

Leisure Services – 2017/18

Service Overview

Sport and physical activity is now explicitly recognised by Central Government as contributing to wider social and health outcomes, including social and economic development, physical and mental health and quality of life. Leisure provision is therefore part of the 'added value' which an authority can help to generate for its community, by working with a range of external interests and partners - particularly including sports bodies and health agencies.

In East Cambridgeshire, the principal platform for this provision comprises Paradise Pools (owned and supported by ECDC, to be replaced in early 2018 by the new centre at Downham Road); and a diverse network of independent facilities, owned and managed by local trusts or schools. Strengthening this network – through the delivery of the new centre, and by providing support and guidance to the other centres – is a recognised Corporate Priority., The built assets however are the means, not the end; and this work must be integrated with broader initiatives to develop and support participation levels.

The leisure services function is carried out by a Senior Officer, who works in collaboration with colleagues and a range of external partners. The function has four principal areas of activity:

- Working with the district's leisure centres to develop their financial sustainability and their value to the community
- Working with colleagues to deliver the planned new district leisure centre, particularly in developing robust operational arrangements and ensuring that the completed facility is fit for purpose
- Exercising client responsibility for the Authority's own existing facility, the Paradise Pools in Ely
- Working with partners to develop physical activity levels across the district

Leisure Services links with a number of Corporate Priorities, particularly:

“A customer driven efficient Council with a “can do” attitude and pro business approach and commercially focussed to ensure financial self sufficiency for the tax payer” and

“Making East Cambridgeshire an even better place to live”.

Cost of service

The service budget for 2017-18 comprises:

Paradise Pools	£173,041
Support to trust network	£ 73,161
Total	£246,202

Staffing information

Post	Full/Part time	Area of Department
Senior Leisure Services Officer	Full time	All

Forward planning for Councillors

Proposed date of decision	Item	Service Area	Service Delivery Champion	Committee
March 2017	Approval of SLA grants for 2017-18 Approval of Service Delivery Plan	Leisure Services	Cllr Andy Pearson	Commercial Services
October 2017	Review and update to SLA grant awards Service Plan Review Public Health Physical Activity Programme review	Leisure Services	Cllr Andy Pearson	Commercial Services



Commitments towards our Vision

Service Delivery Plan - Leisure Services



Performance Measure	Link to Corporate Plan Priority	Target and reporting timescale (i.e. 6 monthly or annually)	Baseline from previous year/output from previous year	Owner and co-owners
To lead the modernisation of the district's leisure facility network	Making East Cambridgeshire an even better place to live.	To work with facility-providers to identify potential developments in their facilities, programmes and services, operations and organisational arrangements Annual review	Work in progress with Littleport, Ross Peers (Soham) and Burwell Sports Centres	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
		To optimise the long-term impact and effectiveness of the Council's grant funding and other financial support to leisure centres Funding approvals to fit bid submissions and committee cycles Review six-monthly	Progression from revenue-based to project-led funding largely completed, to be developed further during 2017-18	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
		To support bids for external funding and investment as appropriate	N/A (new target)	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
To extend active leisure opportunities across the District in collaboration with partner agencies and local stakeholders	Making East Cambridgeshire an even better place to live.	Development of programmes, services and facilities in accordance with the ECDC Sport & Physical Activity strategy Annual review	Strategy agreed Nov. 2016	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
		Implementation of Public Health funded Physical Activity programme (2017-19) Six-monthly	N/A (new programme)	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer Locality Coordinator (recruitment pending)
		Monitor and pursue external resource opportunities in collaboration with partner agencies and authorities as appropriate Six-monthly	N/A	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
To support the development of the new indoor leisure centre at Downham Road	Making East Cambridgeshire an even better place to live.	Complete procurement of operator and development of operational arrangements and plans Six-monthly	Operator appointed	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer Sally Bonnett, Infrastructure & Strategic housing Manager
		Engagement with Project Team to ensure that facility-mix, design and construction are carried through to optimise the operation and service outcomes from the centre	Work continuing	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer Sally Bonnett, Infrastructure & Strategic

Performance Measure	Link to Corporate Plan Priority	Target and reporting timescale (i.e. 6 monthly or annually)	Baseline from previous year/output from previous year	Owner and co-owners
		Six-monthly		housing Manager
To ensure that the Paradise Pools facility operates efficiently and cost-effectively while meeting the needs of residents	A customer driven efficient Council with a "can do" attitude and pro business approach and commercially focused to ensure financial self sufficiency for the taxpayer.	Ensure continuing high performance & service standards compliance at Paradise Pools Six-monthly	Ongoing	Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer
Trained staff and a comprehensive understanding of service from the Service Delivery Champion		To update Service Delivery Champion with progress within Environmental Services, how the service is being operated and budgetary updates. Service Delivery Champion to act as critical friend to meet at least bi-monthly		Victor Le Grand, Senior Leisure Services Officer