

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	LEISURE AND HEALTH OUTCOMES
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	17 AUGUST 2023
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	COUNCILLOR KATARIA CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES & LEISURE

<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>
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N/A
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<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>
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This report provides an overview of the current status of the Southampton City Council (SCC) leisure agenda, future strategic intentions, priorities, performance monitoring proposals and available resources.

A leisure mission, and draft strategic action plan, has been developed to improve health and reduce inequalities. Further development of the strategic action plan is needed to ensure that it represents all opportunities to achieve the leisure mission. A risk in delivery is resource capacity given the financial position of the Council and consequent focus on essential operations only.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>
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	(i)	That the Panel consider the Council's developing approach to utilising leisure to improve health and reduce inequalities in Southampton.
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<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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| 1. | This reflects the request from the Chair of the Panel to understand how the Council is utilising the leisure assets to support improving health outcomes. |
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<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>
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| 2. | None, reflecting the request from the Chair of the Panel. |
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<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>
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	<b>Background</b>
3.	In Summer 2022, the Director of Public Health (DPH) took responsibility for the strategic leadership of the leisure agenda. This has provided a stronger opportunity to align the leisure agenda with the improvement of health and

	wellbeing and the reduction of health inequalities in Southampton. A cross council departmental leisure strategic group was established, chaired by the DPH, to develop a mission and plan for delivery. A Leisure Officer was appointed in September 2022 to coordinate delivery.
4.	In Spring 2023, Cabinet and the Council's Executive Management Board considered SCC's role and responsibilities on leisure. It was decided that, going forwards, SCC should ensure a minimum level of leisure service delivery and act as an enabler to support partnership working across the city to improve the overall leisure offer.
5.	The leisure mission was agreed in Winter 2022 and is attached as Appendix 1. Essentially, it is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities in Southampton through 'fit for purpose' leisure services and 'spaces'.</li> <li>• Provide leisure services and 'spaces' which support physical activity, sport, play and recreation.</li> <li>• Enable more leisure opportunities within the place of Southampton, with emphasis on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Local communities developing, adapting, and maintaining these opportunities to meet their needs</li> <li>b. Securing financial sustainability.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
6.	The leisure strategic group undertook a review of council policies in Spring 2023 which found that the leisure mission aligned most strongly with the existing ' <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk">We Can Be Active strategy</a> ' (WCBA). This is SCC's Physical Activity Strategy which was adopted by the Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2022. A draft Strategic Action Plan has recently been developed to set out how the aims of the WCBA Strategy can be achieved through leisure.
	<b>Leisure Strategic Action Plan</b>
7.	Members of the Leisure Strategic Group lead on implementing the Leisure Strategic Action Plan through collaboration with other SCC teams and external partners (such as leisure providers and the VSCE sector) taking account of Cabinet and Executive Officers' steer to provide a minimum level of leisure service provision and act as an enabler of the overall City leisure offer.
8.	Actions sit under the 5 broad aims of the WCBA Strategy: <p>(a) Positive early experiences for children and young people – this includes actions such as listening and engaging with children and young people to inform the development of leisure provision.</p> <p>(b) Opportunities that meet needs and interests and are accessible and easy to find – this covers actions such as making information on leisure activities open data so they can be included easily into the commonly used online directories in the city, offering affordable leisure activities and accepting cash to help with budgeting and promoting disability accessible leisure opportunities.</p> <p>(c) Places and travel routes where we feel safe and encourage people to be active – for example, encouraging active travel to leisure venues, developing</p>

