

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet **DATE:** 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014

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**WARD(S):** All

**PORTFOLIO:** Community and Leisure – Cllr Pantelic  
Environment and Open Spaces – Cllr Parmar  
Health and Wellbeing – Cllr Walsh  
Neighbourhoods and Renewal – Cllr Swindlehurst

### **PART I** **KEY DECISION**

#### **LEISURE STRATEGY**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the strategic background and key considerations which will inform the development of the strategy for leisure provision in Slough. Given the range and complexity of the options for future leisure provision open to SBC, the report proposes setting up a member/officer working group to explore in more detail the options and then to progress the leisure strategy to implementation.

##### **2. Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Cabinet is requested to resolve:

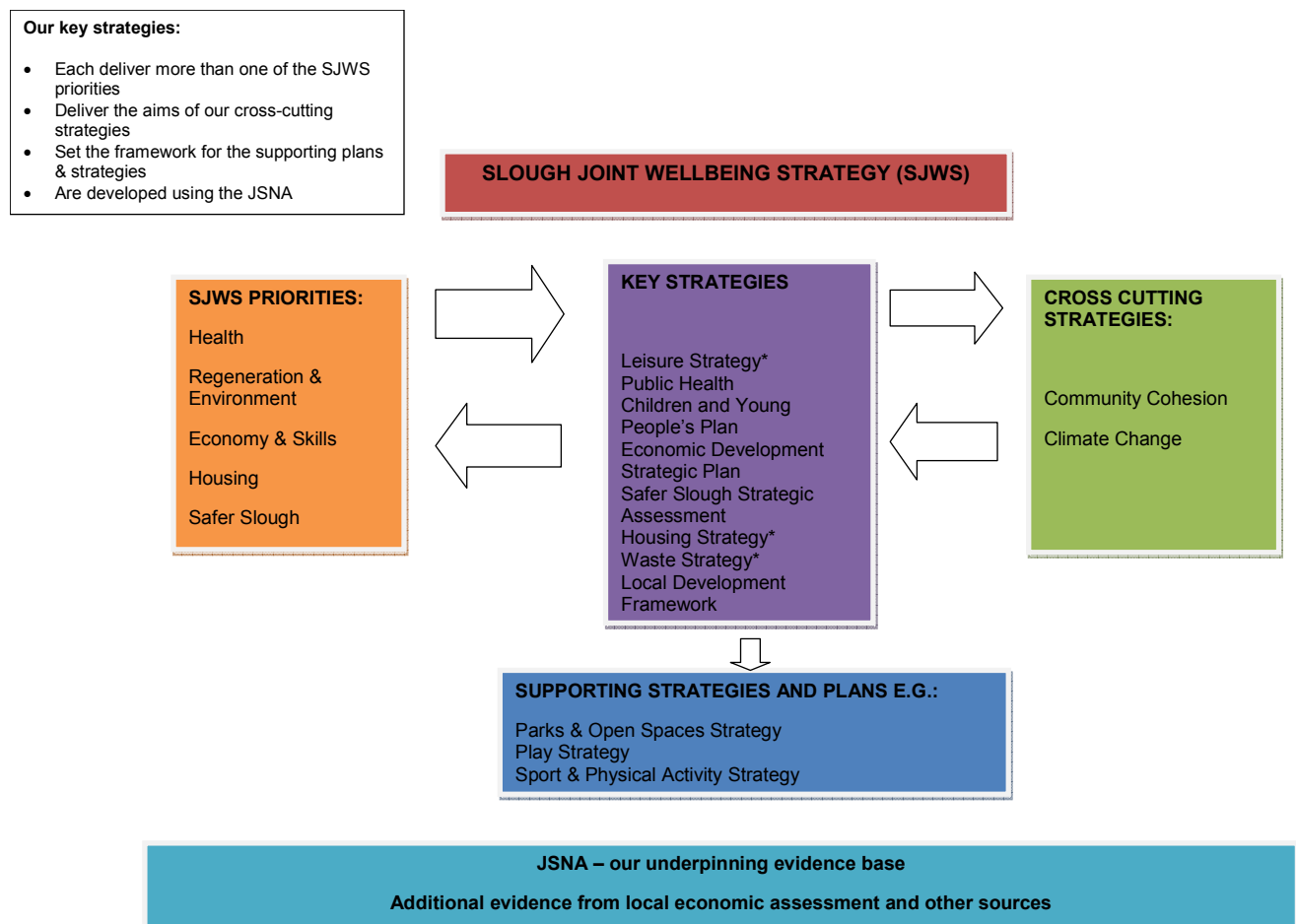
- a) That the report be noted.
- b) That a Leisure Strategy member/officer task and finish working group be set up and that Commissioners be nominated to join that group.

