery of the Council's waste policy agenda.
 - e. the Executive committed to undertaking an extensive post adoption publicity campaign to raise awareness of the Waste and Fly Tipping Policy. The campaign should include targeting specific communities and utilising different communication channels, including pictorial representation.

ENHANCED BUS PARTNERSHIP

The Committee considered the briefing paper attached to this item detailing the forthcoming Cabinet Decision regarding the Enhanced Bus Partnership.

Councillor Keogh – Cabinet Member for Transport & District Regeneration; Iain Steane – Transport Policy and Sustainable Travel Manager; Emma Baker – Strategic Transport Planner and a number of community representatives were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The Panel discussed a number of points including:

- The impact that the withdrawal from Southampton by First Bus would have on the Enhanced Bus Partnership.
- How the Partnership would deliver better outcomes for bus passengers in the city.
- Whether the governance arrangements were too onerous.
- Expectations of future resources to deliver the ambitions included with the Enhanced Bus Partnership and the Bus Services Improvement Plan.

RESOLVED:

1. Following consideration of the briefing paper relating to the forthcoming Cabinet Decision on the Enhanced Bus Partnership the Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member for Transport & District Regeneration gave consideration to inviting various community and user groups, and Non-Executive Members, to attend the Enhanced Bus Partnership Working Group or Forum.

47. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee noted the report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

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Agenda Item 7

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	CONSIDERATION OF A PETITION		
DATE OF DECISION:	13 APRIL 2023		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
Under the Council’s Petition Scheme, set out in Part 11 of the Constitution, petitions containing a minimum of 750 but less than 1500 signatures will be referred to a public meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.			
This report details the receipt of a petition that has reached this threshold requesting £1 bus fares all across Southampton, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee discuss the petition, and the officer response provided in Appendix 1.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	The Council’s Constitution states that petitions containing a minimum of 750 but less than 1500 signatures will be referred to a public meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	The Council has received a petition that states: <i>‘As the cost-of-living crisis bites, we call for £1 bus fares all across Southampton - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year - not just at Christmas!’</i>		
4.	The petition provides the following justification for this statement: <i>‘We the undersigned petition the council to subsidise bus fares for everyone by offering a flat £1 fare 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, with a 50p flat fare for children. We welcome the Council’s limited initiative to offer evening £1 bus fares over the festive period, but the Council needs to do much more,</i>		

	<p><i>urgently. At a time of spiralling food and fuel costs, hard-working people are suffering more each day. We call for appropriate support for workers and families now, and into the future. Southampton residents desperately need practical help. In addition, this policy would reduce the number of cars on the roads and allow buses to keep to their timetables while encouraging people to use the buses again post-Covid and improve air quality for us all. A similar scheme has been rolled out in successfully in Taunton, Somerset, so why not here? Come on Southampton Council – show our hard-working families that the council is really behind them at a time of crisis. Show care for the people of Southampton every minute of the day.</i></p> <p><i>Currently a family of four can pay up to £14.40 for a return journey into the city for school, work or leisure – that’s £74.50 a week! With the cost-of-living crisis biting, families are having to choose how their ever-reducing income is being used. The current policy of £1 evening bus fares favours young people going out for the evening, but does not help families or working people, such as our fantastic key workers.</i></p> <p><i>Only 39% of people in Southampton have access to a car and only 4% use public transport at least five or more days each week, so this measure would help residents get out and about and support Southampton’s day and night time economies. In addition, it would reduce the number of cars on the roads, so would improve congestion and allow buses to keep to their timetables while encouraging people to use the buses again post-Covid, and improve air quality for us all.</i></p> <p><i>Implementing this flat-fare bus policy would actively help people’s purses from emptying, leaving them more able to buy food and keep warm. As news comes out that parents are choosing to eat less so they can put food on the table for their children, Southampton residents desperately need practical help now.</i></p> <p><i>A similar scheme has been rolled out in successfully in Taunton, Somerset, so why not here? Come on Southampton Council – show our hard-working families that the council is really behind them at a time of crisis. Show care for the people of Southampton every minute of the day – not just at Christmas time!’</i></p>
5.	The petition has 1,030 valid signatures. The officer response to the petition is set out in Appendix 1. The Cabinet Member for Transport and District Regeneration will be in attendance to discuss the petition with the petitioners and the Committee.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
6.	Detailed within the appendix
<u>Property/Other</u>	
7.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	

8.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
Other Legal Implications:		
9.	Detailed within the appendix	
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS		
10.	Detailed within the appendix	
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS		
11.	Detailed within the appendix	
KEY DECISION		No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:		None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>		
Appendices		
1.	Officer response to the petition	
Documents In Members' Rooms		
1.	None	
Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		No
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
Other Background Documents		
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: Petition - £1 bus fares all across Southampton - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

DATE: 13 April 2023

RECIPIENT: Oversight & Scrutiny Management Committee

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

A petition has been raised calling for a flat-fare of £1 for all bus journeys in Southampton 7-days a week. Southampton has some of the cheapest bus fares in the UK and there have been recent fare offers (£1 Evening Fare, Group Fare and £2 Flat Fare) in operation in the city. These have been developed in partnership with the bus operators and have required additional funding from the Council and Government to enact.

A £1 flat fare would be an additional offer but is unfunded. A fare offer would need to be developed with, and have the support of, the local bus operators.

This briefing paper provides a response to the petition.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

Fares on bus services are set and determined by the bus operator.

The bus fares in Southampton are shown in Table 1. These are competitive when compared to other cities, with Southampton having some of the cheapest day and weekly fares in the UK. The weekly ticket offer of £10 is second cheapest on offer– Guildford was lowest at £7, and the daily tickets are on average 49% lower than the South East and 35% lower than the England averages¹. Fares are done on a zonal system with services travelling out of Southampton being more expensive than those within.

	Single	Return	Daily
Adult	£2.50	£3.80	£3.50
Child	£1.70	£2.00	£2.80

Table 1 – Bus Fares on service within Southampton

All operators offer child fares at 60-65% of the adult fare. These are available for those aged 5-15.

All operators are introducing ‘tap on tap off’ features which limit the fare paid, if done by contactless/card payment, to the daily ticket to give people the best value.

¹ [TAS Partnership National Fares Survey 2019](#)

BRIEFING PAPER

Since Autumn 2022, there have been special fare offers have been running in Southampton. These have been done in partnership between the City Council and the bus operators, or direct from the Government. These are:

- £1 Evening Fare – single fare on buses in Southampton after 6pm
- £2 Single Flat Fare – since January 2023 all single journeys across England have been £2 with participating operators as part of national campaign, currently to June 2023
- Discontinued £5 Group Fare offer that provided travel for five people for £5 on buses in Southampton initially all days during Summer 2022, but then weekends from July 2022 to March 2023.

