

Subject: Leisure Development

Status: For Publication

Report to: Performance, Overview and Scrutiny

Date: 28th September 2010

Report of: Director of Customers and Communities

Portfolio

Holder: Leisure

Key Decision: No

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the committee regarding the progress of projects implemented as part of the 2009 Leisure Review including the funding agreements relating to Rossendale Leisure Trust (RLT) and Community Leisure Association Whitworth (CLAW).

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 2.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:-

- Delivering quality Services to our customers
- Delivering regeneration across the Borough
- Encouraging healthy and respectful communities
- Keeping our Borough clean, green and safe
- Promoting the Borough
- Providing value for money services

3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 All the issues raised and the recommendation(s) in this report involve risk considerations as set out below:

- The investment for leisure identified in the February 2010 Full Council report was based on assumptions regarding the Council's ongoing commitment to leisure services. Changes from the assumptions outlined in that report could have an impact on the Council's overall budget.

- Failure to deliver the recommendations outlined in the 2009 Leisure Review committed to by the Council would have an impact on the reputation of the Council and our leisure partners.

4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

4.1 Following a thorough review of leisure provision in Rossendale in 2009, in February Council approved the delivery of a significant leisure improvement project for the Borough including the following key actions:

- Bacup Leisure Hall review panel should continue to explore options for the Bacup Leisure Hall site.
- Negotiate surrender of the lease for Ski Rossendale with Rossendale Leisure Trust and continue the procurement process to secure a new private sector partner to invest in and operate the facility.
- Continue design brief and commence procurement for new pool at Haslingden Sports Centre and development of fitness suite, five-a-side and improvements at Marl Pits.
- Closure of Haslingden Pool on completion of new pool.
- Confirm a new funding agreement with CLAW and undertake an external review in relation to Riverside Civic Hall.
- Confirm a new funding agreement with RLT.

4.2 Since 25th February the Council has identified resources for the delivery of the project and an internal delivery structure has been put in place. What follows is an overview of progress against each of the key projects identified.

4.3 Bacup Leisure Hall

In June 2010 Cabinet agreed to pursue an expression of interest in taking over the leisure hall by a community / private hybrid organisation. At present we are working out on various details and “fine print” of the draft Contract for sale between the parties. Completion is due to take place no later than 30th September.

4.4 Ski Rossendale

2 detailed proposals were submitted for Ski Rossendale and interviews were held with the companies on 23rd July. Technical assessments are currently taking place on the proposals.

4.5 Facilities Development: Haslingden Pool and Marl Pits Development

A Project Team including representatives from across Council departments, senior staff at Rossendale Leisure Trust and Mouchel’s project management team has been meeting on a regular basis to refine outline plans for both new facilities.

4.6 The team ran a consultation period on the proposed plans from 6th – 28th July. This included sessions with the Pool Review Panel, a session for residents neighbouring the Haslingden Sports Centre site and two drop in sessions. In addition all the plans were available on the ‘Have your Say’ section of the Rossendale Council website, with a form for comments.

- 4.7 We received 37 formal comments on the proposals and where possible these have been addressed in the revision of the design, or measures included that will reduce the impact of the proposals on residents. These designs are now frozen to allow Mouchel to prepare the planning application
- 4.8 Mouchel and the Council's project team have now commenced the procurement process for the two improved facilities. The project team has taken the opportunity to work with the North West Construction Hub (NWCH) framework, created by Manchester City Council, which has identified 8 specific contractors. The advantages of this approach to the Council are:
- NWCH has already complied with European Union procurement rules
 - NWCH has completed all contractor due diligence
 - Council, NWCH and the 8 framework contractors have mutually agreed that 4 contractors are best placed to complete the project and will therefore form the group from which a mini competition will be made
 - Mouchel will therefore tailor an Invitation to Tender (ITT) for the 4 based on Councils requirements and the Rossendale locality.
 - Enables a speedier appointment of a final contractor (estimated November) who can bring added value to the current design proposal
- 4.9 The Council's 2 separate projects will be offered to the 4 potential contractors as one contract in order to maximise savings and synergies (eg: build supervision, economies of scale, material costs, etc).
- 4.10 Council is now seeking to submit its outline planning application by the end of September with a view to an early Winter Development Control Committee.
- 4.11 Funding and Performance agreement: CLAW and the Riverside
An invitation to quote has been issued for external support to look at opportunities to increase income at The Riverside and to look at business planning for the venue.
- 4.12 Both CLAW and the Council are currently reviewing the submissions we've received for the work to agree a preferred partner. This is subject to costs / budget confirmation.
- 4.13 A highlight report from CLAW is included at Appendix 1 on progress.
- 4.14 Funding and Performance agreement: Rossendale Leisure Trust
Performance Indicators and a vision have been agreed for Rossendale Leisure Trust. (Included at Appendix 2). These will be reported on quarterly to the committee. The first of the reports is attached at Appendix 3, along with the financial report (appendix 4).

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

5. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 5.1 The Financial Report (Appendix 4) indicates a favourable budget variance and that overall RLT are managing the facilities £44.6k better than the allocated

Council grant. That said, RLT are fully aware that Haslingden Sports Centre needs to achieve the profits originally budgeted.

5.2 RLT have decided to bring their next financial year end in line with the Council (ie 31st March) in order to facilitate mutual financial planning. RLT will therefore report a 15 month period at 31st March 2011.

6. MONITORING OFFICER

6.1 No comments

7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

7.1 No comments

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 There has been progress against each of the key actions identified as a result of the leisure review.

9. RECOMMENDATION(S)

9.1 That the Committee notes the work carried out so far in relation to the leisure projects.

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

10.1 As included within the body of the report.

11. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Community Impact Assessment required No

Is a Community Impact Assessment attached No

12. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment required No

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment attached No

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Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Leisure Plans	
CLAW highlight report	<i>Appendix 1</i>
Performance Indicators – RLT	<i>Appendix 2</i>
Performance report – RLT	<i>Appendix 3</i>
Financial report – RLT	<i>Appendix 4</i>