



Mayor and Cabinet

Report title: Leisure Management Contract

Date: 15/06/22

Key decision: Yes

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Director of Communities, Partnerships and Leisure

Director of Corporate Resources

Director of Law, Governance and Elections

Outline and recommendations

This report seeks the approval of Mayor and Cabinet

It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet:

- approves a 3 year and 6 month extension
- approves the removal of the free gym, swim and athletics track access for residents aged 60 and above, with these members paying a concessionary rate. Free access to gyms, swimming and the athletics track is to be retained for residents with registered disabilities.
- approves in principle a price increase for April 2023

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

12 August 2020 – Mayor and Cabinet report

Report title: Permission to award a Leisure Management Contract

13th January 2021 - Mayor and Cabinet report

Report title: Leisure Management Arrangements

1. Summary

- 1.1. On 12th August 2020, Mayor and Cabinet approved the award of a 2 year Leisure Management Contract with current operators Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL). This Leisure Management Contract agreement contained an option to extend for a further three years, subject to the approval of the Council. For the initial two years (to October 2022) of the contract, LBL have retained full financial responsibility of the contract. Should the optional 3 year extension be agreed along with an additional 6 month contract to align the end date with the Council's financial year, financial responsibility (with the exception of the Lifecycle Budget (7.4) and Utility Tariffs (7.5)) will be transferred to GLL until its conclusion at the end of March 2026.
- 1.2. LBL has worked in close partnership with GLL over the course of the past year and a half to successfully navigate through all the challenges brought on by the pandemic and the exiting operator. A programme of capital investment to the Leisure Centres have improved the look and feel of the sites and streamlined the customer journey, vastly improving customer satisfaction.
- 1.3. This paper seeks the agreement of Mayor and Cabinet to exercise the option to extend the contract by the optional 3 years and a further 6 months to 31 March 2026. This would align the end of the contract with the financial year end.
- 1.4. This paper also seeks approval for the removal of the free gym, swimming and athletics track elements of the concessions memberships that applies to residents aged 60 and over; with these residents paying concessions rates to access the above listed activities.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Mayor and Cabinet:
 - 2.1.1 approves a 3 year and 6 month extension.
 - 2.1.2 approves the removal of the free gym, swim and athletics track access for residents aged 60 and above, with these members paying a concessionary rate. Free access to gyms, swimming and the athletics track is to be retained for residents with registered disabilities
 - 2.1.3 approves in principle for the next fee's and charges price increase for leisure centre users (in accordance with CPI inflation) to take place in April 2023 after a pricing freeze in the initial two years (see section 7.6 – 7.8).

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3. Policy Context

- 3.1. There are a number of existing strategies where the leisure facilities make a positive contribution. In addition the Council is in the process of developing a Physical Activity Strategy with the aim of pulling together all the relevant strands and capturing them in one overarching strategy that puts the health and wellbeing of Lewisham residents at the forefront of provision.
- 3.2. Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2022. The characteristics of the Borough are clearly set out with a growing and diverse population including some areas of very high deprivation and child poverty. Healthy lifestyles and the availability of local leisure centres are key to delivering three of the key priorities namely: Giving children and young people the best start in life; Building an inclusive local economy and delivering and defending: health, social care and support. Furthermore there is opportunity within wider priorities to encourage physical activity in the active environment. Partnership working is a key tool identified to deliver against these priorities. It is clear that leisure services can play a major role in the delivery of the Corporate Strategy priorities.
- 3.3. The Lewisham Local Plan - The Lewisham Local Plan will be a comprehensive plan for the whole borough setting out the proposed plans for new homes and associated infrastructure covering a 15-year period from 2018–33. It first went out to consultation in 2015 and the updated version is about to go out to consultation again in 2019. It will undoubtedly be an important document to help inform the need for future built facilities (including the active environment) and services (impacted by a growing population and potential changes to the demographic profile of the Borough).
- 3.4. Lewisham Whole Systems Obesity Action Plan - The Council's whole systems approach to obesity has three overarching aims:
- Promote an environment that supports healthy weight and wellbeing as the norm, making healthier options the easiest choice for our residents to eat well and have active lifestyles;
 - Supporting our communities and families to become healthier and more resilient, which will include addressing the wider determinants of health; and
 - Tackle the weight issues of those who are already overweight and obese.
- 3.5. Lewisham's Physical Activity Strategy (Draft) – The Council's Physical Activity Strategy is currently in draft form with an aim of publishing in the coming months. This proposed contract extension closely aligns with two of the key priorities within the strategy:
- Active Environments - We will seek to ensure that all of our residents have access to high quality, safe and affordable places which are designed and managed with the aim of helping people to be active, no matter who they are or where they live.
 - Active People - Will seek to tackle physical and mental health inequalities by ensuring that all of our residents have the opportunity to make physical activity a regular part of their everyday lives through the provision of programmes and services that are tailored around the needs of our local people.

