

### **Position Statement in relation to the provision of food and drinks in Leeds City Council Leisure Centres November 2014.**

The sale of food and beverage is an important part of the effective and efficient operation of Sport and Active Lifestyles Service. The service works closely with its suppliers to take appropriate positive steps to ensure that the food and drink options supplied to customers and staff are diverse and reflect the needs of those engaging in physical activity during their leisure time.

The service works in partnership with two catering operations that delivers a café function at four of the services leisure centres. The operators provide a range of food and drink options including those that would be considered 'healthy.' The operators work closely with their customers to ensure that their range of product and the prices charged are appropriate to support a sustainable business and livelihood for the operators all of which are local Leeds based organisations. This included the development of a range of healthy menu choices at Holt Park Active with colleagues from Adult Social Care.

In addition the service provides its own in house café / catering function at the John Charles Centre for sport, adopting the same principles as those outlined above. The range of meal choice is significant and includes by way of example; fruit, freshly prepared meals, freshly prepared sandwiches and wraps, low sugar drinks and water.

To compliment this provision, the service also operates a full range of vending solutions across its estate of leisure centres. This operation uses suppliers who have been formally procured through the Leeds City Council procurement pathway to provide a range of vending products. This contract is currently out to tender and it is our intention to work with the new supplier to further develop wherever reasonably practicable the range and quality of the products offered to our customers.

In addition the network of leisure centres across the city support a range of communication initiative's to reinforce public health messages. This has included for example the smart swaps healthy eating campaign as well as information relating to smoking cessation. Using the centres as a marketing collateral tool is something that the service will look to expand through the development of the Leeds Let's Get Active project in addition to closer working with colleagues in public health.

The service is keen to develop the supply of food and beverage to customers through the network of cafes and vending solutions. Our approach is very much to develop our offer so that it is attractive to customers as well as supporting a sustainable and efficient business model for both the operators and the wider Sport and Active Lifestyle Service.

