

# Chairman's Announcements

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Chippenham Skatepark – update</b>
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<b>Weblink:</b>	

## Summary of announcement:

On Tuesday 10 September 2013 the Skatepark Task Group presented a report to the Chippenham Area Board recommending that Monkton Park, next to the Olympiad Leisure Centre and Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) area, is the most appropriate location of the options considered for a Skatepark in Chippenham.

The area board agreed to proceed to the next step, the preparation and lodging of a planning application for the installation of a concrete construction skatepark.

Since this decision was taken:

- An initial briefing meeting has been held to understand the decision of the Area Board and to discuss the next steps that should be taken
- An officer project team has been established to direct the project and to ensure the scope and the approach is consistent with the decision of the Area Board
- Consultancy support has been procured that will lead on the design development of the skatepark and on the preparation of the planning documents.

In order to make an application for Planning Permission for a scheme that can be delivered with certainty (cost, technical deliverability, programme, etc), it will be necessary to develop the technical design to an advanced stage. Also, to ensure that there is the requisite level of open competition in this process a two stage approach has been agreed with the procurement team; firstly with competitive proposals obtained as a concept design based on the initial technical information (flood risk assessment, ground conditions parameters, ecology assessments etc); and secondly a detailed design / tender which will require development through a negotiated / collaborative approach.

The project team are currently procuring the technical surveys and investigations that will contribute to the concept specification. The team recognises that a skatepark has been identified as a priority for Chippenham however, having regard to historical factors and the potentially conflicting needs of both residents and users, there is a need to ensure that the early stages of the project are carefully considered and compiled to minimise potential conflict and to ensure its success.