

## Record of an Individual Cabinet member decision

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

<b>Decision made by</b>	Councillor Charlotte Dickson
<b>Key decision?</b>	Yes
<b>Date of decision</b> (same as date form signed)	30 October 2017
<b>Name and job title of officer requesting the decision</b>	Ben Border Leisure projects officer
<b>Officer contact details</b>	Tel: 01235 422203 Email: <a href="mailto:ben.border@southandvale.gov.uk">ben.border@southandvale.gov.uk</a>
<b>Decision</b>	To agree and sign off the proposed core facility mix for the new leisure centre project for Wantage and Grove area.
<b>Reasons for decision</b>	<p>The Vale of White Horse 'Leisure and Sports Facilities' Study draft report was further updated in November 2014 to align with the emerging local plan.</p> <p>This provided further evidence of both the existing and future needs and deficiencies for leisure and sport facilities for the Wantage, Grove and surrounding area.</p> <p>The council commissioned The Sports Consultancy (TSC) in 2015 to complete an options appraisal and business case based on the leisure and sports facilities findings. TSC assessed and reviewed the different options including retaining the existing leisure centre at Portway, Wantage. The report included a cost benefit analysis of the different options and recommended a preferred facility mix and additional enhancements. These were agreed and incorporated in the project brief.</p> <p>The appointed design team have consulted council officers (leisure, planning, sustainability and equalities<sup>1</sup>) in scoping the projects objectives, outcomes and aspirations in line with the project parameters and constraints that informed a final project brief for the new leisure facility. External organisations such as GLL (existing leisure management operator) and national governing bodies have also been consulted on the proposals.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Equalities to consider inclusive design in order to meet the needs of all users

The design team developed the brief and the resulting conceptual designs illustrating site and floor plans were used during the public consultation.

The Vale Council sought the views of key stakeholders with an interest in the existing leisure centre at Portway, Wantage and the proposed new leisure centre at Mably Way, Grove during September and October 2017. This involved 1-2-1 meetings with representatives from various groups that had strong connections to the project, as well as informal workshops with local community groups to exhibit the proposal and raise awareness of the public online survey.

Two public drop-in events took place at Wantage leisure centre (Portway, Wantage) on Thursday 7 September and on Thursday 21 September, at The Old Mill, Grove to provide an opportunity for the public to see and discuss the plans with the design team and Vale Council officers.

624 people responded to the online survey which ran from 7 September to 4 October 2017.

A public consultation summary report (see appendix one) contains a summary of the online survey results, comments and the feedback received during the consultation with stakeholders.

Overall there is support for building a new leisure centre in the area with 84 per cent of respondents expressing an agreement in principle 70 per cent of respondents agreed with the location of Mably Way. There were variety of opinions expressed on the size of individual activity areas, layout of the site and floor plans and the actual access to the Mably Way property.

Based on the needs assessment and consultation results, it is recommended that the core facilities listed below is agreed for the detailed design stage of the project and that the design team investigate the enhancements that resulted from the public consultation process.

#### *Core offering*

- main pool – 25 metre six lane community pool
- learner pool
- sports hall – equivalent to four badminton courts
- health and fitness provision
- studio space – multi use areas
- artificial grass pitch – with floodlights

	<p><i>Design team to consider further in stage three (detailed design)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moveable floor – in the learner pool</li> <li>• multi climbing wall experience</li> <li>• confidence water</li> <li>• coffee shop</li> </ul> <p>A brief description of each facility is listed in appendix two.</p> <p>Not all the facility enhancements being sought by the respondents are achievable with the constraints of the existing property location and the budget allocated for this project; nor required when aligned with the Vale’s leisure and sports strategy</p> <p>By not finalising the proposed facility mix it could lead to abortive design and other associated project costs with further requests for changes to the proposals and cause a delay to the delivery of the new leisure centre.</p>
<b>Alternative options rejected</b>	The Sports Consultancy report tested the impact of the core facility mix identified through the ‘Leisure and Sports Facilities Studies’ and reviewed this mix by adding and removing facilities. The report considered capital costs, revenue and affordability implications, as well as non-financial implication (e.g. meeting local need).
<b>Legal implications</b>	None
<b>Financial implications</b>	<p>The Capital budget allocated to the new leisure centre project is £18.803 million.</p> <p>Officers will carefully consider in the next stage of the project all enhancements being considered in line with the leisure needs assessment, the constraints of the site and the agreed capital budget for the project.</p> <p>If costs exceed the approved budget officers will escalate for approvals in line with the project’s governance structure.</p>
<b>Other implications</b>	None
<b>Background papers considered</b>	<p>The Vale of White Horse ‘Leisure and Sports Facilities’ study (2013-2031) – Draft updated report (November 2014)</p> <p>The public consultation summary report (October 2017)</p>
<b>Declarations/conflict of interest? Declaration of other councillor/officer consulted by the Cabinet member?</b>	

<b>List consultees</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Date</b>
	Legal	Pat Connell	Agreed	18.10.2017
	Finance	Rhona Bellis	Agreed	18.10.2017
	Leisure	Dylan Evans	Agreed	19.10.2017
	Equalities	Cheryl Reeves	Agreed	18.10.2017
	SMT	SMT	Agreed	25.10.2017
	Corporate Consultation	Phillip Vincent	Agreed	19.10.2017
	Communications	Gavin Walton	Agreed	19.10.2017
	Head of Service	Ian Matten	Agreed	19.10.2017
<b>Confidential decision?</b> If so, under which exempt category?	No			
<b>Call-in waived by Scrutiny Committee chairman?</b>	No			
<b>Cabinet member's signature</b> To confirm the decision as set out in this notice.	Signature ____ Councillor Charlotte Dickson _____ Date ____ 30 October 2017 _____			

**ONCE SIGNED, THIS FORM MUST BE HANDED TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES IMMEDIATELY.**

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Form received	Date: 30 October 2017	Time: 15:50
Date published to Scrutiny Committee	Date: 31 October 2017	
Call-in deadline	Date: 7 November 2017	Time: 17:00