

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 16th April 2018

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WARD(S): All

PORTFOLIO: Environment and Leisure – Councillor Anderson

PART I NON-KEY DECISION

LEISURE FACILITIES REPROVISION PROGRAMME UPDATE

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report details the progress to date on the council's ambitious leisure capital development programme, part of the council's five year leisure strategy for the town, ratified by Cabinet in March 2014.

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

- 2.1 The Cabinet is requested to resolve that the report and the good progress being made in delivering the leisure strategy be noted.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

All the actions within the Slough Leisure Strategy will contribute towards achieving the overarching vision of the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy and will make significant contributions specifically to the health and wellbeing of Slough residents.

Protecting vulnerable children - new leisure facilities will be safe environments for children and will target those who are disadvantaged

Improving mental health and wellbeing – It is well established and accepted that taking part in regular sport and physical activity contributes greatly to better mental health and general wellbeing

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

- **Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful** – taking part in regular sport, physical activity and other related positive leisure activity is proven to improve the physical health and mental wellbeing of children and young people, along with educational attainment and confidence and self esteem
- **Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs** – addressing the rates of inactivity in our adult population is a key priority for the council. Improved leisure facilities that are accessible and cater for a range of abilities will be a key area for turning the tide on this inactivity.

- **Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay** – attractive and accessible leisure facilities will attract people to the borough to live, work and visit.
- **Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents** - good quality, accessible leisure facilities are attractive to employers to ensure a healthy workforce which is imperative for a businesses success.

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications in regard to this report. All budgets for the capital schemes, which have a total value of £62 million, have been approved by Cabinet and to date are on budget and programme.

(b) Risk Management

The leisure strategy capital development team keep a detailed up to date risk register for all the council's major leisure schemes. The risk register is reported to the Leisure Strategy Board fortnightly and a monthly highlight report is produced for CMT. The leisure risk register is available on request.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights implications in regard to this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessments have been prepared for Ice and Salt Hill. An EIA is currently being drafted for comment in reference to the new leisure centre development.

(e) Workforce

There are no workforce implications in regard to this report

(f) Property

Within the portfolio of leisure facilities all buildings have management arrangements in place.

Arbour Park Community Sports Stadium is managed by the council's corporate facilities teams and Slough Ice Arena, Salt Hill Activity Centre, Langley Leisure Centre and the new leisure centre on the Farnham Road will be managed by the Council's leisure provider Everyone Active when their construction is completed and the facilities are handed over to the council.

(g) Carbon Emissions and Energy Costs

All new leisure facilities will be more efficient in regard to energy costs with improved mechanical and electrical systems, which aim to reduce carbon emissions.

5 **Supporting Information**

5.1 In March 2014 Cabinet agreed the council's five year leisure strategy which detailed the requirement to make large scale improvements to the council's leisure facilities. Subsequently investment was approved by Cabinet for the following schemes:

- A new community sports stadium at Arbour Park
- A replacement leisure centre for Montem
- A refurbished ice arena
- A refurbished Langley Leisure Centre
- A refurbished Salt Hill leisure facility

5.2 The strategy also recommended a series of improvements to facilities at a local neighbourhood level, mainly in the town's parks and open spaces, to include MUGA (multi use games area) and green gym developments.

5.3 Major Facility Programme

5.4 The leisure capital development programme commenced in 2015 with the Arbour Park Community Stadium development, which resulted in the award winning stadium being fully completed in May 2017 along with the major improvement works to St Joseph's Secondary School.

5.5 The four remaining major development schemes are on programme for completion and handover as detailed in the table below.

Development	Completion date	Opening
Slough Ice Arena	26 th March 2018	April 2018 Soft opening 16 th April Official opening 28 th April
Salt Hill Activity Centre	29 th May 2018	June 2018 (date to be confirmed with Everyone Active)
Langley Leisure Centre	31 st May 2018	June 2018 (date to be confirmed with Everyone Active)
The Centre Leisure	15 th February 2019	March 2019 (date to be confirmed with Everyone Active)

5.6 Slough Ice Arena, the next major refurbished facility to open, was handed over to the Council on 26th March, allowing Everyone Active, the operators to mobilise in preparation for the soft opening of the rink on 16th April and the formal opening on 28th April, which will be attended by celebrities Perry Shakes Drayton and Mark Hanretty.