The strategy will contain an implementation plan with targets designed to assess progress linked to getting people more physically active, increasing active travel and using outdoor space for exercise.

- 3.6. The Lewisham Physical Activity Strategy closely aligns to the vision outlined in Sport England's new national strategy 'Uniting the Movement'. This strategy highlights the importance of ensuring indoor leisure facilities remain inclusive and accessible to local people, ensuring that these facilities are co-created and designed to service the people within the community.

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- 3.7. Local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient educational and recreational leisure time activities and facilities for young people aged 13 to 19, and those with learning difficulties to age 24, to improve their well-being, as defined in Subsection 13 of Section 507B of the Education Act 1996 (amended 2006). This particularly important relating to the provision of swimming pools which are not readily provided via the private sector.

4. Background

- 4.1. In accordance with Regulation 32 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (“the Regulations”), on 12th August 2020 Mayor and Cabinet agreed to the direct award of a two year contract to GLL, with an option to extend for a further three years with a maximum value of £9,373,729.
- 4.2. The contract was to lease and operate the following leisure facilities in the borough:
- The Bridge Leisure Centre (including the Lewisham Indoor Bowls Centre)
 - The Bellingham Leisure and Lifestyle Centre in Bellingham (managed by the Council on behalf of a charity, the Bellingham Community Project)
 - Forest Hill Pools
 - Ladywell Arena
 - Glass Mill Leisure Centre
 - Wavelengths Leisure Centre
 - Warren Avenue playing fields
- 4.3. At the point of contract commencement the management and maintenance of the Warren Avenue playing fields was transferred to the Council’s grounds maintenance contract held by Glendale Managed Services Limited.
- 4.4. It is pertinent to note that this paper proposes that the 3 year contract extension be extended by a further 6 months, ending the contract in March 2026. This will ensure the contract end aligns with the end of the 25/26 financial year, ensuring the next Leisure Management arrangement runs concurrent to LBL’s financial years. For this reason this paper is brought back to Mayor and Cabinet rather than being approved by the Executive Director of Community Services.

5. Contract performance

- 5.1. The Leisure Management Agreement (“LMA”) with GLL commenced on the 7th October 2020. The first priority for GLL and the LBL was to ensure the leisure centres could re-open as soon as possible to mitigate the impact of the Covid closures on the operation of the plant within the centres and the income receivable.
- 5.2. As such a detailed mobilisation plan was developed including the transfer of member data from Fusion to GLL to ensure the new contractor could communicate with previous members to keep them up to date with the change of management responsibilities and future opening dates.
- 5.3. Deep cleans of centres were conducted whilst GLL also undertook the backlog of maintenance work and conditions surveys within the centres to ensure they were fully operational.
- 5.4. The leisure centre reception areas were updated, removing the traditional reception desks in favour of a newer Concierge style service to support the new cashless model implemented by GLL. The cashless concierge model supported the new phone/ online booking systems in place which vastly reduce service times required in the centres. This process also improved the Covid security of each site as it reduces the need for personal transactions between customers and staff, in turn reducing the queuing times.
- 5.5. On 13th January 2021 Mayor and Cabinet agreed a range of actions to allow for the

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reopening of leisure facilities as restrictions allowed while seeking to minimise short term costs and ensure that the overall portfolio of services is sustainable in the medium-long term.