These offers have required funding from either the City Council or, in the case of the national scheme, the Government. To date the local offers have a combined cost of £219,000.

It should be noted that through the England National Concessionary Fare Scheme (ENCTS) eligible older and disabled residents are entitled to free bus travel in England after 09:30. In Southampton a local enhancement provides an earlier start date of 09:00. The annual budget for ENCTS is £5.1M and is ringfenced to this and providing support to other bus activities.

The Southampton Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) has an ambition to make bus services affordable for all and the various offers to date have provided that. The BSIP was submitted to Government in October 2021 as a funding bid. Within this was a funding request to continue various fare offers that would reduce the cost of travel by bus such as continuing Evening Fares or other new opportunities. Unfortunately, Southampton was not successful in receiving any funding for this and any activities within the BSIP would therefore need to be funded locally.

A £1 all day flat-fare could reduce the price of an adult single from £2.50 to £1 and a child's fare from £1.70 to £0.50. This would provide a significant saving for bus users. It should be noted that with the £2 flat fare people using buses in and into Southampton are making a saving, particularly those on inter-urban services from surrounding areas.

As fares are determined and set by the bus operators, the Council can work with them on bespoke offers but these would require funding to reimburse the operators. Any £1 flat fare would require substantial levels of funding (subsidy) as this would have a significant impact on bus operator revenues, particularly at a time where they are emerging from suppressed passenger demand through the Covid pandemic, inflationary cost pressures, and in Southampton, changes following the withdrawal of First's CityRed operations in February 2023.

Pre-pandemic in 2019/20 there were 20.3m bus passenger journeys made in Southampton, with 3.405m concessionary fare journeys. This leaves 16.895m fare paying passengers. The difference between the Adult Single and £1 flat fare is £1.50, and for a Child it is £1.20. Approximately 15% of all tickets sold are single fares, and these are split 90% adult and 10%. An estimated cost would be between £3.7M-£8.8M each year if reimbursement of Concessionary Fares are included.

BRIEFING PAPER

There is no specific budget for this and given the Council's financial position it is not a viable proposition and cannot be delivered. The Council is still investigating funding opportunities to support the ambition of the BSIP and is lobbying Government for additional funding. Bus operators would still be responsible for setting single and return fares within competition law.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Resource – Any fare offer would need to be administered by the City Council in partnership with the bus operators. This would have to come from existing officer resourcing within Transport & Planning.

Policy – The BSIP has an ambition to make bus travel affordable. A survey for the BSIP in 2021 indicated that 74% of responders would see this as a measure to encourage them to use the bus more often and frequently. Without any funding the ability to provide wide ranging fare offers in conjunction with bus operators is limited.

Financial – There is no budget available for this within current funding streams. An indicative cost range for a £1 flat fare could be between £3.7M and £8.8M per year. For comparison the Concessionary Fare scheme budget is £5.1M.

The Council's current financial position means that this is unaffordable within Council budgets and would place significant pressure on Council resources and other priorities would have to be deferred. External funding would assist but there are no current funding sources available.

Legal – Through the establishment of the Southampton Enhanced Bus Partnership fare offers can be discussed with bus operators. Funding for these would need to be assessed against Subsidy Control regulations to identify whether they are a subsidy. Bus operators would need to be consulted 12 weeks before the implementation of any new scheme.

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

Other options considered:

- Implement a scheme – Funding would need to be identified and consultation undertaken with the bus operators to develop a scheme. This is not achievable and is not recommended.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

None

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Iain Steane – Transport Policy & Sustainable Travel Manager
	Tel:	023 8380 2283
	E-mail:	iain.steane@southampton.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 8

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	FORWARD PLAN		
DATE OF DECISION:	13 APRIL 2023		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive to ensure that forthcoming decisions made by the Executive benefit local residents.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee discuss the items listed in paragraph 3 of the report to highlight any matters which Members feel should be taken into account by the Executive when reaching a decision.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To enable Members to identify any matters which they feel Cabinet should take into account when reaching a decision.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	The Council's Forward Plan for Executive Decisions from 18 April 2023 has been published. The following issues were identified for discussion with the Decision Maker:		
	Portfolio	Decision	Requested By
	Health, Adults & Leisure	St Mary's Leisure Centre	Cllr Fuller
4.	Briefing papers responding to the items identified by members of the Committee are appended to this report. Members are invited to use the paper to explore the issues with the decision maker.		

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
5.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
6.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Briefing Paper – St Mary’s Leisure Centre
Documents In Members’ Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	Identified in Executive report
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	Identified in Executive report
Other Background Documents Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)	
1.	None	

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: ST MARY'S LEISURE CENTRE
DATE: 13 APRIL 2023
RECIPIENT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ("OSMC")

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

1. This paper briefs OSMC in respect of the Cabinet report of 18th April 2023 entitled "St Mary's Leisure Centre" ("the Cabinet Report"). The Cabinet Report concerns the approach to procuring the long-term future for St Mary's Leisure Centre ("SMLC").

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

2. The Cabinet Report recommendation is: -
 - (i) To delegate authority to the Head of Supplier Management to undertake a procurement process to appoint a long-term operator for SMLC.

Reasons for Report Recommendations

3. The Council intends, subject to the approval of the recommendation of the Cabinet Report, to undertake a procurement process to appoint a long-term operator of SMLC.
4. Further to the decision by Cabinet on 19 July 2022 (the "July Report") to recommence leisure services from SMLC for a period of up to 18 months ("the Interim Arrangement"), a 12-week consultation ("the Second Consultation") on the longer-term operation of SMLC took place between 12 December 2022 and 6 March 2023.
5. The Second Consultation indicated that sixty nine (69)% of respondents agreed with the proposal and sixty one (61)% of respondents agreed that it would have a positive impact for SMLC to remain as a leisure facility.
6. Active Nation ("AN") is the operator of SMLC for the duration of the "Interim Arrangement", as approved in the July Report. This arrangement with AN commenced in August 2022 and is for a maximum of 18 months. The arrangement includes a notice period of 3 months, and it is intended that the procurement process and subsequent mobilisation of the long-term operator will align with these timescales to ensure there is minimal disruption to services once the long-term operator is appointed.
7. The procurement process for the long-term operator is expected to last between four and six months – including mobilisation by the new operator - from the date of the Cabinet decision.
8. Once a preferred operator has been identified in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, a further Cabinet report will be brought forward to enable Cabinet to consider the appointment of the new operator.