	<p>urban, green and blue spaces as leisure opportunities, and increasing safety in and around leisure venues.</p> <p>(d) Support to help us get started or keep moving when we feel that we can't do it alone – this includes training for staff in how to support people who may find it challenging to use the facilities and forming partnerships with social prescribers.</p> <p>(e) Bold leaders working together to create healthier and happier communities – for instance, working towards financial sustainability of commissioned leisure services and forming partnerships with local NHS partners.</p>
	<b>Opportunities</b>
9.	<p>The draft strategic action plan sets out collaborative working across SCC departments as well as external collaborations, including with education providers, leisure providers, our health system and our local communities. Further development of the action plan, and engagement with external partners, is needed to ensure that it represents all opportunities to achieve the leisure mission. A risk in delivery is resource capacity given the financial position of the Council.</p>
	<b>Key Programmes/Projects</b>
10.	<p><b>Outdoor Sports Centre (OSC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morgan Sindall have been appointed under a Pre-Construction Service Agreement (PCSA). Detailed design development is ongoing including cost plan reviews.</li> <li>• A detailed Programme is being developed which will require Full Council approval next June with an 18 month build duration.</li> <li>• The Football Foundation have recommended to their Board the award of funding towards the Project, which we anticipate will be confirmed by mid-August. Draft conditions of grant are awaited.</li> <li>• Full Planning permission (with conditions) should be announced during August following resolution of Flood Risk conditions.</li> <li>• SCC have commenced reporting to the LUF (Levelling Up Fund) team following the £20m award towards the OSC Masterplan Project (entitled “Inclusive Access to Sport and Physical Activity”).</li> <li>• The process and content of the measurement and reporting of outcomes and impacts is under review, supported by Leisure and Public Health colleagues and also taking into account the requirements of funders.</li> <li>• The Project Team continue to work closely with Supplier Management Services concerning implications for the management contract.</li> <li>• The project will provide a real opportunity to align SCC strategic objectives, including the Leisure Mission statement such as tackling inequalities and achieving health improvements.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project continues to work closely with stakeholders (such as resident clubs) and National Governing Bodies of Sport, Sport England and Energise Me.</li> <li>• A detailed Communications Plan is drafted, awaiting the formal planning permission announcement and the Football Foundation Award.</li> </ul>
11.	<p><b>St Mary's Leisure Centre (SMLC)</b></p> <p>SMLC was re-opened in Summer 2022 and a public consultation on its future was held between December 2022 and March 2023. This concluded that SMLC should remain as a leisure facility and be available for hire for one off community events. The centre is currently being operated by Active Nation.</p>
12.	<p>The Invitation to tender for the SMLC operation and maintenance went live on 30th June 2023 and will close on 15th August. If the tender is successful a report will be presented to Cabinet in October with the contract proposed to start in time for January 2024.</p>
13.	<p><b>Cricket Non-Turf Cricket Pitch funding</b></p> <p>The Council have received funding from the English Cricket Board (ECB) and the Hampshire Cricket Board (HCB) who are going to provide funding to install 6 x Non-Turf Cricket Pitches (NTP) across the city in the following locations as part of the Hundred competition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Riverside Park x 2</li> <li>• The Outdoor Sports Centre x 2</li> <li>• Milbrook Rec x 1</li> <li>• Green Park x 1</li> </ul>
14.	<p>These are replacing grass cricket pitches at the site in four locations and refurbishing an old NTP at the Outdoor Sports Centre and a new pitch at Green Park. The funding is also likely to fund a 5-year maintenance plan. We are aware that there may be some concerns around ASB, and we have discussed this with parties, however, this is an opportunity for Southampton to improve park cricket facilities across the city and enhance community engagement.</p>
15.	<p><b>Park Tennis improvements Funding</b></p> <p>The Council are currently consulting on improvements to park tennis across the city. This involves funding from the LTA, part of the funding requirements for improved surfaces, nets, line painting and fencing will be enclosed courts with bookable sessions. This will be to ensure a sinking fund moving forward and that the courts can remain at a good standard moving forward. The consultation is live until 22nd August. Following this the Leisure Officer will review the feedback and propose the most suitable way forward.</p>
16.	<p><b>Sport England Swimming Pool Fund</b></p> <p>Sport England recently unveiled the £23m Swimming Pool Fund which is supporting public swimming pools with the increased cost of utilities and chemical costs.</p>