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s76736/Leisure%20management%20arrangements.pdf>

- 5.6. The Bridge Leisure Centre has remained closed to the public (a decision approved in the 13 January Mayor and Cabinet report). This decision was recommended in recognition that the site needing considerable levels of investment to ensure its safe operation.
- 5.7. Since the contract was let to GLL there has been a wide ranging investment programme and a significant improvement in overall performance in service delivery against the previous contract despite challenging market conditions due to both covid and wider economic circumstances.
- 5.8. Key achievements and initiatives to date include:
 - **Covid-19 secure operating systems** installed allowing for the successful re-opening of the centres
 - **Union recognition agreement** currently in place
 - **Staff transformation programme** including significant relocations minimising impact of closed centres and GLL staff brought in to provide additional experience
 - Strong **health & fitness membership and swim school growth** from re-opening
- 5.9. Each of the Leisure Centres required improvement works to ensure they were fully operational; much of this work related to plant failures due to the Covid shutdowns and the need to improve air handling capacity to meet new government regulations. This led to the Council and GLL implementing a significant investment regime over the past 12-18 months.
- 5.10. Working in partnership with the Council, GLL have transformed the reception areas of each facility to include a cashless concierge system, self-service pods and upgraded speed turnstiles.
- 5.11. These improvements enhance the customer journey by allowing centre users to book classes and sessions via GLL's state of the art mobile app and reducing the lengthy queue previously experienced.
- 5.12. The pool tank of the 25m pool at Wavelengths Leisure centre was re-tiled ahead of re-opening the facility in July 2021. These works have not only improved the look and feel of the facility, but have extended its lifespan by 20 years
- 5.13. Extensive works to the Leisure Pool at Wavelengths Leisure Centre were also identified as this facility had been falling into disrepair in the period leading into the Covid-19 Pandemic. In June 2021, an £800k facility overhaul was agreed – refurbishing the pool plant machinery, improving the air handling equipment, re-decorating the family changing village and removing the slides to improve the financial viability of the facility. The re-furbished facility re-opened in January 2022 and has been well received by centre users.

Leisure Centre Participation

- 5.14. Moving Communities are the body contracted by Central Government to monitor leisure centre recovery across the nation. The most recent reports state that national participation figures had returned to 70% of pre Covid levels (October 21). Reports also stated that areas with a high population of ethnic minorities tended to recovery slower than others.

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- 5.15. According to Fusion's March 2020 report, there was a membership base of c6k members paying for either an annual or pre paid monthly membership across the portfolio.
- 5.16. Taking into account, the fact that the leisure centres in Lewisham remained closed between March 2020 and April 2021 (9 months after government announced that indoor gyms and Leisure Centres in England could re-open on the 25th July 2020 and 13 months after the initial closure); and the fact that The Bridge Leisure Centre has remained closed to the public (a decision approved in the 13 January Mayor and Cabinet report). GLL's first full year in operation of the leisure centres in Lewisham has been largely positive.
- 5.17. GLL's first report on monthly participation stated a membership base of c2,800 (both annual and pre-paid members). In contrast, GLL's most recent participation report (February 2022) states that pre-paid and annual member uptake has risen to c4k members across the leisure portfolio. Factoring in the closure of The Bridge Leisure Centre, this represents 72% of Fusion's pre covid membership base.
- 5.18. The slower than national recovery in Lewisham can be attributed to the following factors:
- the prolonged closure period due to covid and the transfer of contracts between the previous leisure management contractor and GLL
 - the pre-Covid and pre-centre improvement feedback being negative in nature, with much of the negative customer feedback centred round the lack of cleanliness at leisure centres and lack of servicing/maintenance which resulted in numerous facility closures.
- 5.19. Since GLL's commencement the proportion of monthly negative feedback has decreased from 60% to 40%, with a lot of the positive feedback now focused on how clean the centres are.
- 5.20. To ensure the positive start to the GLL contract management relationship continues, the Council have implemented a robust contact monitoring regime which consists of the below:
- Centre monitoring visits – These consist of a mixture of scheduled and unscheduled visits by the council's monitoring officer. The monitoring officer will record any faults witnessed on the visit, reporting them to GLL's management team, requesting details on the plan for rectification. Interrogation of the GLL's policies and procedures also takes place during these visits.
 - Monthly reports – Each month, GLL provide a report which details the financial performance of each centre for the month prior. GLL also provide detail on Leisure centre participation numbers which are then discussed as part of the monthly contract meeting agenda. Monthly Contract Meetings – Each month, Officers meet with GLL's local Partnership Managers to evaluate the monthly reports. Activity programming, community engagement, and communications planning are also discussed.
 - Quarterly meetings – The senior management from both the Council and GLL meet on a Quarterly basis to discuss the overall performance of the contract as well as discuss the strategic horizon for the quarter ahead.