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Background and Details

9. SMLC is located in St Mary's Road and consists of a sports hall which was used for activities such as basketball and badminton, smaller rooms arranged around the main hall containing a variety of weights and gym equipment and two squash courts. The facility also contains a variety of other rooms.
10. An eight-week public consultation regarding the discontinuation of leisure services at SMLC ("the First Consultation") was undertaken between 30 November 2021 and 24 January 2022.
11. 1,758 responses to the First Consultation were received. 86% of all respondents to the First Consultation reported a negative impact and 7% a positive impact as a result of discontinuation of the services, 6% felt there would be no impact and 1% did not know what the impact would be.
12. Leisure services operating from SMLC ceased in December 2021 at the conclusion of an arrangement with Solent University ("SU") to operate these services.
13. Following a Cabinet report and decision in February 2022 ("the February Report"), SMLC closed to the public in accordance with recommendation (i) of the February Report.
14. Further to the decision by Cabinet on 19 July 2022 (the "July Report" to recommence leisure services from SMLC for a period of up to 18 months ("the Interim Arrangement"),
15. Following the July Report, leisure services recommenced from SMLC in August 2022 through the Interim Arrangement with AN who deliver the leisure services and manage the day-to-day operation of SMLC.
16. The Second Consultation was held between 12 December 2022 and 6 March 2023 and asked respondents to confirm agreement or disagreement with the Council's proposals for future usage of SMLC, which were based on feedback provided as part of the First Consultation and at a community event in November 2022.
17. Annex 1 is a report summarising the responses to the Second Consultation. In total, one hundred and eighty six (186) responses to the Second Consultation were received. Sixty nine (69) % of respondents to the Second Consultation agreed and twenty four (24) % disagreed with the proposal. Sixty one (61)% of respondents felt there would be a positive impact, eighteen (18)% felt there would be no impact and sixteen (16)% felt that the proposals would have a negative impact on them, their business, or the wider community.
18. SMLC is located in one of the most deprived parts of the city where health and wellbeing outcomes are poor. The centre is in Bevois ward which has the lowest life expectancy in Southampton; in 2018-20 life expectancy for males was 73.3 years in Bevois compared to the city average of 78.3 and the highest rate of 83.1 in Basset ward.
19. Across the course of their lives, residents of Bevois ward generally have poorer outcomes. For instance, rates of low-birth-weight babies are significantly higher here than the Southampton average (6% in 2018-20 for the former compared to 3% for the latter). Rates of chronic conditions are high and health outcomes for older residents of Bevois ward are

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poor; for instance, over 65-year-olds are far more likely to have a fall leading to a hospital admission than the city average.

20. Physical activity has well known benefits for both physical and mental health yet adult activity levels in the Bevois ward are amongst the lowest in the city (only 59% were doing 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity per week in 2020/21). The recommendation of this report is made in the context of these significant challenges and with the intention of SMLC contributing to improving health and wellbeing outcomes in the local community.
21. Subject to the approval of the recommendation of the Cabinet Report report and the exercise of the associated delegations, the Council would commence a procurement process to appoint a long-term operator of SMLC which will allow the facility to continue to be used as a leisure facility and made available for hire for one off community events.
22. Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (“TUPE”) will be considered as part of the transfer arrangements to the new operator.
23. The Service Specification which will form part of the proposed contract with the new operator covers several operational requirements that the operator must adhere to. These include but are not limited to Facility Mix, Operating Model, Opening Hours, Customer Service, Programming for All, Public Health (“We Can Be Active”) Strategy, Operating & IT Systems, Building and, Maintenance Responsibilities, Cleaning, Pricing Requirements, Reporting Requirements, Equipment and Staff Development.
24. It is intended that the long-term operator appointed as a result of the procurement process would work closely with the Council’s Supplier Management service to ensure that the service specifications and all other contractual obligations are achieved. The contract will include performance measures and performance mechanisms linked to the outcomes required from the contract to help ensure compliance and maximise benefits.
25. It is also intended that the appointed operator will work closely with Public Health officers to be aligned to the “We Can Be Active” strategy and would particularly help to deliver the goals of providing “opportunities that meet our needs and interests and are accessible and easy to find” and “support to help us get started”. The service offer would be developed around the responses to the Consultation in order to best meet the needs of the community and other users.
26. The precise details of the contract terms and risk profile will be commercially sensitive and will be contained in the further Cabinet report.
27. Annex 2 details the information requested from the OSMC in July 2022.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Financial

28. The costs of the procurement process will be met from existing budgets.

Property

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29. The features, history and condition of SMLC are set out in the previous Cabinet and OSMC reports.
30. Under the Interim Arrangement, the Council has retained most of the repairs and maintenance liabilities associated with SMLC, in addition to insuring the building and responsibility for utility and most statutory compliance costs. The income received from the use of SMLC as a leisure facility is retained by the Council to offset the costs of operating.
31. Subject to the recommendation of this report being approved by Cabinet, a further Cabinet report will be brought forward after the completion of the procurement process to enable Cabinet to consider the appointment of the new operator.

Legal

32. The Council has the necessary statutory powers in the Local Government Act 1972 to proceed with the recommendations of this report.
33. The Council must act in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (“PCRs”).

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

34. The timescales are those set out in this report.
35. The following alternative options were considered and rejected.
- To revert to 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 in an area in which the community is experiencing significant long-term health, wellbeing, social, economic and financial challenges.
 - Transfer the operation of SMLC to in-house Council management. This option has been considered and at present the Council does not have the expertise or infrastructure to enable provision of quality leisure services and, as such, this option is likely to be more expensive and provide poorer quality of services than the recommended option. Appointing an external operator is likely to bring extensive knowledge and skills of the leisure industry in order to achieve the maximum service and financial benefits for the Council and its customers.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

36. The Council may be unable to agree acceptable commercial terms and form a contract with a new operator. Initial soft market testing has suggested there would be a small number of bidders that would be interesting in bidding for this opportunity. Work is well advanced on this matter, but if this risk were to occur, the Council would seek to make arrangements with an alternative operator in order to deliver the long-term future. This may necessitate the consideration of an exemption from the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules (“CPRs”).