17.	The requirements are that local authorities provide one application to the fund for all public swimming pools within their boundaries. Officers are working with operators at The Quays, Bitterne Leisure Centre, Shirley Swimming Pool, Oaklands Pool, Red Lodge and Regents Park as the public swimming pools in the city. Whilst funding is not guaranteed each application can be between £10k and £500k. It is likely that the fund will be over subscribed. The fund is open now and closes on 11th August.
18.	<p><b>PlayZones</b></p> <p>The Football Foundation are hosting a fund to build/refurbish Multi Use Game Areas (MUGA), working with partners to create activities for the 4 target groups (Long term illness and disability, woman and girls, ethnic minority communities and lower socio-economic groups). 75% of the projects will be Football Foundation funded, with 25% match funding required.</p>
19.	Areas identified include Millbrook/Redbridge, Coxford, Bevois and Weston. Community engagement will take place to decide locations and community needs for a MUGA site. Subject to confirmation of local funding, a bid will be submitted in January 2024.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
20.	Finances are held by procurement and monitored through the Finance Directorate. Expenditure for the contracts below is via the General Fund. The Strategic Outcomes Planning Model (SOPM) referenced in Paragraph 26 is being funded from the Public Health Grant.
21.	Previously small amounts of the Public Health Grant have been used for projects that support the aims of the WCBA Strategy. For instance, in December 2021, £20K was made available through an 'Active Communities Fund' with voluntary and community groups invited to apply for up to £5k towards projects that would support our target groups to become more active. Funding was distributed in Feb/March 2022 to 7 projects which included social climbing sessions for new mums and swimming lessons for African men.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
22.	<p>Maps are attached as Appendix 2 showing leisure provision across the city. SCC provides one leisure service delivery contract, and this is with Places for People (who subcontract operations to Active Nation).</p> <p>In terms of buildings for leisure facilities, SCC owns and maintains the following:</p> <p>The seven sites under the main leisure contract are as follows,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Quays Swimming and Diving Complex</li> <li>• Bitterne Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Chamberlayne Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Southampton Outdoor Sports Centre</li> <li>• Southampton Water Activity Centre (SWAC)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodmill Activity Centre</li> <li>• Alpine Ski Slope</li> </ul> <p>Through the contract Active Nation also operate seven green sports pitch facilities.</p> <p>There are other leisure facilities owned and maintained by SCC but operated by external providers, including Testlands Wellbeing Hub and St Marys Leisure Centre.</p>
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
23.	The Council has the necessary statutory powers in s.1 Localism Act 2011 (General Power of Competence) to proceed with recommendations of this report.
24.	The Council must act in accordance with the UK Procurement legislation.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
25.	The strategy is fully compliant with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010, Human Rights Act 1998 and other relevant pervasive legislation.
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
26.	The biggest risks in leisure service delivery are related to the age and condition of the buildings that SCC leisure services are provided within and the associated energy costs. For the future of leisure business planning, commissioning of a Strategic Outcomes Planning Model (SOPM) Stage 4 is required. The SOPM is a Sport England tool and informs investment decisions into facilities and services. A fixed financial contribution from the Public Health Grant in 2023/24 has been confirmed to enable delivery of the SOPM.
27.	<p>Specifically, the SOPM Stage 4 will include.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of all the delivery options available to SCC for its leisure facilities across the city. This will include workshops to evaluate the criteria required. There will be a review of the advantages and disadvantages of each management option along with a financial analysis of each one. It is anticipated that this work will take circa 12 weeks from appointment of the consultant.</li> <li>• A review of the three core sites (The Quays, Bitterne and Chamberlayne) which will include site visits, associated latent demand report and a competition analysis for each of these sites.</li> <li>• A report detailing a site analysis of existing sites and accompanied suggested facility mix for each of the potentially new centres.</li> <li>• Development of a draft layout plan of what the new facilities could look like at Bitterne and the Quays alongside the plans for a potential refurbishment at Chamberlayne. This will be accompanied by an indicative capital cost for the options at each centre. This will be in the form of a feasibility report with an OBC and assumptions for each venue. This work will take circa 3 months.</li> <li>• A Feasibility Study undertaken on both Woodmill and Southampton Water Activity Centre (“SWAC”) which would follow a process like the feasibility</li> </ul>

	<p>studies undertaken on the indoor leisure facilities. This process would take circa two months to complete and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further market consultation and interaction with National Governing Bodies and Sport England.</li> </ul>
28.	Once the draft Stage 4 has been produced, it would allow for the commencement of conversations with Sport England and National Governing Bodies with the objective of applying for funding. If the process and steps are completed as detailed above, SCC would have a vision for leisure facilities in Southampton for review in March 2024 and commence formal decision-making on basis of available financial resource in May-June 2024.
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
29.	The proposals support and contribute to the Council's Policy Framework Plans and corporate priorities.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	NO
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	ALL WARDS
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	SCC Leisure Vision
2.	Leisure Map

#### Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	N/A
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
1.	<a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk">We Can Be Active Strategy (southampton.gov.uk)</a>