



Rushcliffe
Borough Council

Community Development Group

21 February 2017

Leisure Facilities Strategy

5

Report of the Executive Manager - Communities

1. Summary

- 1.1. Cabinet resolved in March 2016 to delegate responsibility to the Community Development Group to review the current Leisure Facilities Strategy and report back to Cabinet with a recommendation of an updated Strategy.
- 1.2. The Community Development Group has over the last 10 months received a number of presentations and considered detailed investigation work to support the development of an updated Strategy.
- 1.3. This report contains a summary of the main elements of the new draft Strategy namely a refreshed vision, guiding principles and strategic objectives. The full **working draft** of the Strategy is attached at **appendix 1**.
- 1.4. Councillors are requested to provide comments on the draft Strategy particularly in relation to the vision, guiding principles and strategic objectives.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Group:

- a) Provide comments on the draft Strategy;
- b) Approve the draft Strategy for wider consultation (subject to amendments arising from the meeting); and
- c) Delegate authority to the Executive Manager - Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Communities and the Chairman of the Community Development Group to make final amendments to the draft Strategy arising from the consultation prior to recommendation to Cabinet.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. This is the last meeting scheduled within the work programme for the Community Development Group to consider the Leisure Facilities Strategy and as such provides the final opportunity for comment on the draft Strategy which is substantially complete.
- 3.2. In order to meet the commitment to consult key stakeholders, and support buy-in to the Strategy, the comments of wider partners will be sought before the detailed content of the Strategy is finalised. Consultation with the following partners is proposed to include:

- NHS Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group
- Nottinghamshire County Sport Partnership
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Rushcliffe Town and Parish Councils
- Rushcliffe Secondary Schools
- Sport England
- West Bridgford Local Area Forum.

3.3. It is not envisaged that the outcome of the stakeholder consultation will significantly change the main strategic principles or objectives of the Strategy. However, providing delegated authority to a small 'executive group' to approve any amendments required provides due diligence prior to submission of the final Strategy to Cabinet.

4. Supporting information

4.1 The Strategy will guide leisure provision in Rushcliffe over the next 10 years, but will receive a light touch refresh after 5 years. The document has been written as a concise summary and will be underpinned by more detailed implementation action plans such as for playing pitches.

4.2 Care has been taken to ensure that the Strategy supports and contributes towards the Council's goals, core values and priorities for improvement as embodied within the Corporate Strategy.

4.3 The key sections within the Strategy are the Council's vision for leisure provision, supported by four guiding principles and five overarching strategic objectives, each of which are detailed in the paragraphs 4.4 to 4.13 below.

Vision

4.4 "To provide high quality, cost effective leisure facilities to support Rushcliffe residents to enjoy healthy, active lives"

Guiding principles

4.5 The Guiding principles are:

- To protect and enhance facilities where there is strong evidence of need
- To invest in major facility enhancements only where a business case demonstrates on-going revenue efficiencies
- To work in partnership to meet the needs of communities
- To focus provision on improving community health and wellbeing.

Strategic Objectives

4.6 The Strategic Objectives are:

- To retain the current five indoor leisure facilities and ensure that they are fit for the future by:
 - i) Developing a business case for capital investment in Bingham Leisure Centre within five years
 - ii) Maintaining the quality of provision at the four other sites by producing a prioritised capital programme based on condition surveys.
- To support partners to secure external funding to deliver the priority projects identified within the playing pitch Strategy.
- To address inequalities in participation.
- To review and develop working partnerships with local health services focussing on getting the 'inactive' into regular activity.
- To maintain the existing spatial standards for provision of children's play and allotments.

5. Risks and uncertainties

- 5.1 It is important that the Council has an up to date Leisure Facilities Strategy in order to guide and help support future provision. Without such a Strategy there is a risk that investment associated with housing development may not be realised and that over time facilities will fall short of the needs of residents.

6. Implications

6.1. Finance

There are no direct financial implications of this report. The outcome of the Leisure Strategy review itself may result in financial implications which would need to be factored into the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

6.2. Legal

There is no statutory requirement to produce a Leisure Facilities Strategy and there are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3. Corporate Priorities

Leisure provision contributes directly to two corporate priorities, namely:

- Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life
- Transforming the Council to enable the delivery of efficient high quality services.

For more information contact:	Craig Taylor Community Development Manager 0115 914 8345 ctaylor@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers Available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices (if any):	Draft Leisure Facilities Strategy 2017-2027