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37. The risks associated with entering a contract as the result of granting an exemption to the Council's CPRs would be reviewed before such an exemption is approved and this review would also consider the PCR's.
38. The recommendation of this report is consistent with and not contrary to the Council's policy framework.
39. The Council has set a balanced budget for 2023/24 via a strong reliance on its reserves, covering a major budget shortfall of around £20.6M. It also is forecasting an in-year deficit for 2022/23 of £10.3M as reported at Cabinet on 21 February 2023, which again will significantly deplete the council's uncommitted reserves. The February budget report to Council commented that "financial resilience is much weakened by depleting the MTFR reserve, and a S114 notice is foreseeable and a major risk during 2023/24". To help address this financial strain, an Essential Spend only regime has applied during much of 2022/23 and will continue into 2023/24, looking to minimise expenditure to meet legal and/or contractual requirements and the avoidance of service failure. Any decision that gives rise to a new commitment adds to the financial strain faced and Cabinet's attention is therefore drawn to the fact that all decisions to spend, where not essential, further increase the Council's financial risk by limiting the options to mitigate the forecast deficit or address the future budget shortfall projection.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

1. Annex 1 - Second Consultation Report
2. Annex 2 - Information requested by OSMC

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Paul Paskins – Head of Supplier Management
	Tel:	023 8083 4353
	E-mail:	paul.paskins@southampton.gov.uk

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St Mary's Leisure Centre consultation, Winter 2022/23

Full results summary





Southampton City Council undertook public consultation on proposals for the long-term operation of St Mary's Leisure Centre:

- Defining the centre as mixed leisure, wellbeing and community use;
- Ensuring the centre provides a range of gym, badminton, squash, fitness classes, and sporting facilities that will be available for hire by groups and clubs;
- Provide additional health and wellbeing activities such as stop smoking clinics, general health checks and drop-in sessions;
- It will be available for private hire events such as family events, birthdays, weddings, etc, and;
- Appointing an experienced provider via a competitive tendering process to manage the centre and work with the community to ensure it has a thriving future.

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The aim of this consultation was to:

- Communicate clearly to residents and stakeholders the proposals for the future of St Mary's Leisure Centre;
- Ensure any resident, business or stakeholder who wished to comment on the proposals had the opportunity to do so, enabling them to raise any impacts the proposals may have, and;
- Allow participants to propose alternative suggestions for consideration which they feel could achieve the objectives in a different way.



Southampton City Council is committed to consultations of the highest standard, which are meaningful and comply with the *Gunning Principles*, considered to be the legal standard for consultations:

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1. Proposals are still at a formative stage (a final decision has not yet been made);
2. There is sufficient information put forward in the proposals to allow 'intelligent consideration';
3. There is adequate time for consideration and response;
4. Conscientious consideration must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made.



New Conversations 2.0
LGA guide to engagement



Rules: The Gunning Principles

They were coined by Stephen Sedley QC in a court case in 1985 relating to a school closure consultation (R v London Borough of Brent ex parte Gunning). Prior to this, very little consideration had been given to the laws of consultation. Sedley defined that a consultation is only legitimate when these four principles are met:

- 1. proposals are still at a formative stage**
A final decision has not yet been made, or predetermined, by the decision makers
- 2. there is sufficient information to give 'intelligent consideration'**
The information provided must relate to the consultation and must be available, accessible, and easily interpretable for consultees to provide an informed response
- 3. there is adequate time for consideration and response**
There must be sufficient opportunity for consultees to participate in the consultation. There is no set timeframe for consultation,¹ despite the widely accepted twelve-week consultation period, as the length of time given for consultee to respond can vary depending on the subject and extent of impact of the consultation
- 4. 'conscientious consideration' must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made**
Decision-makers should be able to provide evidence that they took consultation responses into account

These principles were reinforced in 2001 in the 'Coughlan Case (R v North and East Devon Health Authority ex parte Coughlan²), which involved a health authority closure and confirmed that they applied to all consultations, and then in a Supreme Court case in 2014 (R ex parte Moseley v LB Haringey³), which endorsed the legal standing of the four principles. Since then, the Gunning Principles have formed a strong legal foundation from which the legitimacy of public consultations is assessed, and are frequently referred to as a legal basis for judicial review decisions.⁴

¹ In some local authorities, their local voluntary Compact agreement with the third sector may specify the length of time they are required to consult for. However, in many cases, the Compact is either inactive or has been cancelled so the consultation timeframe is open to debate
² BAILII, [England and Wales Court of Appeal \(Civil Decision\) Decisions](#), Accessed: 13 December 2016.
³ BAILII, [United Kingdom Supreme Court](#), Accessed: 13 December 2016
⁴ The information used to produce this document has been taken from the Law of Consultation training course provided by The Consultation Institute



The agreed approach for this consultation was to use an online questionnaire as the main route for feedback: questionnaires enable an appropriate amount of explanatory and supporting information to be included, helping to ensure respondents are aware of the background and detail of the proposals.

Respondents could also write letters or emails to provide feedback on the proposals. Emails or letters from stakeholders that contained consultation feedback were collated and analysed as a part of the overall consultation.

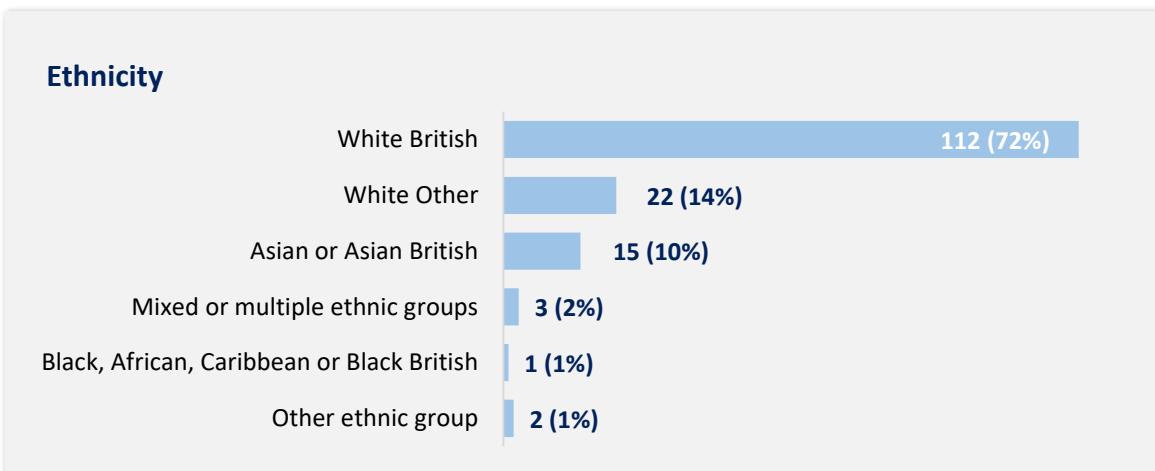
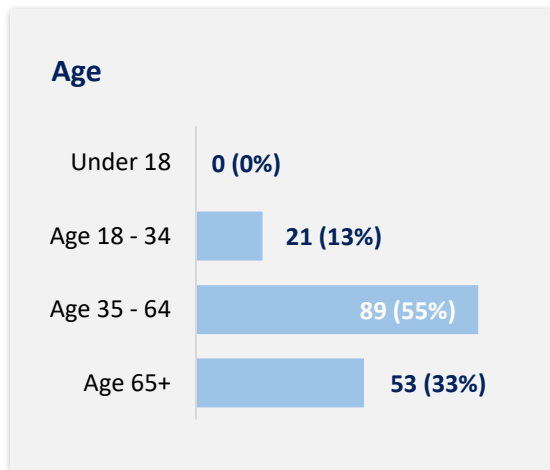
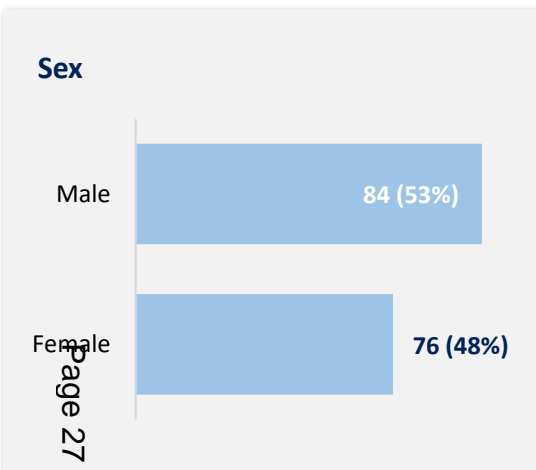
All questionnaire results have been analysed and presented in graphs within this report. Written responses and questionnaire comments have been read and then assigned to categories based upon sentiment or theme.

