

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
2 March 2023

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor David Selby
Cabinet Member for a More Prosperous Powys

SUBJECT: Question from David Balmer-Cribb

What progress has the PCC made in reviewing the Leisure Centres in the County and putting in place a plan to improve facilities and ensure their long-term future? Leisure Centres are right at the heart of remote communities providing education, social interaction and wellbeing. As part of this question, I refer to the review promised in December 2022.

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/13732/Statement-on-a-review-of-leisure-services>

Response

The planning stages of the comprehensive Leisure Review has commenced, with draft Terms of Reference for the Project Group established. The ToR will be considered by a Scrutiny Working Group, due to be established within coming weeks. The Leisure Review will have a number of officers who will make up a project board and will -

- Agree the scope and intended outcomes / outputs of the review.
- Co-ordinate the work and the agreed workstreams.
- Support and progress the Leisure Review process in Powys County Council – providing consistent detail to inform the review and any recommendations.
- Be open and transparent with regards all undertakings, demonstrating positive, proactive, professional and appropriate collaboration / sharing of information.
- Manage and provide consistent, appropriate communications through agreed channels.
- Ensure public engagement is undertaken in a timely and professional manner, involving a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties.
- Raise issues as soon as they arise and work collaboratively to reach a solution.
- Seek assurance / challenge from Council Scrutiny on a periodic basis.
- Ensure roles and responsibilities and levels of commitment to the project are understood by those involved/required.
- Escalate matters to senior leadership within the Council.
- Regularly report to Powys involving Freedom Leisure where appropriate.

The purpose/outcome of the review is to - determine the long-term, sustainability of leisure provision in Powys and ensure fit for purpose facilities for communities in the

future - which will support, contribute and align to the Corporate Plan's objectives, outcomes and priorities.

It is also intended that a full public engagement exercise is undertaken over coming months, with details of how to contribute to this being available shortly. The timescale for the project is expected to last for around seven months with options / recommendations presented to Cabinet. Further consultation will then be undertaken with all interested parties and stakeholders.