

Report of The Director

‘PLACES LEISURE’ PERFORMANCE REPORT

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide the committee with a report on the performance of Places for People Leisure Management Ltd (Places Leisure) under its contract with the council for the operation of The Waendel Leisure Centre and Redwell Leisure Centre.

- 1.2 The key outcomes of the contract in the context of the borough’s PRIDE objectives are:
 - a) enhancing performance through partnership working,
 - b) enhancing the wellbeing of young people,
 - c) ensuring value for money services,
 - d) supporting the improvement of community facilities and
 - e) creating efficiencies through innovation in service delivery.

2 Executive summary

This paper describes the summary performance and activity for sports and leisure through the council’s agreement with Places Leisure in the first nine months of 2018-19 and forecasts activity for the remainder of the financial year.

3 Appendices

None

4 Proposed action:

The committee is invited to RESOLVE to:

- 4.1 **Note the position with regard to performance to date;**
- 4.2 **Identify any matters which it wishes to be brought to the attention of the service operators.**

5 Background

- 5.1 Places for People Leisure Ltd, now rebranded as Places Leisure, has been running the Redwell Leisure Centre under contract with the Borough Council, since October 2006 and the Waendel Leisure Centre since its opening in June 2007. Further extensions to the contract see Places for People Leisure Ltd continue to run the two centres on behalf of the council until 2028.

- 5.2 Regular officer meetings are held to discuss the progress of the contract but this call to committee provides the opportunity for members to discuss progress in the year to date and look in more depth at the various programmes that have taken place at both centres.

6 Discussion

- 6.1 The committee receives presentations from organisations who are either funded by the council, or who play an important part in the life of the borough.
- 6.2 Each presentation gives members an opportunity to learn more about the organisation and its impact on the borough. After the presentation there is a chance to ask questions of the presenter.
- 6.3 If any items of significance arise, members may wish to request a further report from a relevant officer or make a recommendation for action by a policy committee.
- 6.4 Since the last committee attendance in 2017, there have been a number of projects to improve the facilities at Waendel and Redwell leisure centres. These include repairs and improvements to the pool area, new sauna and steam room, an additional studio space and improved spin cycle and gym facilities at the Waendel Centre. Efforts at Redwell have centred on developing a 3G all weather surface playing pitch, with further consideration of building improvements to be investigated. It is intended that proposals for improving Redwell Leisure Centre will be brought before members during 2019.
- 6.5 Programmes and initiatives to encourage new visitors and increase the number of repeat visitors have continued this year across both the leisure centre sites with a number of initiatives that have taken place in partnership across the wider community.
- 6.6 There are still areas for project development, and officers meet representatives of Places Leisure and also NSport colleagues regularly to identify potential initiatives which will increase the use of the facilities.
- 6.7 Future development is also likely to focus more on the wider health and wellbeing agenda, as leisure centres and operators broaden the traditional sporting remit to work more with health providers and the voluntary sector in particular to encourage healthy living and physical and mental wellbeing.

7 Legal powers

- 7.1 The Local Authorities (Alternative Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2001 empower the council to establish one or more overview and scrutiny committees. Whilst the council no longer has a designated overview and scrutiny committee, the Partnerships and Performance Committee has been given the role of reviewing and monitoring the performance of council services and services provided on behalf of the council by external bodies. A local authority may invite persons other than members or officers of the authority to attend meetings of such a committee.

8 Financial and Value For Money Implications

None arising from this report. The council does not pay a management fee and a gain share arrangement is in place if an agreed financial threshold is met.

9 Risk Analysis

Nature of risk	Consequences if realised	Likelihood of occurrence	Control measures
Facilities and management not provided as per contract specification	Unsatisfactory service to the public	Low	Development of robust and appropriate monitoring systems
Inappropriate development of programme	Public dissatisfaction	Low	Evidence-based programme responding to needs of the community, including health and wellbeing needs
	Contract not delivered in line with Borough Council objectives	Low	

10 Implications for Resources

Monitoring of the contract is undertaken by the Community Support Service.

11 Implications for Stronger and Safer Communities

Leisure and sporting facilities provide a safe and controlled environment in which the community can undertake healthy and social activities. Programmes can provide diversionary activities to help reduce anti-social behaviour.

12 Implications for Equalities

Places for People Leisure Ltd have policies in place to ensure equality of opportunity, ensuring that activities and employment opportunities at their sites are accessible to the whole community. Positive programming increases participation amongst lesser represented sections of the community.

13 Author and contact officer

Gill Chapman, Principal Community Support Manager

14 Consultees

Places for People Leisure Management Ltd
Senior Management Team

15 Background papers

Contract with Places for People Leisure Management Ltd