

Item 4

Time began	1.00pm
Time ended	1.18pm

Communities and City Centre Regeneration Cabinet Member Meeting 8 September 2015

Present: Councillor Rawson

01/15 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dhindsa and Naitta.

02/15 Late Items

There were no late items.

03/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

04/15 Libraries Strategic Review and Needs Assessment

A report of the Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods was considered which stated the Libraries Service had made budget savings of £1.34m since 2010/11. Further substantial reductions would require a fundamental transformation of the current service delivery model.

Public libraries were a statutory service. To ensure compliance with the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 any major changes to the current service delivery model would have to be based on a strategic service review that had at its heart an assessment of needs.

Given that all service areas were being asked to say how they would make a further contribution to the Council's budget savings target, we were proposing to undertake a Libraries Strategic Review, including a comprehensive needs assessment. The intended outcomes of the Review were –

- Clarity about the role and purpose of Derby's Libraries Service, expressed through an agreed vision and service offer.
- A service delivery model that enabled a modern, relevant, good quality Libraries Service offer which was compliant with legal requirements, meets the needs of users within available budgets, reflects the ambitions and priorities of the Council and was sustainable until at least 2020.

To determine whether, and if so how Libraries could make a further substantial contribution to corporate savings targets while still meeting the Council's statutory obligations.

Preparatory work was already underway for an initial phase of public and stakeholder consultation to begin in October 2015. A summary of four key themes and example questions were provided at the meeting and a copy of the draft questions would be sent to Councillor Rawson for further comments and questions to be fed back to Officers within the next two weeks.

A second phase of consultation was planned to take place in summer 2016, and a report proposing a new service delivery model would be presented to Council Cabinet in autumn 2016. Any budget savings identified would be unlikely to come on stream before April 2017

Resolved

- 1. To approve carrying out a Libraries Strategic Review, including a comprehensive needs assessment, in line with the timetable set out in paragraph 4.12 of the report.**
- 2. To endorse the draft vision and service offer shown at Appendix 2 of the report as the basis for public and stakeholder consultation on the future role and purpose of the service.**
- 3. To approve undertaking the comprehensive 'phase 1' public and stakeholder consultation exercise in order to –**
 - Inform a comprehensive needs assessment for the Libraries Service in Derby.**
 - Provide feedback on the draft vision and service offer.**
 - Gather feedback on strategies that could enable the Libraries Service to make a substantial contribution to Council savings targets while continuing to meet its statutory obligations and user / stakeholder needs.**

11/15 Springwood Leisure Centre Outdoor Courts Pricing Review

A report of the Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods was considered which stated that the outdoor courts at Springwood Leisure Centre had been closed for approximately 12 months, due to the unsafe condition of the playing surface. In April 2015 work commenced to replace the playing surface. Work was completed at the end of June 2015.

As part of developing the outdoor courts a number of programming principles had been developed to help maximise the usage and income of the facility. These were:

- To maintain opportunities for local residents to play on an either a casual or blocked booked basis.**
- To develop commercial opportunities.**

- To support Clubs who had achieved quality awards: FA Charter Standard.
- To develop opportunities for children, young people and Adults to undertake in coaches activities to improve their skills and abilities.
- To support the development of girls and ladies football opportunities.
- To help address Anti-Social Behaviour in the Oakwood, Derwent and Chaddesden areas by working with local partners: Sporting Futures, Neighbourhood Boards to provide opportunities to engage local young people in sporting and active recreational activities.
- To develop opportunities to increase usage at daytime and weekend through working with schools, local partners and businesses.
- To engage with the Football Association to utilise their develop opportunities, branding and 'kudos' to promote the courts.

In developing the proposals for the pricing structure and charges a number of principles underpinning the approach to be taken had been developed. These would apply to Springwood Leisure Centre outdoor courts only.

- Standard price for all on pay as you play football.
- Concessionary prices would be based on ability to pay therefore targeting the most financially disadvantaged customers and not solely on the age of the customer or the time of day they use the facility. The only exception to this was concessionary prices for over 65s.
- Discounted prices for Football Clubs that had achieved the Football Associations Charter Standard.

The FA Charter Standard is a 'kitemark' awarded to football clubs that provided a high quality football experience, through being well run, sustainable, and importantly placing child protection, quality coaching and safety paramount. By providing a discounted price for these Clubs recognised and rewarded their commitment to delivering a high quality experience.

- Develop a commercial hire price for Leagues and other commercial opportunities for use of the courts.
- In addition the use of floodlights was charged separately. This meant any hirer who required floodlights had to pay an additional cost. It was proposed to delete this price and 'roll up' the charge within the new prices.
- Achieve the income target associated with the outdoor courts

A spread sheet detailing all of the current and proposed new prices was included at Appendix 2 to the report.

Benchmarking across other providers had taken place. This had then informed the development of the proposed pricing structure and charges. Benchmarking information was contained in Appendix 3 of the report.

The introduction of the new pricing structure and charges would enable bookings to be developed and confirmed for the start of the peak usage season, September onwards.

Resolved

- 1. To approve the new pricing principles and structure for the outdoor courts at Springwood Leisure Centre set out in paragraph 1.3 of the report.**
- 2. To approve the proposed changes to the leisure pricing structure and charges and their implementation set out in Appendix 2 of the report.**

MINUTES END