The consultation was live between **12 December 2022** and **06 March 2023**, and received a total of 185 responses via the online questionnaire and one response by email, for a total of **186 responses**.

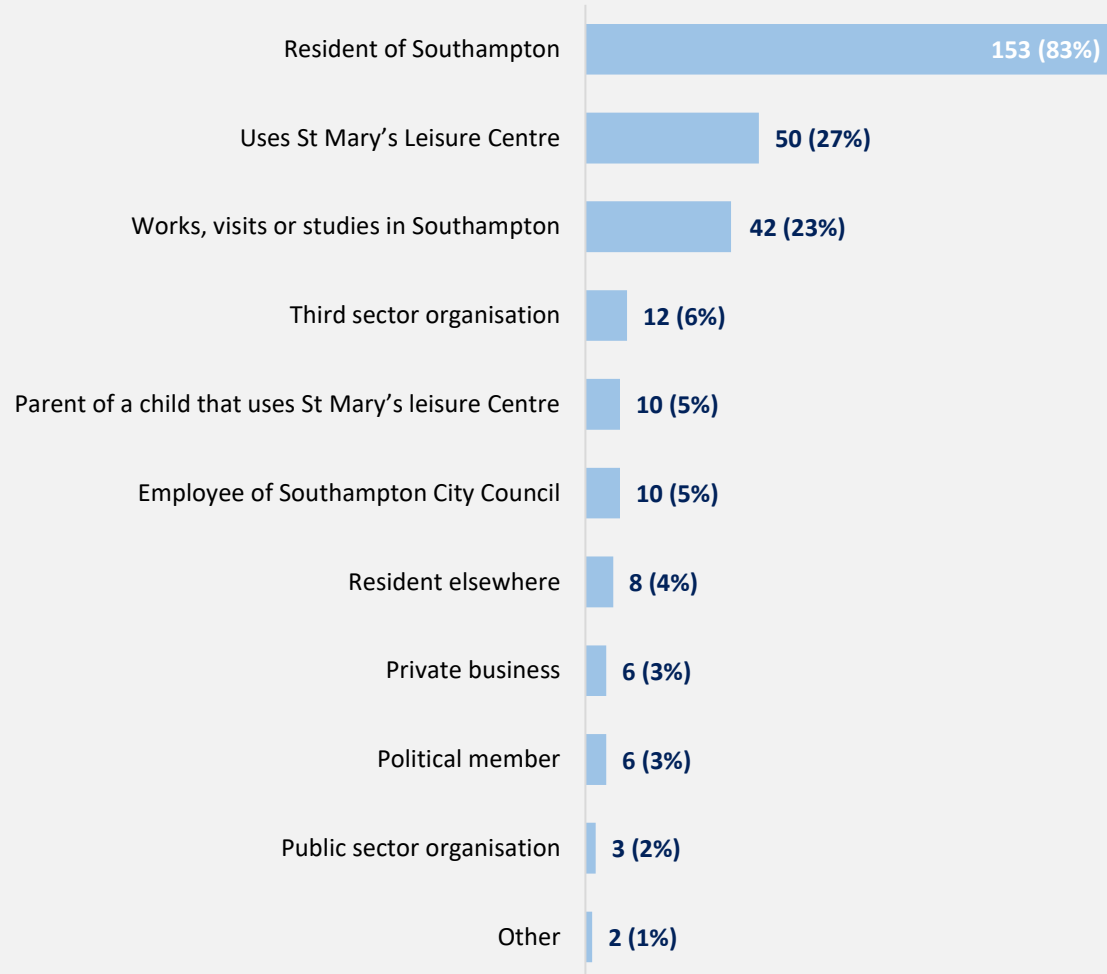


Total responses **186**

Graphs on this page are labelled as count of respondents and percentage.



Interest in the consultation



Who are the respondents? *page two of two*

A map of Southampton illustrating the geographic distribution of consultation responses in relation to St Mary's Leisure Centre.

Heat map is by number of respondents/postcode. Dark blue means a greater number of respondents, light pink means a fewer number of respondents.

