

- **Outcome 1: Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful**
Taking part in regular sport, physical activity and other related positive leisure activity is proven to improve the physical health and mental wellbeing of children and young people, along with educational attainment and confidence and self esteem.
- **Outcome 2: Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs –**
Addressing the rates of inactivity in our adult population is a key priority for the council. Improved leisure facilities that are accessible and cater for a range of abilities will be a key area for turning the tide on this inactivity.
- **Outcome 3: Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay –** Attractive and accessible leisure facilities will attract people to the borough to live, work and visit.
- **Outcome 5: Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents -** Good quality, accessible leisure facilities are attractive to employers to ensure a healthy workforce, which is imperative for a businesses success.

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

All the leisure capital projects have come in on budget and to predicted timescales. Project managers are continuing to work with Morgan Sindall Construction and SUR to ensure identified defects are completed within the 12 month sign off phase.

The re-procurement of the leisure contract in 2017, which appointed Everyone Active as our chosen leisure provider for the next 10 years, to operate and manage our new leisure facilities, is expected to provide a surplus in funding of over £10 million to the council over this period.

(b) Risk Management

The leisure strategy capital development team kept a detailed risk register for all the council's major leisure schemes. The risk register was reported to the Leisure Strategy Board fortnightly and a monthly highlight report was produced for CMT.

Risks/Threats/ Opportunities	Current Controls	Risk Management Matrix Score	Future Controls
Everyone Active fail to achieve targeted performance and cannot make agreed payments	Monthly and quarterly meetings held to discuss performance with contractor	2	Ongoing monitoring of financial performance against contract
Everyone Active fail to adequately maintain new facilities	Bi-monthly maintenance visits using FM 180 facility management system by property services. Unannounced visits by client officer	2	Maintain current arrangements

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act implications in regard to this report

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Equality impact assessments have been prepared for areas where closure of facilities would potentially impact existing users e.g. ice users and the provision of a temporary rink.

(e) Workforce

The delivery of the leisure strategy has initiated a number of full and part time employment opportunities across all phases of the project including construction, new job opportunities in the leisure facilities working for Everyone Active and freelance coaching roles with the Active Slough team.

In addition to this Everyone Active run an apprentice programme in Slough offering eight placements a year for Slough residents to work whilst studying for level 2 / 3 qualifications in leisure management or fitness and health.

(f) Property

Arbour Park Community Sports Stadium is currently operated and managed by the council's building management team. The council is responsible for the full costs of operating and maintaining the building.

Under the leisure contract Everyone Active is responsible for the operating and full maintenance and repairs to The Centre and Langley Leisure Centre, Slough Ice Arena and Salt Hill Activity Centre. Their legal responsibilities are detailed in the comprehensive leisure contract and associated leases. Monitoring of their performance in regard to the management and care of the buildings is overseen by the Leisure Client Manager, Michael Shepherd, and routine inspections are carried out by mechanical and electrical specialists through property services.

(g) Carbon Emissions and Energy Costs

The Centre has received a BREEM energy rating of excellent and Arbour Park a good rating. The facilities that were designated as refurbishment schemes were not required to undertake BREEM assessment but all facilities have been awarded very good energy efficiency scores. A more detailed breakdown of the individual buildings is available on request.

5 Supporting Information

5.1 **Leisure Strategy**

The Slough leisure strategy, adopted in 2014, set out an ambitious five year programme to achieve four main priorities:

1. To provide new, quality core leisure facilities for Slough residents
2. To provide a network of improved and accessible free leisure facilities in neighbourhood parks and open spaces

3. To provide a comprehensive programme of accessible opportunities for local residents of all ages and abilities to participate in regular physical activity
4. To procure a new leisure operator to manage the new, core leisure facilities.

Governance for this corporate 'Gold' project was overseen by the Leisure Strategy Board, established in 2015 to monitor the progress of the £62 million capital improvement programme.

