

SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of: The Leisure Task Group
To: Cabinet – 7 October 2014
(Author: Shelley French - Member Services Support Officer)
Subject: Interim report of the Leisure Task Group
Purpose: To present the Interim Report of the Leisure Task Group

Recommendation

That the interim report and recommendations of the Leisure Task Group be considered and agreed for approval, as detailed within the attached report, at Appendix 1.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council at its meeting on 11 April 2012 received a presentation from the Assistant Director for Finance regarding the future options for the Castle Sports Complex.
- 1.2 Members discussed the possibilities and agreed that no further work should be undertaken on the project at present and that the financial position should be reviewed in 2 years time.
- 1.3 On 30 April 2013 the Policy Development Panel and Performance Monitoring Panel agreed to undertake a review of Leisure and formed a Joint Task Group. The Task Group was made up of 8 Councillors from both Panels; membership of the Task Group was as follows:
- Councillor G Aley (Chairman)
 - Councillor D Ashby
 - Councillor G K Dark
 - Councillor R Perkins (Vice-Chairman)
 - Councillor S Slade
 - Councillor E J Sneath
 - Councillor S Wilkinson; and
 - Councillor A R Woolf (later replaced with Councillor A Casson).
- 1.4 Terms of Reference for the Task Group were agreed at its first meeting on 21 January 2014 and are as follows:
1. Establish what leisure provision the District Council presently provides, examining costs, resident satisfaction and competitiveness in order to identify ways of increasing income or reducing expenditure;
 2. To understand what the District Council wishes to provide and what the public and major employers need;
 3. To examine the options for future provision either to be supplied by the Council, the private sector or shared management.

1.5 It was agreed that the Leisure Task Group would provide an interim report to the Panels and Cabinet during the autumn of 2014, with the anticipation of a final report to Cabinet in February 2015.

2.0 **OPTIONS**

2.1 That Cabinet agree the interim report and its recommendations for approval.

2.2 That the Cabinet agree the interim report and its recommendations subject to amendments;
or

2.3 That the Cabinet does not approve the interim report and its recommendations.

3.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 To inform Cabinet of the work of the Leisure Task Group to date, and for it to agree its recommendations in order for the work of the Task Group to progress.

4.0 **EXPECTED BENEFITS**

4.1 To provide interim recommendations to be made to Cabinet based on the findings made by the Task Group so far.

5.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 **Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues**

5.1.1 Some travel was undertaken as part of the work of the Task Group therefore meaning an impact on the Council's carbon footprint.

5.2 **Constitution & Legal**

5.2.1 The Leisure Task Group will seek any legal advice if necessary when making recommendations, no legal advice to date has been sought.

5.3 **Contracts**

5.3.1 South Holland currently holds a contract with Leisure in the Community as its provider of Leisure Provision for the Castle Sports Complex and Swimming Pool. This contract comes to an end in 2018, in line with openness and transparency any future contract being undertaken would be subject to an appropriate tendering process.

5.4 **Corporate Priorities**

5.4.1 Part of the Leisure Task Group's aims are to listen 'Our Customers' and use any of their suggestions and complaints regarding Leisure, that have been received to help form part of its work, and to inform and recommendations.

5.5 **Crime and Disorder**

5.5.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.6 **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights**

5.6.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.7 **Financial**

5.7.1 Some financial assistance has been required towards the work of the Task Group, off site visits and for the commissioning of a provider of Customer Insight, Business Intelligence and Consultation services to the cultural services, active Leisure and Health and Fitness Industries. All work undertaken to date, has been within allocated budgets for work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny.

5.8 **Health & Wellbeing**

5.8.1 Leisure is an important part of the Health and Wellbeing of the District and the Task group has sought to investigate current and future benefits the authority could bring to the community.

5.9 **Risk Management**

5.9.1 At this time the Leisure Task Group is asking for approval of its interim report and its recommendations to Cabinet therefore it is in the opinion of the report author there are no implications.

5.10 **Staffing**

5.10.1 The work of the Task Group is assisted by the Lead Officer and Administration support from Democratic Services. In addition to this there had been the requirement of assistance from officers involved directly with leisure provision.

5.11 **Stakeholders / Consultation / Timescales**

5.11.1 Various stakeholders have been consulted as part of the work of the Task Group which included:

- Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd;
- Breckland Council;
- Leisure in the Community

5.12.2 As this report of the Task Group is an interim report, it is expected that consultation with stakeholders will be on going.

6.0 **WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED**

6.1 The current Leisure Facilities within South Holland are predominately based within Spalding, in the Castle Ward. It is thought however, that, any recommendations of the Task Group could affect South Holland as a whole District.

7.0 **ACRONYMS**

7.1 None

Background papers:- None

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Officer and Councillor who will be attending the Meeting

Name and Post: Phil Adams – Public Protection Manager
Councillor G Aley – Chairman of the Leisure Task Group

Key Decision: No

Exempt Decision: No

This report refers to a Discretionary Service

Appendices attached to this report:

Appendix A Interim Report of the Leisure Task Group