6. Potential insourcing

- 6.1. In order to consider whether the existing contract should be recommended for extension officers first considered whether there was a viable option to insource the provision from 1 October 2022.

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- 6.2. In order to support this assessment the Council commissioned the leisure consultants FMG, who are currently assisting with insourcing other leisure contracts in London, to undertake an assessment of the financial implications of insourcing the service.
- 6.3. The assessment of FMG was that insourcing the service would be unviable as this would significantly increase costs across the life of the three and half year extension.
- 6.4. These costs have been calculated across a range of different areas including:
- Replacement of external providers overheads and central charges with an estimate of what it may cost the Council to provide the equivalent central support services based on benchmark costs seen on other in-house models
 - The time cost of provider contract management and partnership work replaced with the estimated new management costs which the Council would have to put in place to replace this management resource (e.g. service manager, operations, sales and marketing, finance and HR)
 - The additional pensions cost of bringing the staff into the LGPS has been estimated by applying an increase in contribution rate from 3% to 22.5% for all employed staff. There may also be an additional staffing cost to align paycales with Council paycales but it is not possible to estimate the impact of this at this stage so this has not been included
 - The additional cost of National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) which the Council will now have to pay as it is not a charity offset against a corresponding saving for the Council based on the 30% business rate retention typically seen in London local authorities
 - Removal of the cost of an external provider's irrecoverable VAT which the Council will not incur as it is not a charity but including a corresponding estimate for VAT on income which providers may retain but the Council will have to pay to HMRC as a result of its VAT status.
- 6.5. The London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark are currently working to insource their leisure provision. These services are due to return to in-house provision on 1 April 2023 and 1 June 2023 respectively and this will allow LB Lewisham to learn from the experiences of these neighbouring authorities before reconsidering the option to insource from April 2026.

7. Budget considerations

- 7.1. As set out in section 5 the impact of Covid is still being felt on the leisure market and it is difficult to predict with any certainty at this stage due to the unknown ongoing impact of COVID on leisure services, and the leisure market in general, in the medium term.
- 7.2. The Council and GLL have now been working in partnership in Lewisham for 18 months. This time period has allowed an understanding of leisure centre operations in the current climate to mature.
- 7.3. For the initial two years of the contract, the council have remained financially responsible for the LMA, covering any shortfalls between income and expenditure. Years 3-5½ (if agreed) would then transfer this financial risk back to GLL
- 7.4. For the extension period, the Council will retain management of the yearly Lifecycle Maintenance costs, with expenditure reviewed and reconciled on a quarterly basis. Should any efficiencies from annual Lifecycle works be realised, the Council is to retain 100% of that figure.
- 7.5. GLL have taken responsibility for consumption risk on utilities for the extension period. In line with many other Council contracts, tariff risk is to be retained by the Council. The current volatility in the energy market make it very difficult to predict the impact this will

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have on the overall financial position. The contract will include wording which ensures that GLL have to benchmark tariffs on an annual basis to demonstrate that the rates are competitive, if this is not the case the Council reserve the right to take over the procurement of energy as part of the Council's wider energy contract.