5.2 Capital programme

The leisure capital portfolio was managed and delivered in partnership with Slough Urban Renewal (SUR) with our chosen construction Partner Morgan Sindall Construction. This has resulted, over a four year construction programme, a network of state of the art leisure facilities.

- 5.3 Over this period Slough Borough Council's investment in the town's leisure offer has attracted much interest and praise. This has resulted in a number of awards for the designs of the buildings, visits from other developers and local authorities looking to develop their own offer, a visit from Sport England's national directors team and the new facilities being used for popular TV programmes and high profile national sports teams.
- 5.4 **Arbour Park Community Sports Stadium** had a two phased opening which enabled Slough Town Football Club to take up residency at the stadium for the 2017/18 football season. Phase 2 was completed in May 2017 with the opening of the first floor and 250 seater stand. The stadium was voted best non-league stadium of the year in 2017 and hosted the FA draw and televised the best FA Cup run for Slough Town FC through Sky Sports. The facility has a full community use programme hosting grass roots clubs for training and fixtures. It has also hosted national squads for training and fixtures too, including the Welsh Women's squad and England Under 18s.
- 5.5 **Slough Ice Arena** opened to the public in March 2018 and the official opening attracted over 3,000 visitors on the day to take part in skating and climbing sessions. The building was voted best South East community building of the year by LABC and has been shortlisted for the national awards to be announced in November 2019.

Over the last year of operation the facility has hosted the following:

- Dancing on Ice – Interview and selection / training sessions
- Who Bares Wins – ITV Cancer awareness programme
- Cinema on Ice
- Skate with Santa
- Build a snowman / snowing on ice session
- Christmas Gala (Everyone Active Figure Club)
- Hosted Slough Jets games, who have gone on to win the National Ice Hockey League 2

- 5.6 **Salt Hill Activity Centre** opened its doors to the public in June 2018 with the community open day attracting over 2,500 visitors who were able to use the multi activity centre for free throughout the day. The centre is a popular venue for families and in one weekend hosted over 20 birthday parties. Over the past year Berkshire

Fire Service have used the indoor caving system for training purposes.

5.7 **Langley Leisure Centre** opened its doors to the public in July 2018 with a formal opening attended by Olympic athlete and world record holder, Colin Jackson. The centre has proved to be a very popular facility for local users and has surpassed expected membership targets and usage.

5.8 **The Centre** opened its doors to the public in March 2019 involving a seamless closure of Montem Leisure Centre and the opening of the new facility. New membership for the facilities have exceeded targets and the new, modern facilities have been warmly received by the community.

5.9 **Current levels of usage of Everyone Active managed facilities**

In 2018/19; the first full operating year for Everyone Active, the following usage figures were recorded:

- 898,393 centre visits
- 2,085 swimmers taught every week
- 230,478 fitness visits
- 13,425 school swimmers annually
- 65,853 Ice skating visits
- 139,887 casual swimming visits
- 6,092 fitness members (annual and direct debit)
- 72,904 activity visits
- 711 customer comments
- The highest percentage of users is recorded as 16 years and under at 28%.
- The lowest percentage of users are aged 65+ at 5.4%
- 80% of fitness members have SL1, SL2 and SL3 post codes
- 55% of people with fitness membership have an SL3 postcode

Current projections for total usage in 2019/20 are estimated to be in excess of 1.2 million.

5.10 **New leisure contract**

Early in 2015 the council commenced its procurement programme to appoint a leisure operator to manage the new leisure facilities. After a twelve month procurement exercise Everyone Active were awarded a ten year contract, which commenced in June 2017. The new contract offers the council a far more favourable financial package, with the council able to recoup some of the investment it has made in its award winning leisure facilities, with an estimated saving to the council of over £10 million over the next ten years. The council has recruited a leisure client officer to monitor the contract and they meet monthly with the contractor in formal contract meetings. The contractor is required to produce quarterly performance reports and an annual business report.

