

Motion on Notice (1)

The following Motion has been proposed by Cllr Ray:

- 1. Considering that the Council declared a Climate Change Emergency on 10 December 2019 and resolved "to take this into account as a factor in all future policy and spending decisions of the Council", it should be building the new leisure centre in Lichfield to the highest environmental and sustainability standards, namely BREEAM Excellent. Accordingly the Council recommends that Cabinet revisit the decision to build the leisure centre with a hybrid energy source rather than as originally planned an all-electric source.**
- 2. The budget for new the leisure centre should be increased by £338,000 so that it can be built to BREEAM EXCELLENT (as originally planned) with the resulting energy savings of £68,000 each year that BREEAM EXCELLENT delivers and the MTFS should be revised accordingly.**
- 3. The additional £338,000 will be funded by internal borrowing (i.e. realising existing investments of the Council).**

Detail submitted by Cllr Ray:

"The new leisure centre for Lichfield at Stychbrook Park was originally to be built to a design and standard of BREEAM EXCELLENT (the highest sustainability and environmental standard) as approved by the Task Group set up by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee to oversee this project.

BREEAM EXCELLENT involves an all-electric power source involving Air Source Heat Pumps.

Full Council on 14 May 2024 approved the budget at £11,346,658. Subsequently the design was revised to change the energy source from all-electric to a hybrid source. That would involve gas, a carbon-based form of energy, being used to power the new centre. The Task Group that met on 21 August 2024 expressed reservations about that decision and requested a report setting out the costs of reverting to an all-electric BREEAM EXCELLENT form of energy for the centre.

This motion submits that it is not appropriate that the Council should be building a new facility with gas as an energy source considering;

1. The Council has passed a motion declaring a Climate Change Emergency which resolved "to take this into account as a factor in all future policy and spending decisions of the Council"; and
2. Sustainability and environmental issues are a priority for our residents as demonstrated by the Council's recent 2050 Strategy which has specific objectives relating to the environment. Further the results of the consultation for this 2020 Strategy revealed that the environment was important to 96% of our residents.

The additional cost over the approved budget of £11.3m for reverting to the original all-electric design is £338,022. (Total cost of £545,309 taking the total budget to £11,684,680 but the budget had been approved by Full Council at £11,346,658. Hence a required increase of £338,022). And the all-electric energy source delivers annual energy savings of £68,000 each year compared to the currently proposed energy source.

£338,022 represents a small increase in the total budget of £11.3m for the centre; 2.99%. The figures referred to in the motion relating to the additional costings are based on reports that were previously prepared in August this year for the Task Group by GWB Consultants, the quantity surveyors advising the Council on this project.

In addition John Smith of the Major Projects team at the Council has requested GWB Consultants to review these figures to confirm if there has been any material change in these costings since August. These reviewed figures will be made available to councillors before the Full Council meeting on 10 December 2024.”

Financial Implications (S151 Officer summary):

Please See Next Page.