

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY – UPDATE ON PROGRESS1. Purpose of report

This report updates members on the latest progress on the Bramcote site options and the latest position on negotiations with East Midlands Education Trust (EMET) regarding the Kimberley school joint use agreement.

2. Background

Bramcote site options:

Following member's approval at the Policy and Performance Committee on 1 July 2021, an external leisure consultant has commenced further work (pre planning, financial modelling, project plan) on the 'new build on the current site' options at Bramcote. A member's workshop held on the 14 October 2021, provided some excellent feedback on the Council's requirements expectations of a new leisure centre.

The consultant has developed a project plan identifying the key steps in this feasibility study, and aims to provide a detailed feasibility report on the Bramcote site options to the Leisure and Health Committee in January 2022. Appendix 1 is the output from the Member's Workshop, appendix 2 is the Project Plan for the feasibility study and Appendix 3 is the project plan for the aspirational design and construction period.

Negotiations with EMET regarding Kimberley school joint use agreement:

Following a request from members at the last Policy and Performance Committee, the chronology of the negotiations with EMET, since the termination notice was issued in April 2020, was forwarded to the group leaders, ward members, chair and vice chair of the leisure and health committee, chair of the finance and resources and chair of the personnel committee, on the 8 October 2021. Minutes of the first joint planning meeting with the school, the Council and Liberty Leisure, which took place on the 1 October 2021 were also circulated to these members.

Further meetings, with all parties, have taken place so that options for community use could be considered. Negotiations are still on-going, and Liberty Leisure and the Council will need to assess in detail the operational and financial implications of any offer from the school for community use. Given the potential impact on Liberty Leisure employees of any changes at Kimberley leisure centre, the Council has instructed external TUPE legal advice to ensure that we have access to best specialist advice during these negotiations.

As the Council intends to submit a levelling-up bid for Kimberley, the Deputy Chief Executive has invited Kimberley school to put forward propositions for investment at Kimberley leisure centre to be considered by the Kimberley levelling-up task and finish group.

Members will be regularly updated on any further developments with negotiations and officers will revert to the relevant Committee for any required decisions.

3. Financial implications

None.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the report.

Background papers: Nil