5.11 **Neighbourhood programme**

Over the last five years sports facilities in parks and open spaces across the borough have seen significant investment including the installation of twenty six green gyms, seven new multi use games areas (MUGAs) a skate park, a parkour park, seven artificial cricket wickets, four cricket practice nets and a network of dedicated walking tracks.

The green gyms in particular have proved to be a very popular resource, which are

seeing greater usage across the borough. Salt Hill and Manor Park Recreation Ground also host the 'Big Community Workouts' weekly, based around the use of the green gyms, which is facilitated by qualified community coaches.

At seven of the green gym sites we have installed smart devices to measure usage. In the last ten months 63,943 hits have been recorded.

5.12 **Active Slough – sport and physical activity programme**

The Active Slough team over the last four years have offered a comprehensive and affordable activity programme of over 90 sessions a week to people of all ages and abilities, in accessible venues across the borough. An average of 1,250 participants engage with the Active Slough programme every week, covering Tots, Juniors, Teens, Adults and Seniors (our oldest participant is 91- regular attendee at classic aerobics) For 2019 we have already delivered over 5,000 hours of community sport and physical activity sessions through the Active Slough programme.

5.13 Highlights of the teams work over this period include:

- Introduced and set up Parkrun to Slough 2012/2013
- In July 2019 launched a brand new weekly Junior Parkrun in Salt Hill Park
- Developed Sloughs walking programme 2014
- Secured over £700K in external activity funding for targeted initiatives across the borough.
- Man V Fat programme development in Slough – 300kg lost and 150 men engaged in the programme since 2018
- Slough Netball club developed in 2017 engaging with over 50 women and girls weekly
- Half Marathon in 2018 – 800 registered
- Family 5k in 2018 - 300 participated
- Play Day event - held annually since 2012 now attracting over 4,000 people annually to the event
- Annual Girls football festival that engaged with over 150 girls from primary and secondary schools in Slough started in 2016
- Since forming in May 2017 over 475 people have participated in a run with Active Slough, through the summer our free weekly Tuesday running group at Upton Court Park averaged over 50 participants. We have recruited, trained and upskilled 12 volunteer "Run Leaders" who have contributed a combined 800 hours of volunteer time to the projects.
- Breaking Boundaries - start of the programme in 2018 which has:
 - 41 new community champions recruited during the past year
 - 272 volunteering hours undertaken by the community champions

- 126 sessions regular events delivered
- 120+ new regular participants
- 1307 one off participants
- Working with 13 partners including 7 community organisations
- 7 community events including Tea 20 and a Women and Girl's Cricket Festival
- The first ever girls cricket team at Slough CC

5.14 **Proposals for next phase of work**

Plans are currently in place in regard to the development of a new leisure strategy, which will set a vision for leisure in Slough for the next five years. The vision and content of the new strategy will be based on the 'Slough Health Beliefs' research project carried out by MEL, a community led research project to involve Slough residents in a local conversation on health and activity levels. The project set out to identify what residents believe they can do to keep physically and mentally well and prevent poor health in themselves and their loved ones, with support from the council.

The findings of the research will be delivered to the council in in a full report format in the late autumn.

6 **Comments of Other Committees**

Not applicable.

7 **Conclusion**

7.1 In 2014 the Council set out to deliver a highly ambitious five year leisure strategy which aimed to address the high levels of inactivity in our diverse communities across the borough. The strategy identified four key priorities as detailed in section 5.1 of this report.

The strategy has successfully delivered against the key priorities, giving the residents of Slough excellent sporting provision through the core leisure facilities and a network of green gyms and exercise provision, free to use in local neighbourhoods.

The new leisure strategy currently being developed through the 'Health Beliefs' research project will focus more on the wellbeing and health of our residents and how we can work in partnership with key stakeholders across the town to get all of Slough more active.

8 **Background Papers**

None.