- 7.6. With regard to pricing, the Council has set specific maximum prices for certain activities and user groups (Core Pricing) which could increase as a maximum at the rate of inflation CPI for the Contract Period.
- 7.7. Upon commencement of the two year contract, the Council and GLL agreed to 'freeze' all activity and membership pricing until January 2023. This was done to support the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic and encourage users back into the facilities.
- 7.8. To align with the Council's annual fees and charges uplift, the next agreed leisure price increase will take place in April 2023. Officers and GLL colleagues will work cooperatively to agree 2023 pricing levels towards the back end of 2022.
- 7.9. Further modifications to the contract will include a change to the current concessions arrangement which offers free gym, swim and athletics track access to all those over the age of 60 or those who are disabled. This modification would see the offer continued for those who are disabled but with those over 60 offered the standard concessionary rates rather than entirely free. This ensures that the services continue to be subsidised for Lewisham's older residents, but will now entail a contribution to the financial viability of the services from these members of the community.
- 7.10. This saving was considered by Mayor and Cabinet on 2nd February 2022 [Lewisham Council - Agenda for Mayor and Cabinet on Wednesday, 2nd February, 2022, 6.00 pm](#) agenda item 615 and included within the Council Budget (and appendix Y2) at [Lewisham Council - Agenda for Mayor and Cabinet on Wednesday, 9th February, 2022, 5.00 pm](#) agenda item 321.
- 7.11. An Equalities Assessment Analysis regarding this recommendation is attached as appendix 2. This analysis concludes that there may be some of the impact of the removal of the concession this can be mitigated through increased and targeted marketing of leisure services to the target audience and effective programming to ensure there is a range of activity specifically for the older people in the borough is on offer. Although the proposed changes will impact those over the age of 60 (c14% of the local population), the savings generated alongside the increased revenue from pay and play usage will make the leisure contract more sustainable for the remainder of the community.
- 7.12. A formal consultation on the change is not required due to the fact that no service is being removed and the over 60s will still benefit from a concessionary rate with a 33% reduction on the standard price for both gym and swim provision. Notwithstanding this there will need to be significant customer engagement ahead of the removal of the free provision on 1 October 2022. The free provision for disabled people has been retained as it was deemed to provide for the most underrepresented group of leisure centre attendees. Some older people will still benefit from this provision if they qualify for either of the below eligibility criteria or if they become disabled due to age related conditions.
 - Blue Badge holders
 - Disability Freedom Pass holders
 - Residents that receive disability living allowance, attendance allowance or personal independence payments

Be Active eligibility criteria is attached as appendix 1 to this report.

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8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. In 2019/20 the Leisure Services contract contributed an income to the General Fund of £0.19m and therefore there is no historic budget for the cost of operating a leisure contract.
- 8.2. In 2020/21 the contract has made a loss due to the impact of Covid with £2.2m which was funded from the Leisure relief fund. As part of 2020/21 financial year end £1.2m of funding was set aside in a provision to support the Leisure provision within the borough.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1. Decisions must be made reasonably taking into account all relevant considerations and ignoring irrelevancies. The Council is under a 'best value' duty to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness (Local Government Act 1999 section 3). It must have regard to this duty in making decisions in relation to this report.
- 9.2. The report summarises the risks, impact and costs of the decisions. In coming to a decision, Mayor and Cabinet will need to balance those risks, costs and potential impacts against the potential benefits to be obtained.
- 9.3. The Council's Constitution contains requirements about how to procure and manage contracts. These are in the Contract Procedure Rules (Constitution Part IV), some of which are requirements based on the procurement Regulations (Public Contracts Regulations 2015) with which the Council must comply. Those requirements were complied with when the contract was awarded.
- 9.4. The current contract was procured on the basis of a 2 year contract with the option to extend for 3 years. The recommendation in the report is to extend the contract for the extension period with an additional 6 months to bring the contract termination date in line with the financial year. The 3 year extension is a 'Permitted Extension' under the Contract Procedure Rules, being one which was clearly provided for in the original procurement and contract documents (as set out in Rule 17 of the Contracts Procedure Rules, and Regulation 72 of the Procurement Regulations 2015).
- 9.5. In addition to the permitted 3 year extension officers are recommending that the contract is extended for a further 6 months to bring the termination date of the contract in line with the end of the financial year. When doing so, the Council is obliged to comply with the procurement Regulations. Some variations to existing contracts may trigger a requirement to undertake a new competitive tender process. The Council's Contract Procedure Rules set out which variations can be made without a new competitive process (Constitution Part IV I, paragraph 17 of Contract Procedure Rules). This report explains why this extension to the contract for a further 6 months is proposed.
- 9.6. Contract Procedure Rules say that where a contract variation is 'not substantial', the variation can be made (paragraph 17.5). The definition of 'substantial' takes into account matters including the nature and size of the proposed change relative to the original contract, and the likely market effect of the change (including the change to the scope and economic balance of the contract). There is a reasonable argument that the proposed extension is not substantial. As such, the variation does not trigger a requirement to undertake a new procurement. On that basis, therefore, the 6 month extension is allowable under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules paragraph 17.
- 9.7. The report sets out the reasons why the extensions are proposed. It notes that the

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performance of the incumbent provider is satisfactory, and that the future of the service will be considered during the extension period.