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Postcode

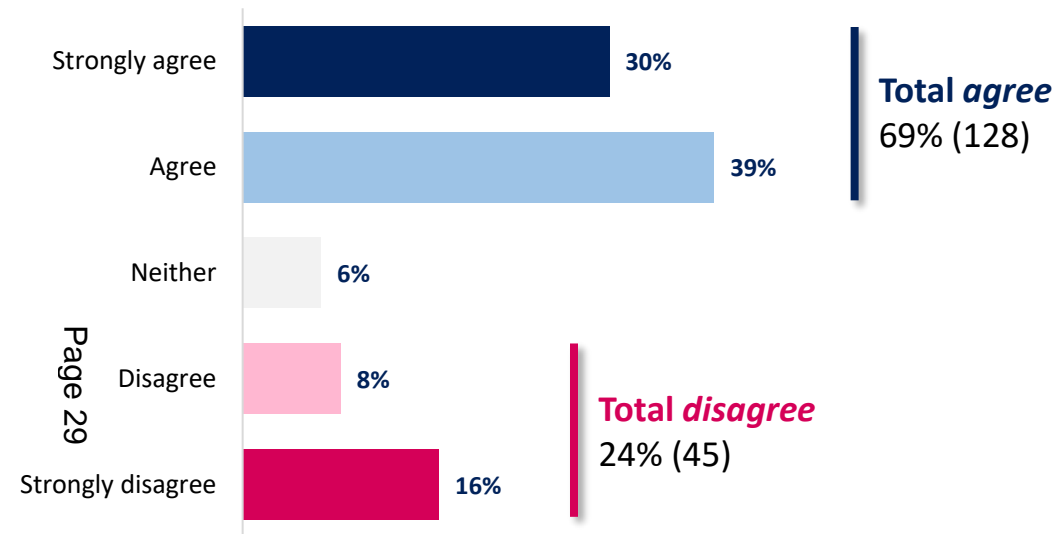
SO14	28 (27%)
SO15	24 (23%)
SO16	16 (15%)
SO19	16 (15%)
SO18	11 (10%)
SO17	10 (10%)

Source: St Mary's Leisure Centre consultation, March 2023



Question 1 | To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal for the future of St Mary's Leisure Centre?

Total responses **185**

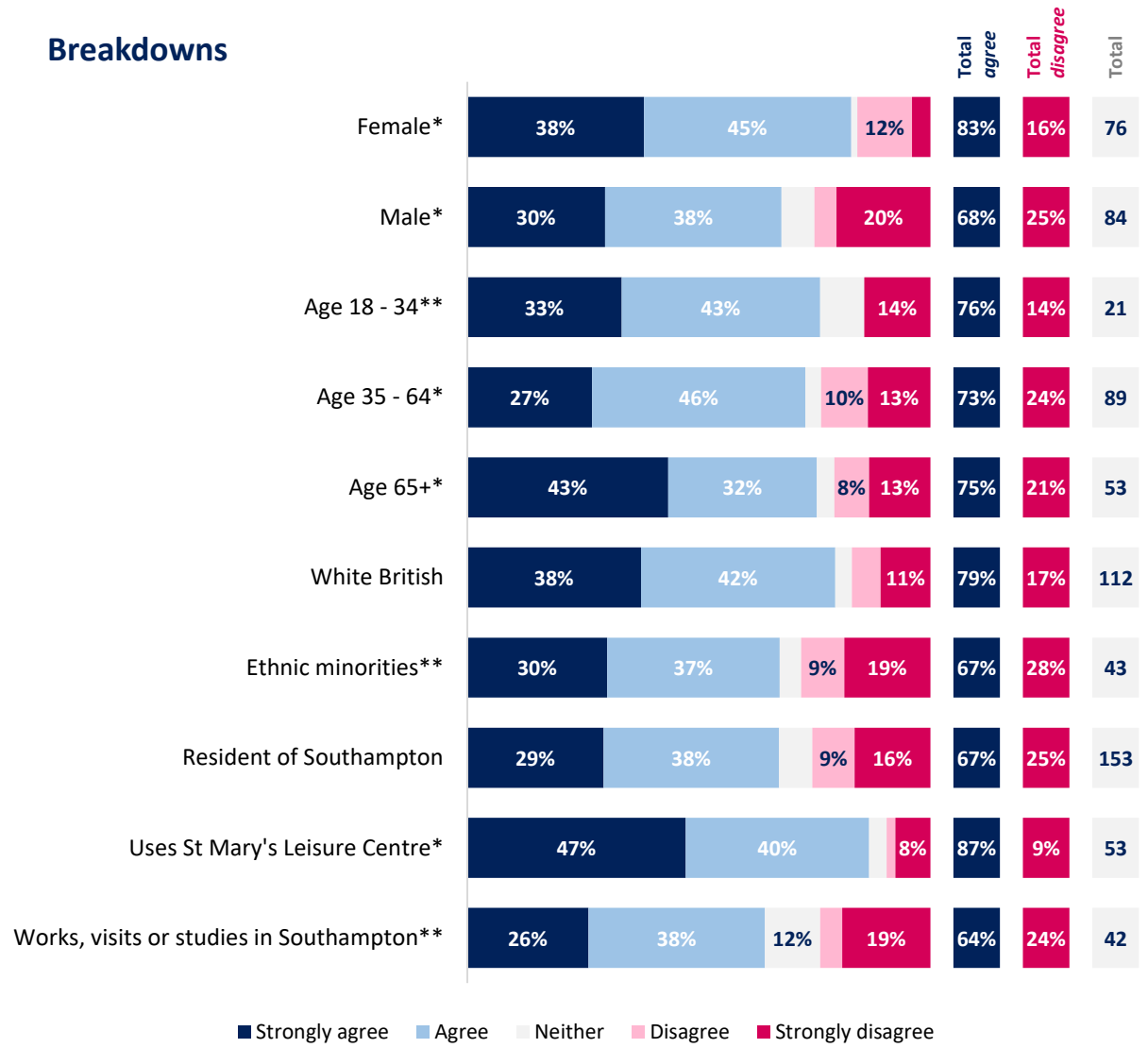


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Key findings

- A majority (69%) said that they *agree* with the proposals
- Women responded *agree* (83%) to a greater extent than men (68%)
- Respondents that said they use St Mary's Leisure Centre said that they *agree* with the proposals to a greater extent than residents of Southampton generally, 87% versus 67% respectively