5.7 Salt Hill Activity Centre will offer an innovative leisure option to the residents of Slough aimed at attracting families with a diverse programme of activity. It is proposed to open the facility to the public two weeks after the facility is handed over to the council at the end of May.

5.8 Langley Leisure Centre has undergone a major refurbishment programme which will enable the centre to offer the very best facilities and programmes to local residents and users over the next 20 years. In response to community feedback the re-opened centre will offer an additional ninety parking spaces for leisure centre users only. The centre will re-open to the public in June.

5.9 The largest development in the leisure capital programme is the replacement of Montem Leisure Centre on the site of The Centre, on the Farnham Road. The new facility will address the changing trends in leisure use by delivering state of the art, larger gym facilities and an 8 lane x 25 metre pool with a larger teaching pool. The sports hall will be the first in the country to offer an interactive LED sports hall floor, which will increase the activity scope for all the diverse user groups in Slough. The new centre will open formally in March, with Everyone Active taking over full operations and management.

5.10 **Local Neighbourhood Programme**

Since 2015 the leisure services team have installed over thirty outdoor fitness facilities, with a further three outdoor gyms and a MUGA refurbishment due in May 2018. A most recent development has been the installation of seven non-turf artificial cricket wickets across the borough, with external funding secured from the ECB (English Cricket Board) and all installations will be completed by May 2018. Appendix 1 of this report details all facilities.

5.11 Many residents in Slough now have a green gym or fitness trail within walking distance of their home, providing them with access to free physical activity in their local neighbourhood. The Active Slough team in partnership with Everyone Active offer weekly inductions to residents, showing them how to use the equipment confidently and correctly.

5.12 Our investment in non traditional sporting facilities including skate parks and a Parkour park illustrate our commitment to creating a wide and varied activity offer for our residents. These more alternative provisions are particularly popular with the young people of Slough.

5.13 The MUGAs are designed for activity in the 21st century, encouraging and facilitating a multi sport approach. Activities that take place include; football, basketball, bootcamps, handball, cage cricket and street hockey. The Manor Park MUGA refurbishment will bring what is currently a closed, outdated facility back into the community, providing access for residents and user groups.

5.14 **Communications**

The council and the new leisure operator, Everyone Active have developed a collaborative, partnership approach in developing a joint strategy for the marketing and publicity of the new facilities, alongside the council's existing communications plans for all developments.

5.15 **Next Steps**

A key priority for the council is to get local people of all ages and abilities taking part more regularly in sport and physical activity. The provision of good quality, accessible leisure facilities is acknowledged as just one step in achieving this goal. The council is aware that there needs to be a complimentary approach to encouraging people to adopt regular exercise as a habit for life and this will be achieved by working in close partnership with key stakeholders including Everyone Active and the various health agencies.

5.16 The existing Leisure Strategy Board, which has predominantly overseen the management of the leisure capital schemes over the last three years, will be reviewed, with a change in brief and membership to reflect the council's long term aim to get more Slough residents, exercising more regularly. A top priority will be to target the 30% of local residents that are classed as inactive; taking part in less than 30 minutes of activity per week.

6 **Comments of Other Committees**

None.

7 **Conclusion**

7.1 The council's five year leisure strategy demonstrated the need for the town's old leisure facilities to be updated under a comprehensive capital development programme, estimated to cost up to £62million. March 2019 will see the last of the major projects completed and open to the residents of Slough with the aim of getting more local people taking part in more sport and physical activity more often. A review of the existing Leisure Strategy Board will see a change in brief of the group to look at tackling in more detail the inactivity levels in Slough, which are some of the highest in the region.

8 **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Neighbourhood Leisure Capital Programme 2015 - 2018

9 **Background Papers**

1. Get Active Slough – a five year leisure strategy for Slough.