- 9.8. In taking this decision, the Council's public sector equality duty must be taken into account. It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 9.9. In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 9.10. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct, or to promote equality of opportunity or foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. It is a duty to have due regard to the need to achieve the goals listed above. The weight to be attached to the duty will be dependent on the nature of the decision and the circumstances in which it is made bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality and understanding the impact or likely impact of the decision on those with protected characteristics who are potentially affected by the decision. The extent of the duty will necessarily vary from case to case and due regard is such regard as is appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 9.11. The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found on the EHRC website.
- 9.12. The EHRC has issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty. The 'Essential' guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice.

10. Equalities implications

- 10.1. Lewisham Council is current developing a new Physical Activity strategy which the leisure services detailed in this report will be a key part. As part of the strategy development, a vision, priorities and key outcomes will be established to set the strategic direction for the service over the coming years. Whilst these have not yet been confirmed at this stage, they are likely to centre around the areas of:
 - Increasing physical activity levels and reducing inactivity with the aim of reducing the burden on the NHS, particularly in deprived areas and within the BAME community;
- 10.2. AND using physical activity to:
 - promote health, wellbeing and happiness;
 - tackle deprivation;
 - reduce crime and anti-social behaviour;
 - develop the economy, jobs and skills;

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- support the voluntary & community sector.
- 10.3. A number of specific target outcomes and associated KPIs will be identified to establish how the strategy will be measured and monitored, with an action plan identifying specific actions for implementation.
- 10.4. As mentioned within appendix 2, the proposed changes to the Be Active programme is likely to have an impact on the number of 'older people' taking part in physical activity. Monitoring the enhanced promotion and delivery of activities aimed at the older proportions of the community is likely to be one of the key actions within the implementation plan.

11. Climate change and environmental implications

- 11.1. Leisure Centres, especially swimming pools, consume high levels of energy. Officers will work with GLL to utilise techniques they have demonstrated in other boroughs to reduce overall energy consumption and the carbon footprint of services.

12. Crime and disorder implications

- 12.1. Leisure Services play a significant role providing positive activities for young people, reducing the chances of them being involved in anti-social behaviour or criminal activity. They are a key provision in the Local Authorities Public Health Approach to violence reduction.

13. Health and wellbeing implications

- 13.1. There is a wealth of evidence to highlight that the benefits of an active lifestyle are far reaching and impact positively on people's lives across the life course. Those who play sport and are active are healthier, happier and more likely to be successful in academic and professional life.
- 13.2. We know that the benefits of an active lifestyle are far reaching and impact positively on people's lives. The weight of the national evidence base regarding the risks and costs of inactivity is compelling:
- Physical inactivity directly contributes to one in six deaths in the UK, the same number as smoking;
 - Physical inactivity is the fourth largest cause of disease and disability in the UK;
 - Physical inactivity leads to around 37,000 premature deaths a year;
 - Evidence highlights that active people are less likely to suffer from heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and may consequently live 5 years longer.
- 13.3. Physical inactivity poses a serious and growing danger to society; it damages health, economy and the environment and limits the educational attainment and future lives of children.'
- 13.4. It is estimated by Public Health England that the cost of physical inactivity is £7.4 billion per year.

14. Social Value implications

- 14.1. Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires that the council considers how wider social, economic and environmental benefits that may improve the wellbeing of the local area can be secured.

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- 14.2. The council is also an officially accredited London Living Wage (LLW) Employer and is committed to ensuring that, where appropriate, contractors and subcontractors engaged by the council to provide works or services within Lewisham pay their staff at a minimum rate equivalent to the LLW rate. Successful contractors will be expected to meet LLW requirements and contract conditions requiring the payment of LLW will be included in the tender documents.
- 14.3. Leisure Centres are significant local employers and the new contract will ensure that as many of the current jobs as possible are safeguarded.

15. Background papers

- 15.1. Appendix 1 – Be Active Scheme
- 15.2. Appendix 2 - Equalities Assessment Analysis

16. Report author and contact

- 16.1. James Lee, james.lee@lewisham.gov.uk

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