

LEADER'S BRIEFING

Chorley Leisure Centres - Approval to Bid for funding through the Public Centre Decarbonisation Scheme



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Meeting date: 2nd October 2023

Portfolio: (Please tick relevant item)

Economic Development and Public Service Reform	
Resources	X
Early Intervention	
Homes and Housing	
Public Protection	
Streetscene Services	
Customer, Advice and Streetscene Services	

Executive Member comments/decision:

- 1.

Shared Senior Management Team comments/recommendations:

1. To approve officers to progress with the relevant approvals and associated application stages to seek funding through the PSDS.

Issues for discussion:

2. To approve next steps to enable the Council to commence the submission of a grant application for funding through Phase 3 of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), this will enable the council to address the vision and objectives to reduce our carbon footprint in line with the ambition to be net zero by 2030. This will allow decarbonisation works to be undertaken at the three leisure centres, All Seasons, Clayton Green & Brinscall Baths.
3. To note a capital contribution requirement of up to 12.5% of the overall funding awarded. If funding is awarded further approval will be sought for the Council's contribution.
4. To note an additional capital contribution will be required across All Seasons and Clayton Green leisure centres for backlog maintenance, any associated works required to be undertaken with the decarbonisation scheme and for any potential opportunities to diversify the leisure offer across the centres to generate additional revenue, a further approval will be sought.

Report/Information (attached) (if needed):

5. The council's priorities as set out for our leisure provision are to support the environmental agenda and to promote healthy living and social inclusion.
6. The council have also committed to net zero and it is very important therefore that matters in our control are considered. This includes our built assets with leisure centres being the biggest energy consumers across the council estate.
7. In pursuit of the Council corporate objective of net-carbon zero by 2030 and the announcement of heat decarbonisation grant funding the Council has commissioned a consultant to prepare decarbonisation plans. A grant application is required to be submitted for funding to allow decarbonisation works to be undertaken across the three Leisure Centres.
8. The decarbonisation plans will identify the current energy usage and identify measures to cut the carbon footprint of the buildings, this centred around removal of gas and the use of alternative energy sources for heating. The plans will likely include the installation of solar panels, LED lighting and improved heat exchanges, pumps etc to off-set increased electricity costs.
9. Separate to but connected to the decarbonisation works, a historic lack of investment has been identified to the capital and maintenance work programmes to improve the leisure centres following the management of leisure coming back to council control. Condition surveys have been commissioned across the leisure centres to identify backlog maintenance, fabric improvements and any associated works and costs required to be undertaken with the decarbonisation scheme.
10. A feasibility report has been commissioned to review the Leisure offer and demand across All Seasons and Clayton Green to identify diversification for viable and sustainable changes which will increase the revenue for the Council whilst improving the leisure offer for Chorley residents.
11. Final designs and costs will be agreed prior to the bid application being submitted.
12. If successful a further report will be prepared identifying the full scheme costs including PSDS, match funding, backlog maintenance, fabric improvements, any associated works and costs required to be undertaken with the decarbonisation scheme and diversification works. The costs will be supported by an economic model and business plan to justify the Council's investment.

Key questions/decisions required:

13. Approve officers to progress with the Executive Member approval and associated application stages to seek funding through the PSDS.