

## LANCASTER SPORTS CENTRE – UPDATE 3 JULY

### STAFF

- Employees and union representatives were met on Wednesday 28 July to be formally informed that it was proposed to close the Centre from Monday 30 October 2006.

We are currently drafting responses to the questions raised by staff

- An analysis of coaching courses and available space in other sport centre's has been completed. (see attached). This information has not yet been discussed with staff.

Out of a total of 18 coaching courses only one can not be relocated to another Centre.

The activity is 'GAP' Gymnastics. The reason for this is the time / space required to set up / dismantle the activity is not available.

The children on this session will get priority booking for Gymnastics at other sports centre's when they re-enrol.

- Environmental Personnel and Principal Sports Centre Manager will be meeting all staff and Union Representatives on a 1-2-1 basis 12 & 13 July to discuss relocation, redeployment, etc.

## **SCHOOLS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS**

An analysis of schools, clubs and organisations and available space in other sport centre's has been completed.

### **SCHOOLS**

Meeting will be taking place with the Education Officer – PE and School Sport, Head teachers, Lancaster Sports Centre Manager and Principal Sports Centre Manager to look at the relocation of Schools and the teaching support that is provided by staff at the Centre.

All Schools can be accommodated at other sports centres.

Some Schools may not wish to relocate to the Centre's suggested and look at Centre's closure to their site, due to transport issues – time to travel and possible increase in cost. This could lead to them requesting space at other Centre at other times, this could lead to displacement of regular casual customers.

However, the range of activities available may change and there may be some impact on casual customers in relation to Fitness Suite access.

### **SOCIAL INCLUSION SESSIONS**

Meeting will be taking place with the Youth Service, Education Officer – PE and School Sport, Sport Development Officers, Lancaster Sports Centre Manager and Principal Sports Centre Manager to look at the relocation of Pupil Referral Unit, Youth Service, PAYP and the 'teaching' support that is provided by staff at the Centre.

### **CLUBS**

Over the next few days all Clubs will be contacted to discuss relocation options.

#### **Football**

Football Clubs will be met over the next week regarding the options.

Peak Time (Monday – Friday evening)

We are struggling to accommodate the programme of Indoor Football offered at Lancaster Sports Centre.

The reason being that if Football was accommodated indoors then it would displace many regular casual customers who play in particular badminton, but also table tennis, basketball, etc. in our other Centre's.

There is extensive provision outdoors for football at most sports centres and across the City and we would be looking to relocate Clubs to outdoor provision

#### Off Peak Times

Football can be accommodated indoors without any displacement of current casual customers.

#### **Badminton**

The two Badminton Clubs can be accommodated.

However, the Sunday Club could have problems at Moorways due its annual programme of events

#### **Table Tennis**

The Table Tennis Club can be relocated to Moorways Sports Centre.

### **ORGANISATIONS**

#### **Drama Academy**

The Drama Academy can be relocated.

#### **Dwarf Athletics Association**

The Dwarf Athletics can be relocated

### **LEAGUES**

#### **Football**

The Thursday evening League can be accommodated (play alternate weeks)

The Tuesday evening League can not be accommodated (play alternate weeks)

However, the if the Tuesday League could be relocate to a Thursday evening and alternate with the Thursday evening Football both can be accommodated. There would have to be a time amendment for the Tuesday League due to available space.

The Principal Sports Centre Manager and Centre Manager will meet to discuss the options and referee support.

#### **Ladies Hockey**

This is a County wide League comprising teams from outside the City  
The League can not be accommodated within City Council provision  
We are working with sports centre managers in neighbouring authorities in Derbyshire to provide space.

### **Volleyball League**

This is a County wide League comprising teams from outside the City  
The League can not be accommodated within City Council provision  
We are working with sports centre managers in neighbouring authorities in Derbyshire to provide space.

### **MARTIAL ARTS**

There are Five Martial Arts Groups that use Lancaster Sports Centre.

Three can be relocated to Queens Leisure Centre.  
There could be issues around the provision / storage and set up of mats.  
One of these Clubs will have to reduce its times due to other bookings.

One can only have half its sessions relocated.

One can not be relocated at present.

At present we are investigating the conversion of one of the Squash Courts at Queens Leisure Centre to a matted Martial Arts area. There would be some costs associated with this.

This space would not accommodate the larger groups in one session, but the Club could have the space over a longer period. This would have to be discussed with those Groups.

### **CASUAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **Ladies Gym**

There is no provision for a Ladies Only Gym within City, however we do have a programme.

Ladies Only Gym Sessions at the following Sports Centre's

Queens Leisure Centre	-	Monday 11.00 – 12.00 Wednesday 11.00 – 12.00 Thursday 11.00 – 12.00
Shaftesbury Sports Centre	-	Friday 10.00 – 1.00 Sunday 4.00 – 6.00

## **Mixed / Free Weights Gym**

There is no provision for Free Weights within City Council Gyms.

Options could include:

- \* Champions Gym (opposite Radio Derby)  
See Attached Sheet on price comparability / opening times

Although the Gym will be closing within the next four weeks, it is relocating to Agard Street and is expecting to re-open asap (hoping for a seamless transition).

## **GENERAL**

- Sport and Leisure have set up 'working group' to over see planned closure and relocation of Activities
- Meeting has been arranged with Gateway

Sport and Leisure are aware of the current management issues at the Gateway. We are meeting the Director of Derwent New Deal to discuss options around relocation of some activities that would benefit both Gateway and Lancaster Sports Centre.