
SPORT AND LEISURE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK – PHASE 1

Purpose of report

1. This report enables Members to consider and comment on the first strand of a strategic framework for Sport and Leisure. The focus of the first strand is on sports halls, artificial pitches and swimming pools.

Background

2. Cardiff Council does not currently have an approved Strategic Framework for sport and leisure facilities across the city. Such a framework would assist in determining current and future requirements and inform future planning through the projects such as the Local Development Plan and 21st Century Schools building programme.
3. The commitment to develop a Strategic Framework for sport and leisure facilities is made in the City Operations Directorate Delivery Plan 2015-17¹. The plan, considered by the Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 4 June 2015 states the following directorate/service commitment;

CO11.L – Establish the future cultural and leisure needs of the city and ensure the sustainable delivery of cultural and leisure Infrastructure and services at less cost through new operating models, by June 2016

4. In order to achieve this commitment, the following action is given - *Complete the Strategic Framework for Sport and Leisure Facilities (CO11.3L).*

¹ City Operations Directorate Delivery Plan – Appendix B of Item 4 – Economy and Culture Scrutiny Committee – 4 June 2015
<http://cardiff.moderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=2047#mgDocuments>

This is an action carried forward from the 2014/15 Sport, Leisure and Culture Directorate Delivery Plan.

5. The Q1 deliverable listed for this commitment is to;
Investigate all potential delivery models for the long term sustainability of leisure provision across the city in the three agreed strands of sports halls, swimming pools & artificial grass pitches.
6. The 2014/15 Sport Leisure and Culture Directorate Delivery Plan set out the need to produce a number of Strategic Frameworks for the directorate. Members considered the Parks and Green Spaces Strategic Framework at the Committee meeting held on 6 November 2014. These Strategic Frameworks were designed to help the service respond to the significant challenges faced by the Council and are intended to help determine priorities for the short, medium and long term of service provision.

Issues

7. Members of the Committee will be aware that the Council is currently undertaking a procurement exercise to secure a management partner or new operating model for leisure facilities in Cardiff. The need to develop a strategic framework for sport and leisure facilities is not invalidated by the potential outcome of this procurement exercise. Should the Council's current leisure facility stock be managed through a third party operator in the future, the Council will still maintain a 'client function' specifying and managing contracts and will required a strategic approach to Council owned and non-council owned facilities.

Way Forward

8. Councillor Peter Bradbury (Cabinet Member – Community Development, Co-operatives & Social Enterprise) will be joined by Andrew Gregory (Director – City Operations) and Steve Morris (Parks and Sport Development Manager) to present the Strategic Framework for Sport and Leisure Facilities.

9. Members will be provided with an overview of the methodology undertaken in developing the Strategic Framework, the intended outcomes of the work and an overview of initial findings that will feed into the final framework.

Legal Implications

10. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

Recommendation

12. The Committee is recommended to give consideration to the information presented at this meeting, and to submit any recommendations, observations or comments to the Cabinet Member.

Marie Rosenthal

Director of Governance and Legal Services

4 September 2015