

ITEM REFERRED FROM CABINET: 21 JULY 2020 - COVID-19 LEISURE CONTRACTS RECOVERY

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That recommendation 2.4 to Council contained in the Part 2 report entitled Covid-19 Leisure Contracts Recovery be agreed.

Minute regarding Part 1 Item

NB This report was introduced prior to consideration of the Part 2 report of the same name. The decision was taken following consideration of the Part 2 report of the same name.

The Executive Member for Environment and Leisure presented the report entitled Covid-19 Leisure Contracts Recovery and drew attention to the following:

- The Leisure Centre had been closed since the middle of March 2020;
- Stevenage Leisure Ltd had furloughed many of their staff;
- They had made significant reductions in the services available;
- It was clear that the outdoor pools would be unable to open this year;
- The indoor pool was opening on 25 July 2020 with safety measure in place;
- It was expected that some customers would not return for some time;
- Stevenage Leisure had produced a plan detailing the level of services that could be provided.

The meeting moved into Part 2 at this point.

When the meeting returned to Part 1 the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager undertook a roll call to ensure that Members could hear and be heard.

It was moved by Councillor Steve Jarvis, seconded by Councillor Ian Albert and:

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cabinet note and agree the approach set out in SLL's recovery plan and support SLL using the Open Book approach as recommended in the PPN 02/20, and further support included within LGA Options for councils in supporting leisure providers through Covid-19 Guidance from service closure;
- (2) That Cabinet note and agree that Officers will continue to work with SLL to agree ways in which income can be maximised and costs minimised whilst ensuring that operations continue to meet COVID-19 and other safety requirements.

REASON FOR DECISION: To seek approval for the SLL recovery plan and a phased approach toward recovery allowing flexibility through delegation, to ensure business continuity for the leisure contracts and for them to survive beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

NB: The report and full Minutes can be viewed here:

<https://democracy.north-herts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=2402&Ver=4>

Minute Regarding Part 2 Item

NB This report was considered prior to the decision being taken on the Part 1 report of the same name.

The Executive Member for Environment and Leisure presented the Part 2 report entitled Covid-19 Leisure Contracts Recovery.

The Managing Director gave Members further details.

The following Members took part in the debate and asked questions:

- Councillor David Levett (Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee).

The Service Director-Place responded to the questions asked.

It was moved by Councillor Steve Jarvis, seconded by Councillor Martin Stears-Handscorn and:

RESOLVED: That the recommendations contained in the Part 2 report entitled Covid-19 Leisure Contracts Recovery be agreed.

REASON FOR DECISION: To seek approval for the SLL recovery plan and a phased approach toward recovery allowing flexibility through delegation, to ensure business continuity for the leisure contracts and for them to survive beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.