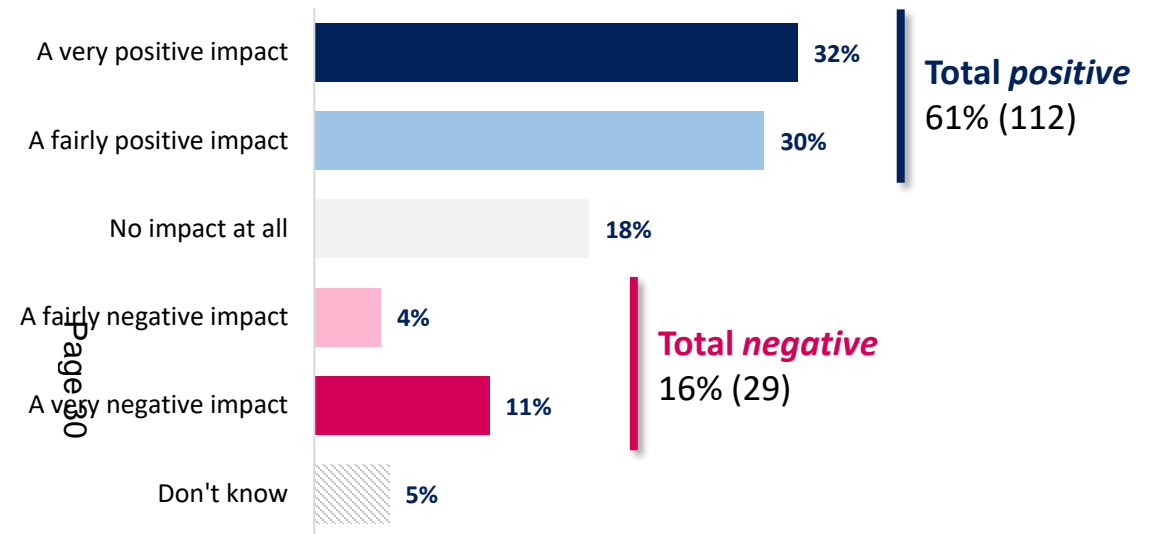
Breakdowns





Question 2 | What impact do you feel this may have on you, your business, or the wider community?

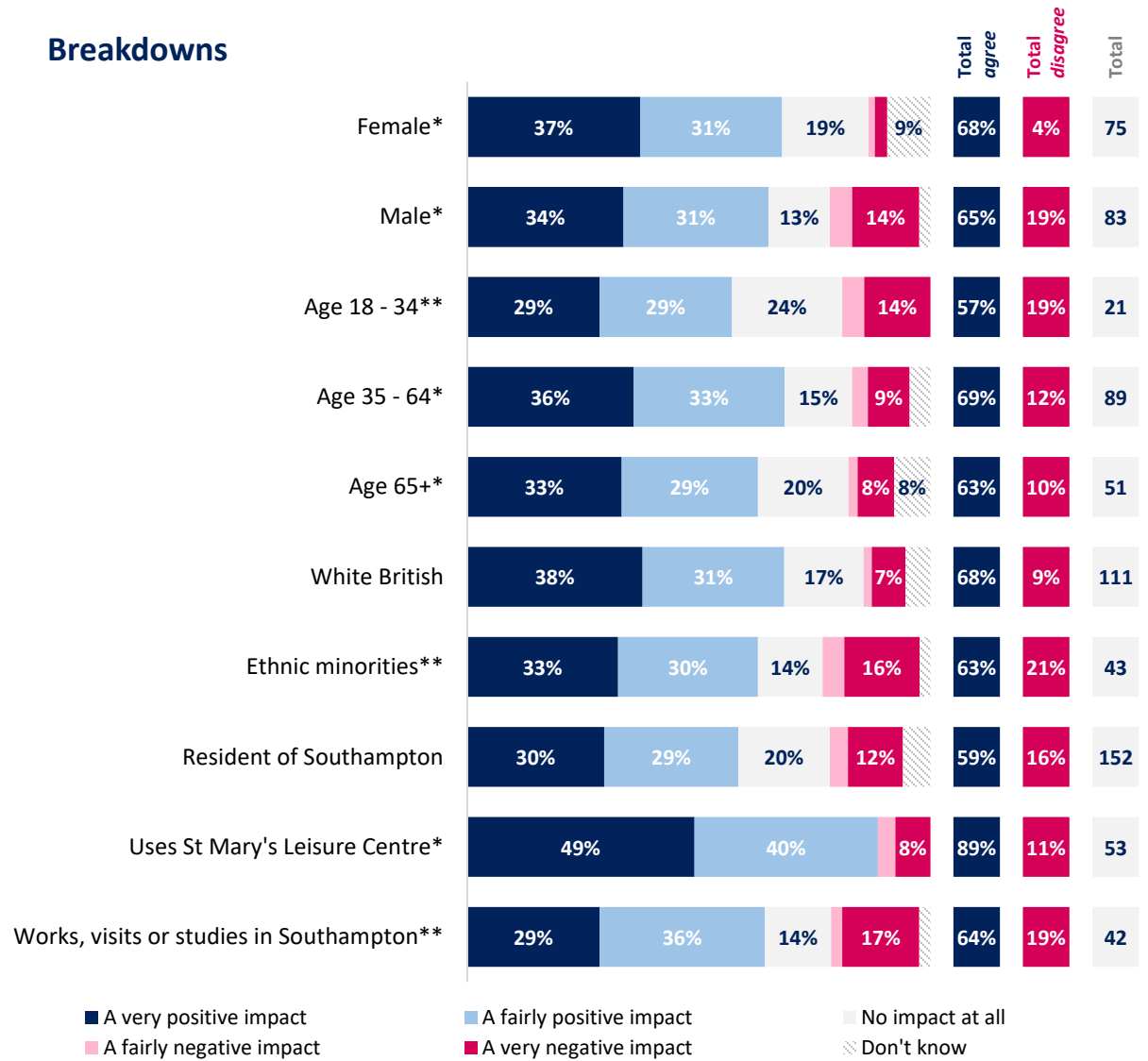
Total responses **183**



Key findings

- A majority (61%) said that the proposals would have a *positive* impact
- More respondents (18%) said that the proposals would have *no impact at all* than those that said they would have a *negative impact* (16%)
- Again, respondents that use St Mary's Leisure Centre responded *positive* to a greater extent than residents of Southampton generally, 89% versus 59% respectively

