
REPORT TO:	ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 14
DATE OF MEETING:	8 TH OCTOBER 2001	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	EXEMPT: Para 7
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	CHRIS MASON (5794)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	PROVISION OF NEW FACILITIES – ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ETWALL, HATTON, HILTON, NORTH WEST, REPTON AND WILLINGTON	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the contents of the report are noted by the Joint Management Committee (JMC).

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To outline progress with the bid to provide new facilities at Etwall Leisure Centre.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 Feedback from Sport England identified 2 main reasons for the failure of the initial bid for Lottery Funding. These were the lack of strategic justification and the amount of funding being sought from the Lottery. While some discussions have taken place regarding increasing the contributions of the main funding partners a great deal of expectation has been placed on a resolution of the 'strategic justification' issues.
- 3.2 An initial draft report has been received from Sport England on the first run of Derbyshire Facilities Planning Model (FPM). In terms of clearly identifying a strategic need this does not move the project any further forward. In the light of this information and delays in the refining of the FPM a meeting is being sought with senior officers from Sport England – East Midlands Region to seek their advice on the way forward.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 In April 2001 a Project Management Meeting was held at John Port School comprising representatives of all of the groups involved in the project. The main item on the agenda was a report that had been presented to South Derbyshire District Council's Leisure Services Committee. By way of a reminder a copy of this report is attached at Annexe A.
- 4.2 At the time it was reported that conversations with the regional office of Sport England indicated that it would be 3 to 6 months before new reliable data would be

available from further 'runs' of the Derbyshire FPM. Unfortunately, resource shortages at Sport England and other priorities have meant that no progress has been made in this area. The officer dealing with this is also not prepared, at this stage, to put a timescale on when it will be available.

- 4.3 The Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport and Recreation Forum (DPPSRF) have commissioned the FPM from Sport England. As a member of the Forum, South Derbyshire District Council have been provided with a **draft report** on the first run of the FPM. A copy of the summary of the report is attached at Annexe B. The report, while not moving us any further forward with the resubmission of the Lottery Application does, for the first time, provide more detailed background on why the initial application was unsuccessful.
- 4.4 The FPM is viewed very much as a baseline assessment that looks simply at sports hall and swimming pool provision within a 30-minute drive time. Both Sport England and the Facilities Planning Sub-Group of the DPPSRF accept the shortfalls of the model. A number of these were identified in the earlier report, particularly the weighting that was given to individual facilities (i.e. quality of facility, availability for community use etc.) and the impact of demographic change. The executive summary précisés these in points 6, 7 & 8. The draft summary of the report will be considered by the Facilities Planning Sub Group at a meeting on 4th October 2001. If available, a verbal report on the outcome of this meeting will be made at the meeting of the JMC.
- 4.5 Concurrently, the DPPSRF have also commissioned consultants KKP to produce a Facilities Strategy. This will, in many ways, put 'flesh on the bones' of the FPM and address some of the scenarios identified in the summary of the draft report on the FPM. (but not the population and weighting issues). It will explore facility requirements beyond sports hall and swimming pool provision and the impact on facility provision of sports development and governing body initiatives. KKP are working towards the end of October 2001 for the production of a first draft of this strategy.
- 4.6 The immediate way forward for the partnership is therefore still uncertain :
- The refinements to the FPM could eventually prove that the full scheme is justifiable
 - The FPM could actually make the situation less attractive as far as our application is concerned.
 - The Facilities Strategy could provide support for a new facility at Etwall based on information they receive from local clubs.
 - Main area of uncertainty in the project is the sports hall provision. Could a scheme with a smaller sports hall be more viable?
 - If the partnership funding contribution were increased to 50% would the project have any chance of success in its current form?
 - Does the New Opportunities Fund or other new initiatives offer any hope for funding the project?
- 4.7 In an attempt to obtain advice on the way forward a letter has been written to the Regional Director of Sport England seeking a meeting as a matter of urgency. Along with a number of other authorities representation has also been made through the DPPSRF to further refine the FPM at the earliest date possible.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 None at this stage

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 None from this report

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 None from this report

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 The promised refining of the FPM has not yet materialised. What has been made available is a draft summary of a report to be considered by a sub group of the DPPSRF. This group recognises the current shortfalls in the FPM but at this stage it is unclear when they will be resolved. As part of the process of prioritising facility requirements in Derbyshire the DPPSRF have also commissioned consultants to produce a Facilities Strategy for Derbyshire. The first draft of this is anticipated at the end of October 2001.
- 8.2 Clearly, the situation regarding re-submitting the bid in its present format is still uncertain. To help clarify the situation a letter has been sent to the Director of Sport England – East Midland Region seeking advice on the most appropriate way forward.

