

Meeting: **Executive**
Date: **13 October 2009**
Subject: **Improvements to Dunstable and Tiddenfoot Leisure Centres**
Report of: **Councillor Steven Male - Portfolio Holder for Culture and Skills**
Summary: This report requests Executive to approve expenditure of up to £52,000 on improvements to Dunstable and Tiddenfoot Leisure Centres

Advising Officer: Edwina Grant, Acting Chief Executive and Director Children Families and Learning

Contact Officer: Roy Waterfield, Assistant Director Community and Cultural Learning

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Dunstable and Leighton Linlade area.

Function of: Executive

Key Decision Yes

Reason urgency/
exemption from call-
in (if appropriate) N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Executive approves expenditure of up to £52,000 from the CBC 2009/10 capital programme to fund improvements as set in paragraph 3 in the Project Initiation Document at Appendix 1.

Reason for Recommendations: So that items for improvement as identified by a stock condition survey can be undertaken and our contractual obligations are met.

1. Background

1.1 The investment in new or improved leisure facilities supports the delivery of the Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) Strategic Plan 2009-11 adopted by Executive 5 August 2008. In this plan the authority has highlighted that its vision is 'to improve the quality of life of all in Central Bedfordshire, and enhance the unique character of our communities and our environment'. In order to meet this vision the authority has agreed five priorities for 2009-2011 these are;

- Supporting and caring for an ageing population
- Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people

- Managing growth effectively
- Creating safer communities, and
- Promoting healthier lifestyles.

- 1.2 The Children, Families and Learning Directorate Plan, adopted by Executive 30 September 2008 outlines how sport and the arts will be used to help raise educational attainment in our schools, increase levels of physical activity to address rising levels of obesity, alleviate problems with mental health, provide opportunities to divert people away from criminal activity and anti-social behaviour and regenerate rural and urban environments. The project helps deliver this plan and supports the Local Area Agreement targets to reduce the number of children who are obese, increase the proportion of young people participating in positive activities and increase adult participation in sport.
- 1.3 The leisure centres are owned by Central Bedfordshire Council and managed via a leisure management contractor, Leisure Connections in the Community until 2030.

2. Scope of the project

- 2.1 A Project Initiation Document (PID) is attached at Appendix 1 which includes the items identified for improvement at Dunstable Leisure Centre and Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre.

3. Capital funding issues

- 3.1 The Capital Programme for 2009/10 has £52,000 allocated to Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre and Dunstable Leisure Centre. The budget has been included as a result of stock condition survey undertaken in 2003 by Willis Head and Eve. CBC, in consultation with Leisure Connections in the Community, CBC has highlighted items that are the responsibility of CBC that need upgrading or replacing in 2009/10. Subsequently, Property Services at CBC have obtained indicative costs. Capital Asset Management Group considered this work on 27 August 2009 and supported the proposal. Property services will undertake a procurement exercise to select an appropriate supplier and implement the works.

4. Revenue funding issues

- 4.1 There are no revenue implications as a result of carrying out these works.

5. Way forward

Executive are asked to approve a budget of up to £52,000 so that improvements to Tiddenfoot and Dunstable Leisure Centres set out in the scope of the project in the PID at Appendix 1 can be undertaken. The improvements CBC is prioritising are contractual obligations. Failure to deliver improvements identified in the stock condition survey will impact negatively on the fabric of the building and on customer experience.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The investment in new or improved leisure facilities supports the delivery of the Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) Strategic Plan 2009-11 adopted by Executive 5 August 2008. In this plan the authority has highlighted that its vision is 'to improve the quality of life of all in Central Bedfordshire, and enhance the unique character of our communities and our environment'. In order to meet this vision the authority has agreed five priorities for 2009-2011 these are;

- Supporting and caring for an ageing population
- Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people
- Managing growth effectively
- Creating safer communities, and
- Promoting healthier lifestyles.

Financial:

The Capital Programme for 2009/10 has £52,000 allocated to Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre and Dunstable Leisure Centre. The budget has been included as a result of stock condition survey undertaken in 2003 by Willis Head and Eve. CBC, in consultation with Leisure Connections in the Community, CBC has highlighted items that are the responsibility of CBC that need upgrading or replacing in 2009/10. There are no revenue implications as a result of carrying out these works.

Legal:

The improvements CBC is prioritising are contractual obligations. Failure to deliver improvements identified in the stock condition survey will impact negatively on the fabric of the building and on customer experience. In some cases there is a health and safety obligation for CBC to meet.

Risk Management:

As identified in the PID.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Safety:

The Police have expressed concerns about anti social behaviour at Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre which will be curtailed by the inclusion of a barrier to the entrance of the car park.

Sustainability:

Some of the improvements may reduce energy costs.

Appendices:

Appendix A – PID document

Background Papers (open to public inspection): None