



Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

To: Inner West Area Committee

Date: 20 June

Subject: Leisure Centre PFI Programme

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

1. This report provides an overview of the Sport PFI Investment Plan with particular reference to Armley Leisure Centre and details of the consultation process.
2. Members are asked to note the report and the outcomes of the consultation.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of the proposals for the Sport PFI/Capital Investment Plan and the process for consultation which has taken place during May and June.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 In August 2005 the Department for Culture Media and Sport approved an Expression of Interest for the creation of new Leisure Facilities in Leeds and approved in principle an allocation of £30 million of PFI credits.

2.2 Since October 2005 work has been undertaken to define the type of sport and leisure facilities required in consultation with users, the community and sports groups. Locations, sites and likely costs have been explored to identify where new leisure centres would be situated.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The options appraisal has identified potential new Leisure Centres for Morley, Armley, and East Leeds.

3.2 As the options appraisal has been developed a range of facilities for each site have been identified.

3.3 The site of main interest to this committee is Armley. Proposals for the a new Leisure Centre for Armley include a 25m 4 lane pool, a small pool with moveable floor to accommodate children, people with disabilities, and very small children, large sports hall, bodyline fitness centre, meeting room, GP surgery physiotherapy room and large multi-purpose room.

3.4 A briefing session for Inner West and Outer West Area Committee members took place on 22 May. Members were shown a presentation, copies of which will be available at the meeting.

3.5 The main issues raised at this session were:

- The importance for the building of a high quality design;
- The need to ensure links with the Armley Moor Health Centre;
- To explore the possibilities of using the Leisure Centre car park for shoppers through a pay and display system.

3.6 Two public consultation sessions are planned for June:

- A public meeting at Armley Leisure Centre on 13 June
- A presentation to Armley Forum on 20 June.

3.7 The West Leeds Gateway Board meeting discussed the proposals at its meeting on 12 June. Again the main outcomes from this discussion were the need for a building of high quality design.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 4.1 The proposals for Armley Leisure Centre are part of a citywide investment plan for improving Leisure Centres in Leeds through PFI credits. A wider capital investment plan is being developed in parallel.
- 4.2 A new leisure centre in Armley will contribute to the aims of the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration Programme to make Armley a place where people choose to live and work. In assisting in achieving these local aims, the scheme will contribute to the council's overarching priority to narrow the gap. .
- 4.3 Consultations have been carried out as outlined in paragraphs 3:05 – 3:08.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 5.1 The PFI process highlighted the need for a clear citywide investment plan. The long term sustainability of the leisure centres is in jeopardy without significant investment. Armley Leisure Centre is currently operating at a deficit of £351,050 per annum.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The long term sustainability of leisure centres is in jeopardy without significant investment. This PFI programme provides an opportunity for new leisure centres in Leeds, one of which will be in Armley. The outcomes of consultation with local members, and the West Leeds Gateway Board were a need for a high quality building, links with Armley Moor Health Centre and to explore using the car park for shoppers.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 That members note the content of the presentation at Appendix A, and support the need for a building of high quality design, for ensuring that the new Leisure Centre has good links with the Armley Moor Health Centre, and