Breakdowns



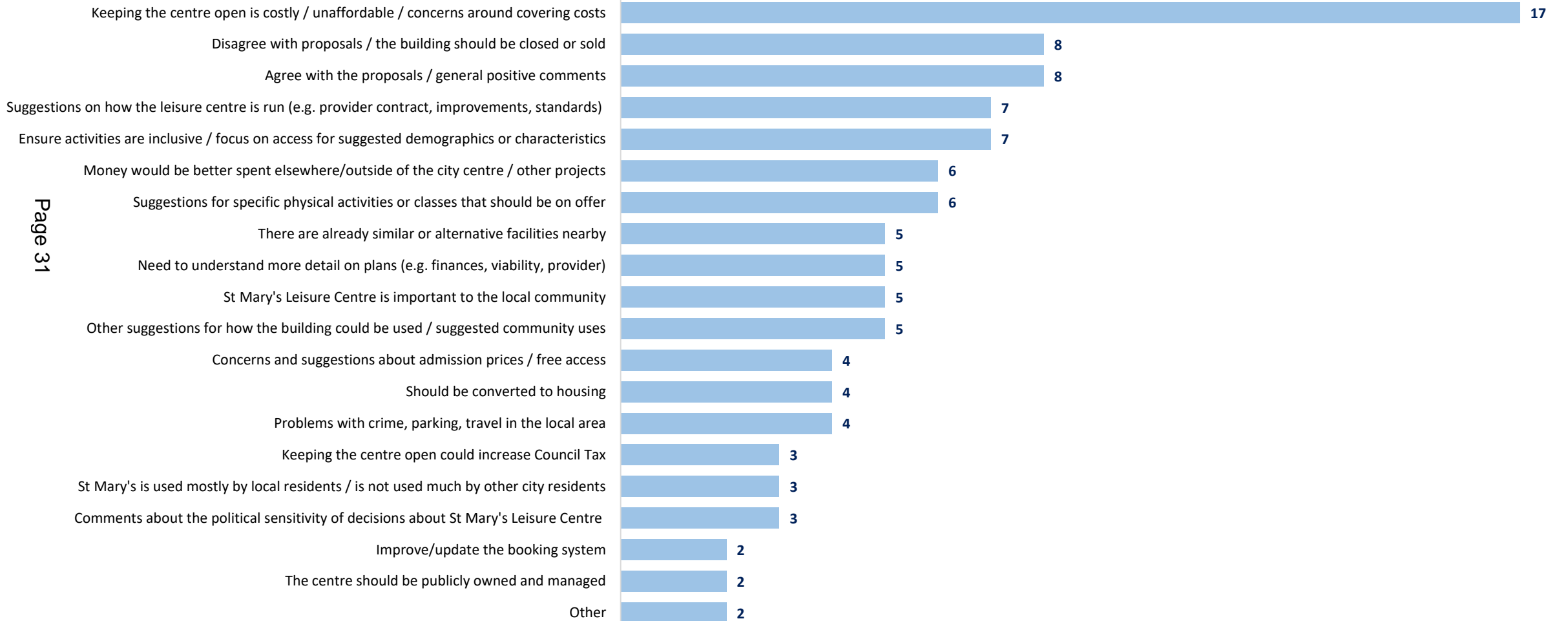


Question 3

If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details

Total responses **59**

Total comments



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Annex 2 - Information requested by OSMC

Appendix 3

At the July 2022 meeting of the OSMC the following recommendation was made:

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.

Officers are receiving monthly reporting from Active Nation on user numbers, broken down by activity. Data provided to date:

Month	Total number of users
August 2022	909
September 2022	951
October 2022	1161
November 2022	1565
December 2022	1340
January 2023	1563
February 2023	1237

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DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE		
DATE OF DECISION:	13 APRIL 2023		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
N/A			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee considers the responses from the Executive to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC). It also contains a summary of action taken by the Executive in response to the recommendations.		
4.	The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the OSMC confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the OSMC.		

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
5.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
6.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	None
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 13 April 2023
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Holding the Executive to Account

Scrutiny Monitoring – 13 April 2023

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
09/03/23 Page 37	Finance and Change & Communities and Customer Engagement	Household Waste & Fly Tipping Policy 2023-2026	1) That the draft policy is amended to allow limited flexibility with regards to occasional side waste being collected in addition to a household waste wheeled bin.	<p>We agree crews need to be able to exercise judgement in policy implementation, and we need to employ a proportionate approach to enforcement and be able to respond to seasonal fluctuations. Training will need to be delivered to all crews and coordinators to enable appropriate decisions to be made on the collection rounds.</p> <p>The policy must be crystal clear to residents and the expectation is that residents present waste for collection without any side waste. The emphasis on residents to maximise recycling and producing less household waste is critical for a sustainable service.</p> <p>The Waste Disposal & Development Team is exploring the reinstatement of bin hangers (using examples from other successful councils) to tackle side waste and contamination.</p> <p>The team is also trialling face to face intervention to educate residents (results due next month- this may have positive media impact that we can promote the policy through).</p> <p>The team will attend all Love Where You Live events over the summer period and dedicated resource to tackle students will be in place in April 2023.</p> <p>We have developed new written communication materials regarding what can/can't be recycled in Soton, as well as new animated assets that we will endeavour to get on screen around the city throughout the year, where possible.</p>	Completed

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
				<p>After a successful trial with Cub Scouts, we will roll out the Cub Scout programme this summer across the city, promoting these messages and how to be more sustainable.</p> <p>We will utilise the free communications channels we have available and also tie in with campaigns like Recycle Week. We will try to make more media impact when we have some results of our door-knocking operation, and promote associated good news stories, accompanied by short videos.</p> <p>Bags of rubbish pose additional manual handling and sharps injury risks to our waste operatives.</p> <p>Side waste is easily accessible by rodents, seagulls, and other scavengers. If bags are torn by scavengers, then waste ends up in our streets and green spaces. We're working on "explainer videos" to go out in the next few months including side-waste issues, open bins, and bringing bins back off streets.</p> <p>This approach to side waste is in line with other local authorities that use wheelie bins.</p>	
			2) That consideration is given to developing processes to deal with complex waste problems that can create significant problems to local communities if not resolved swiftly.	<p>This will be carried out as part of day-to-day waste management.</p> <p>Waste Co-ordinators are undertaking learning and development as part of their induction. Standard Operating Procedures will be reviewed and re-issued accordingly, in line with policy changes.</p>	Completed
			3) That the Executive explores how Planning and HMO Licensing could help support delivery of the Council's waste policy agenda.	This will be carried out within the fly-tipping action plan.	Completed

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
Page 39			4) That the Council's response to the Government's consultation on charging for DIY waste at household waste recycling centres is circulated to the Committee.	Apologies, we have checked the records and SCC did not respond to this consultation. Hampshire County Council submitted a response that included the following demographic information on behalf of SCC: "In 2020, the resident population of Southampton was estimated to be 260,111, of which 127,610 (49.1%) were female and 132,501 (50.9%) were male; There were an estimated 107,695 dwellings in Southampton in 2020".	Completed
			5) That the Executive commits to undertaking an extensive post adoption publicity campaign to raise awareness of the Waste and Fly Tipping Policy. The campaign should include targeting specific communities and utilising different communication channels, including pictorial representation.	We will publicise the policy as part of a waste publicity/education campaign. Communications and engagement resources have been identified to undertake this work, which will commence post-election.	Completed
09/03/23	Transport and District Regeneration	Enhanced Bus Partnership	1) That consideration is given to inviting various community and user groups, and Non-Executive Members, to attend the Enhanced Partnership Working Group or Forum.		

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