

FOR PUBLICATION

ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
INTERIM REPORT ON NEW LEISURE FACILITIES

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 23 SEPTEMBER 2014

REPORT BY: POLICY AND SCRUTINY OFFICER

WARD: ALL

COMMUNITY FORUM: ALL

KEY DECISION REFERENCE (IF APPLICABLE): FORWARD PLAN ENTRY REF: NON KEY DECISION NO 33

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BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR PUBLIC REPORTS: Report to Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee 10 September 2014. .

TITLE: Scrutiny Project Group Interim Report on New Leisure Facilities

LOCATION: Scrutiny Office

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present for consideration by Cabinet an interim report and recommendations from the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the new leisure facilities to replace existing facilities at Queens Park.
- 1.2 To provide the statutory written notice that must be given by the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet to take required action as at 3.2 below.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee ask Cabinet to consider the following recommendations to inform future projects and decisions:
- 2.2 That the best practice guidance and principles for community engagement, as highlighted in the Council's Community Engagement Strategy are considered throughout the life of projects including pre-decision consultation.
- 2.3 That where possible and appropriate, pre-consultation dialogue takes place with key stakeholders, this may include Community Assemblies, service users, special interest groups, employees etc. particularly for major projects and decisions.
- 2.4 That for projects impacting on employees a strong and sustained internal communications and engagement plan is developed which includes a variety of opportunities to engage in the decision making process.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee agreed that a Scrutiny Project Group be appointed to look into proposed new leisure facilities. This project is in relation to the decision made to replace the existing leisure facilities at Queens Park with a new building on the Queens Park Annexe site.
- 3.2 Further information and background detail are contained within the Scrutiny Project Group's interim report attached at Appendix 1, which provides the purpose of the review and its findings.
- 3.3 Statutory Scrutiny Committees are also required to provide written statutory notice to Cabinet requiring action in response to its scrutiny report and recommendations. These actions require Cabinet to :-
 - (i) consider the attached report and recommendations;
 - (ii) indicate the actions it proposes to take if any; and
 - (iii) publish its response within 2 months of the receipt of the report.

With regard to (i) and (ii) above the Council's Constitution provides for Cabinet to consider the report at the earliest practicable opportunity.

4.0 SCRUTINY PROJECT GROUP INTERIM REPORT

- 4.1 The Project Group's interim report was considered by the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 10 September 2014. The recommendations were approved for submission to Cabinet for consideration.
- 4.2 The Group will continue its work into 2015/16, alongside the development of the new centre and the evaluation stage. Any further reports and/or recommendations from the Project Group will be considered by the Scrutiny Committee and brought forward for Cabinet consideration as necessary.

5.0 RISK CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There are no risk considerations arising from the recommendations in this report.

6.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Action on recommendations in this report would be contained within existing budgets.

7.0 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal considerations arising from the recommendations in this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no equalities considerations arising from the recommendations in this report.

9.0 HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 There are no human resources considerations arising from the recommendations in this report.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee ask Cabinet to consider the following recommendations to inform future projects and decisions:

- 10.2 That the best practice guidance and principles for community engagement, as highlighted in the Council's Community Engagement Strategy are followed throughout the life of the project including pre-decision consultation.
- 10.3 That where possible and appropriate, pre-consultation dialogue takes place with key stakeholders, this may include Community Assemblies, service users, special interest groups, employees etc. particularly for major projects and decisions.
- 10.4 That for projects impacting on employees a strong and sustained internal communications and engagement plan is developed which includes a variety of opportunities to engage in the decision making process.

11.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To improve communication with all stakeholders and to ensure the provision of quality and accessible community engagement opportunities for projects and decisions.

ANITA CUNNINGHAM
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You can get more information about this report from Anita Cunningham (Tel. 01246 345273).