Cabinet

14 December 2010

Item 5 – Public Participation Review of Indoor Leisure Facilities - overview of public consultation and the refined proposal (item 7)

Question from Mr Stephen Walls

Question 1

a). In a recent e.mail from Robin Townsend, he states that discussions with neighbouring authorities such as Swindon, the intention is to ensure that services are not duplicated or that any authorities facilities replace another but compliment each other. With Swindon having to make savings and Leisure a probable target is the council content that there will be sufficient leisure facilities around the east of the county?

Response

The baseline audit and research information collected as part of the leisure review was underpinned by Sport England's facilities planning model. The model is a spatial planning diagnostic tool which essentially estimates the demand and calculates supply and identifies any deficiencies or over provision. In addition it takes into account how far people are prepared to travel for a facility.

The model is calibrated to consider all indoor leisure provision within a twenty minute travel time outside the authority boundary therefore the Council can be confident that in terms of leisure centres the refined proposal ensures appropriate coverage across the county.

Question 2

b). In appendix A, the Lime Kiln in Wootton Bassett will remain the responsibility of the council until the future management arrangements are determined. Is there a time scale for this? Also I understand discussions are being held regarding a campus solution in Wootton Bassett. Can you supply further details, who is involved and what is the scope of any campus solution.

Response

The Lime Kiln leisure facility, along with all other operational estate in the community area, will be considered in the wider context of the Workplace Transformation Programme to allow for potential options for a campus to be developed.

There are no definitive options or timescales to present however the Workplace Transformation Programme is intending to bring a report to Cabinet in the early part of 2011 that will set out the high level principles behind a sustainable and affordable countywide campus development project.

Initial informal discussions have been had with Wootton Bassett Town Council and the Headmaster of Wootton Bassett School and it appears that there is support for the principle of some form of campus facility in the town.

Assuming Cabinet approve the further consideration of a campus facility then it is intended the Workplace Transformation Programme will approach the local Area Board at an appropriate point to facilitate a public consultation that will look at the scope of any campus solution.