

New Lichfield Leisure Centre Member Task Group

Cabinet Member for Recycling & Leisure

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Key Decision? YES

Local Ward Members All Wards



Leisure, Parks and Waste Management (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee Report

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The project to develop a new leisure centre in Lichfield City to replace Friary Grange is a principal facet of the long-term provision of leisure and active recreation for Lichfield district residents.
- 1.2 A formally constituted Member Task Group should add significant value to the project. The Group will provide a key governance link between the project, Project Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Group also ensures that members as key stakeholders have a defined role within the project governance to help shape the project and articulate residents' needs.

2. Recommendations

That Committee

- 2.1 Endorse the draft Terms of Reference for the New Lichfield Leisure Centre Task Group.
- 2.2 Endorse scope of the New Lichfield Leisure Centre Task Group.
- 2.2 Endorse the preparation of the detailed business case in preparation for a second phase of implementation.

3. Background

- 1.1 At its meeting of 7 October 2019, Cabinet agreed to the provision of a new leisure centre in Lichfield. At its meeting 15 October 2019, Council approved Cabinet's recommendation to add £5m to the capital programme to support the development of the new facility and to update the MTFS accordingly.
- 1.2 The development of the new leisure centre requires careful planning. Capital assets of this kind require substantial investment and have an anticipated life in excess of 25 years. As such it is critical that the requirements of the project are captured, assessed and agreed to deliver the desired outcomes for Lichfield residents for the next 2-3 decades. This will ensure best value for the investment and the development of the right facility in the right place.
- 1.3 Officers have engaged consultants along with the support of Sport England, National Governing Bodies of sport (NGBs) to deliver a comprehensive assessment of community need. Officers will then work with the consultants to ensure the development of the most affordable, sustainable and acceptable facility solution.
- 1.4 Elected Member involvement throughout this process is considered a critical success factor. Members as the elected representatives of our residents are uniquely placed to understand and articulate

resident need. Members also have the understanding and perspective to add huge value to the project in terms of support, guidance and where necessary challenge.

- 1.5 The project to develop the new leisure centre is “project three” of three formal projects associated with Friary Grange.
- Project one is to ensure that Freedom Leisure, the Council’s appointed leisure operator, can continue to operate elements of the existing Friary Grange centre, including swimming pool, fitness facilities, studios and squash courts. This project also seeks to manage the transition of the existing sports hall and all-weather pitch to the management of the school.
 - Project two is to provide the necessary refurbishment of the elements of Friary Grange to be managed by Freedom, to ensure that they are fit for operation until the new centre is ready. The Council has limited this investment to a maximum on £695k
- 1.6 It is intended to resolve projects one and two with all possible speed, to allow optimal resources to be focused on the new centre. The scope and outcomes of projects one and two are bounded by a number of known and largely fixed factors – specifically the lease arrangements and the physical condition of the building.
- 1.7 The New Lichfield Leisure Centre Task Group’s remit will be exclusively project three – the new leisure centre; the group will have no specific mandate with regards projects one and two. This reflects both the need to focus effort on project three and also that the ability to meaningfully shape projects one and two is considered very limited.

Alternative Options	4.1 The entire Leisure, Parks and Waste Management (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee could undertake the proposed role outlined for the Task Group. However a larger member group could struggle to have a meaningful input at the level of detail anticipated. It is also possible that this could crowd out other items on the committee’s workplan.
Consultation	5.1 None.
Financial Implications	6.1 The work of the Task Group will be delivered within existing resources.
Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan	7.1 The development of the new leisure centre contributes to the Strategic Plan as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enabling people – encouraging and supporting residents to live healthy and active lives. b. Shaping place – to ensure an appropriate indoor leisure infrastructure to meet residents’ needs c. Developing prosperity – providing employment opportunities for local people, supporting workforce health and encouraging people to visit the borough.
Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications	8.1 There are no equality, diversity and human right implications associated with the review.
Crime & Safety Issues	9.1 The review has not had an impact on any crime and safety issues.

GDPR/Privacy Impact Assessment	10.1 A Privacy Impact Assessment will be conducted if required; at this stage the Task Group doesn't involve the handling of any personal data.
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	Risk Description	How We Manage It	Severity of Risk (RYG)
	Risks will be identified when the group is first constituted		

Background documents
New Lichfield Leisure Centre Task Group Terms of Reference
New Lichfield Leisure Centre Task Group Scoping Document

Relevant web links
