

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Leisure Facilities Cabinet Sub-Committee**
held on Thursday, 28th January, 2010 at Committee Suite 1 & 2, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Cabinet Sub-Committee Members:

Councillor A Knowles (Chairman)
Councillor David Brown
Councillor Roland Domleo
Councillor Frank Keegan

Advisory Members:

Councillor Ainsley Arnold
Councillor Terry Beard
Councillor Paul Edwards
Councillor John Hammond
Councillor Ray Westwood

Officers:

Guy Kilminster, Head of Health and Wellbeing
Keith Pickton, Leisure Facilities Manager
Mark Wheelton, Leisure and Green Spaces Manager
Paul Mountford, Legal and Democratic Services

Apologies:

Rob Hyde, Service Development Manager

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

26 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

27 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

In accordance with Minute 23, resolution (3) of the minutes of the Sub-Committee's meeting of 8th October, the Officers had prepared a demographic profile of the Borough, subdivided according to age and locality (Borough Ward). Copies were circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That

- (1) the minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2009 be approved as a correct record; and
- (2) the demographic profile circulated at the meeting be noted.

28 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

29 LEISURE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS APPRAISAL – CONSULTANTS’ FINAL REPORT

The Sub-Committee considered the final report by the Council’s consultants, PMP Genesis Consulting, on the Cheshire East Leisure Management Options Appraisal. The report set out the strategic context for the review, an analysis and evaluation of the options for future management and service delivery, and the consultants’ key findings and recommendations. Members noted the recommendation to pursue a new local trust vehicle for the reasons set out in the report.

Since the production of the final report, the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing and other Members of the Cabinet had considered the report conclusions in the light of the budget-setting process. It had been suggested that the implementation of any recommendations should be “put on hold” until a fuller assessment of the implications from the report could be conducted. There was an interest in particular in making connections between leisure services and other strategic interests of the Council, such as library services. In addition, if the Council were successful in securing Building Schools for the Future funding, it would be keen to explore the scope for library services and leisure provision to be appropriately integrated into new developments.

A further benefit of deferring a decision on the recommendation in the Consultants’ report would be to allow an evaluation of the Facility Improvement Service which was expected to produce a series of conclusions and a framework for the production of a facilities development strategy in February 2010.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet be recommended not to proceed at this time with any further work to progress a Trust as the delivery model, and the Consultants' recommendation be placed on hold while further consideration is given to the wider strategic issues and opportunities identified.

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm and concluded at 5.06 pm

Councillor A Knowles (Chairman)