##### **3. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

- 3.1 All the actions within the leisure strategy will contribute towards achieving the overarching vision of the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy and will make significant contributions to the health and wellbeing and safer Slough themes.
- **Health and wellbeing** - Cabinet in September 2013 approved a strategy for leisure services, with the overarching aim “To enhance the health and wellbeing of Slough residents by ensuring leisure activity is adopted as a habit for life for all - more people, more active, more often”. The causal link between physical activity and overall health indicators is self-evident and particularly related to reducing obesity and heart disease which are high priorities for Slough

- **Safer Slough** – the opportunity to participate in shared leisure activities makes a very positive contribution to community cohesion and interaction between the varied and diverse communities in Slough
- **Regeneration and environment** – leisure facilities, both open space and buildings used for leisure purposes contribute to the quality of the environment of the town and can provide opportunities to regenerate specific sites and local communities

3.2 When completed the strategy for leisure in Slough will be one of a group of strategies that underpin the Wellbeing Strategy. Whilst each strategy addresses a specific area of activity each overlaps and reinforces the strategic aims of the others in the group. The diagram below illustrates this:



## 4. Other Implications

### 4.1 Financial

There are no immediate financial implications arising from this current report. When the strategy is completed it is highly likely that the implementation plan and consequent actions that arise will have financial impacts, both on revenue and capital expenditure. These matters will be considered and addressed when the completed strategy is brought forward for Cabinet agreement. Any capital expenditure for a significant project would require a separate Business Case to be considered and approved.

4.2 The Council currently spends £527,000 of its revenue budget on the management fee for Slough Community Leisure. This fee provides for the leisure activities that take place at Langley and Montem Leisure centres, Slough Ice Arena and also includes facilities at the Centre (conferences, weddings, council meetings) and Salt Hill Park (ten pin bowling). In addition there is a substantial contribution that parks, open spaces and local play areas throughout the town make to informal and organised leisure opportunities, the management of which is paid for directly from revenue budgets. Facilities located within schools also provide further leisure opportunities.

4.3 Risk Management

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigating action</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
Legal	None at this stage	
Property – that the leisure needs of Slough cannot be met within the current facilities and open space and further investment is required which has a significant financial impact	A facilities option appraisal will be undertaken as part of the development of the leisure strategy	Regeneration and potential for development of community facilities
Human Rights	None	
Health and Safety	None	
Employment Issues	None	
Equalities Issues	None	
Community – that the facilities that are provided do not meet the needs and aspirations of the Slough residents	Public consultation as part of detailed design development	Improved access to quality facilities
Communications	None	
Community Safety	None	
Financial	None	
Timetable for delivery	None	Link with contract renewal in 2017
Project Capacity	None	
Other		

4.4 Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no direct Human Rights Act or other legal implications arising from this report.

4.5 Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed when the proposals for new leisure facilities have been developed.

4.6 Workforce

There are no direct workforce implications arising from this report.

## **5. Background**

- 5.1 The Council agreed an approach to leisure facilities at Cabinet in September 2013. Whilst focussing on delivering broader outcomes for the community through improved participation in leisure and physical activity the approach taken was centred on the provision of buildings to achieve these outcomes. Further review and improved information about the overall cost of the previously agreed approach has led to the need for a change in the way in which the leisure strategy is addressed.
- 5.2 It is proposed that a member and officer task and finish group is set up to review the evidence and options for leisure provision within Slough with the aim to bring a refreshed strategy to Cabinet in summer 2014.
- 5.3 This group will take a structured approach to the task which will include consideration of the following:
- current evidence base on health and physical activity of the residents of Slough;
  - a complete understanding of the facilities available for leisure, including parks, open spaces, private and semi-public (schools) facilities;
  - appropriate public engagement to seek views and gain understanding;
  - engage with Slough Community leisure and other providers to gain further market understanding;
  - learn from what other Councils are doing including alternative models of delivery
- 5.4 The conclusion of the work will be to reach an agreed to approach to the council's role in providing leisure facilities and the best options to deliver this.

## **6. Comments of other committees**

- 6.1 This matter has been considered by Cabinet on previous occasions listed below and also been the subject of a report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **7. Conclusion**

- 7.1 In light of the recently gained information regarding the current proposed leisure strategy it is proposed that the approach is reviewed and a revised strategy is produced. To undertake this task it is proposed that member/officer task and finish working group be set up to report back by summer 2014.

## **8. Background papers**

Leisure Capital Strategy. Cabinet report, 21 November 2011

Leisure Strategy. Cabinet report, 16 September 2013

Leisure Strategy (full text), September 2013

Leisure Strategy, report to Overview and Scrutiny 10 September 2013