



<b>Service Delivery Committee</b>	<b>Tuesday, 19 January 2016</b>	<b>Matter for Information</b>
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**Title:** **Leisure Contract - Progress Report**

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## **1. Introduction**

This report provides an update for Members on the Council's Leisure Contract.

## **2. Recommendations**

That Members note the information provided within the report and endorse and promote the leisure facilities to the wider audience.

## **3. Information**

### **3.1. Wigston Pool & Fitness Centre**

The new Wigston Pool & Fitness Centre opened to the public on Saturday 12 December 2015. The first weekend of activities provided the following attendances:

- 800 people attended swimming lessons;
- 800 spectators;
- 700 'general' swimmers;
- 500 people touring the gym;
- Of these, 100 people took out a membership; and
- Approx 2,800 in total through the door during the full weekend.

The centre was very well received by the community. A number of positive comments were made including:

- 'Glad to see cubicle showers in both the wet and dry changing facilities';
- 'The gym kit is brilliant and there is more than the old Gym'; and
- 'The quality of finish of the building is very good'.

One area of concern was the lack of easy access steps into the pool. Unfortunately the portable steps from Oadby pool did not fit. A specialist company is currently making adjustments to the steps; once this has been completed and the appropriate holes drilled onto poolside the steps will be back in operation.

Due to a pipe work failure over the Christmas period, the pool was forced to close for a few days until the contractors rectified the problem. Swimmers were signposted to Parklands pool to swim free of charge. Buckingham Pools and Morgan Sindall are producing a report detailing what went wrong and why and also providing some mitigation actions in order to prevent this happening again.

### **3.2. Parklands Leisure Centre**

The new pool at Parklands Leisure Centre opened on Saturday 19 December. Details of attendances were as follows:

- 500 general swimmers;
- 50 people used the gym on the workout for free offer;
- 25 people took out a new membership; and
- Approx 550 additional people through the door during the weekend.

There were many positive comments about the new pool including:

- 'Lovely swimming pool, not as claustrophobic as the old Oadby pool';
- 'Nice open changing facilities, great that I can get changed with my kids';
- 'The overall quality and finish of the pool is very good';
- 'What a fabulous addition to what is already a great centre'; and
- 'The graduated steps into the pool are a fantastic addition'.

The site was very busy, particularly the new cafe, which provides another new facility to the site, for the benefit of the community.

### **3.3. Final Works - Parklands**

Due to extra works on the diversions and fascias the contractors did not complete all the 'external' works by the time Parklands pool opened on 19 December. The contractors are currently completing the side elevation fascias (above the Function Suite) and some of the parking bays which are currently located under the contractors mobile offices in the yard. In addition, some landscaping and seeding work will be completed in the growing season.

### **3.4. Formal Opening of the New Leisure Facilities**

Double Olympic gold medal winner, Rebecca Adlington, together with the Mayor of Oadby and Wigston, Councillor Latif Darr, will formally open the new Wigston Pool & Fitness Centre and the new Pool at the refurbished Parklands Leisure Centre on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

The opening events will include the opportunity for our younger residents to try out different types of swimming, including water polo, fast swimming and synchronised swimming. Rebecca will be joined by fellow swimming athletes James Goddard, Craig Figes, Fran Leighton, Vicki Lucass and Zoe Cooper, who will lead the sessions. The day will also be hosted by 2004 Olympic bronze medallist and BBC sports commentator, Steve Parry.

### **3.5. Old Oadby Pool**

The building was closed on Friday 11 December 2015. It was agreed by Members at Council on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December that the Oadby Swimming Pool building will be secured and will not be available for any alternative use in its present state. The Council will be looking at all of the potential options for the site in the new year, and as part of that, we will come to a view on how best to take account of the views of the local community. Ellis Park will remain open and accessible to all.

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<b>Implications</b>	
Financial	The finance department monitor the management fee payments and interim payments for the new build.
Legal	No significant implications.
Risk	CR2 - Key supplier/partnership failure. CR5 - Effective utilisation of assets.
Equalities	No significant implications.