

Urgent Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Meeting 26 November 2020

Report sponsor: Rachel North, Strategic Director for Communities and Place Report author: Steven Caplan Director of Property Services **ITEM 5** 

# Use of Derby Arena for a Covid 19 mass vaccination centre

## Purpose

1.1 To approve the use of Derby Arena as a mass vaccination centre as part of the national COVID-19 response.

#### Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To approve the use of Derby Arena as a mass vaccination centre, on the basis set out in this Report.
- 2.2 To delegate authority to the Director of Property Services, following consultation with the Strategic Director of Resources and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to enter into a licence agreement for the use of Derby Arena for a mass vaccination centre.

#### Reason(s)

- 3.1 The licensee fee to be paid to the Council will exceed £250,000; this is above the Director of Property Service's delegated approvals within the Scheme of Delegation and therefore requires a Council Cabinet approval.
- 3.2 The urgency of the request to set up a vaccination centre means that it has not been possible to convene a Council Cabinet meeting and therefore an Urgent Leader of the Council Cabinet Member meetings is required to meet these urgent timescales. Although we do not yet know when a vaccine will be approved and available it is important that we do all we can to prepare. The Council would not be able to facilitate the NHS' request if we were to proceed under normal approval timescales.

### **Supporting information**

4.1 Derby City Council has been approached through the Local Resilience Forum to facilitate a location suitable for mass vaccinations in preparation for the approval and distribution of a vaccine to combat COVID-19.

- 4.2 The Council can facilitate this at Derby Arena. Derby Arena is currently closed under current national restrictions. Use of Derby Arena has been significantly impacted throughout the pandemic commencing with the first national lockdown on 23 March 2020.
- 4.3 The NHS has confirmed that Derby Arena is an ideal facility, in terms of scale and location for use as a mass vaccination centre. The use of Derby Arena will greatly assist the local and wider response to the pandemic.
- 4.4 The Council will licence the use of Derby Arena to the NHS; the NHS' occupation will be time limited and on a non-exclusive basis. The Council will retain the right to use the facility including the gym and other first floor operations and to accommodate the local election and Police and Crime Commissioner election postal vote processing and counts in May 2021.

### Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 The public, customers, event organisers and key stakeholders of Derby Arena have not been consulted due to the confidential and urgent nature of the request. Key stakeholders will be contacted to explain the impact of the use of Derby Arena as a mass vaccination centre once arrangements are finalised.
- 5.2 Senior colleagues whose service areas will be affected have been engaged.

### Other options

6.1 Not to facilitate a location for this request; this option has been dismissed as it is essential that the Council does what it can to assist the local and national response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

### Financial and value for money issues

7.1 The licence fee is to be agreed with the licensee and will aim to cover the full running costs and market hire costs (loss of income) of the Arena. The licensee will also be responsible for the cost of protecting the newly installed floor and for the cost of vacating Derby Arena during the local election and Police and Crime Commissioner election count period.

### Legal implications

8.1 The agreement to occupy will be by way of a non-exclusive license. These do not create any legal interest in property. There are no other direct legal issues arising from this paper.

#### **Climate implications**

9.1 Location of the arena and its established use as a leisure facility means it is well located for public transport, pedestrian access and cycle routes to limit any additional impact on the climate and the clean air around Derby.

# Other significant implications

10.1 Implications for employees of the Council will be assessed once the full requirements of the licensee is known.

#### This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Emily Feenan	24/11/2020
Finance	Amanda Fletcher	24/11/2020
Service Director(s)	Claire Davenport	24/11/2020
	Steve Caplan	24/11/2020
Report sponsor	Simon Riley	24/11/2020
Other(s)	-	
Background papers:		
List of appendices:		