

# Leisure Strategy Task Group Scoping

<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	20 April
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Howard Woollaston
<b>Date Head of Service agreed report:</b> <i>(for Corporate Board)</i>	06 April 2021
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed report:</b>	11 April 2021
<b>Report Author:</b>	Gordon Oliver
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	N/A

## 1 Purpose of the Report

This report sets out a proposal for a task group, which would be established by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission to review the draft Leisure Strategy, once it has been prepared.

## 2 Recommendation(s)

To approve the proposed scope and terms of reference for a task and finish group to review the Council’s draft Leisure Strategy.

## 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	There are no direct financial implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	There are no direct human resources implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Legal:</b>	There are no direct legal implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Risk Management:</b>	There are no risks inherent to setting up the Task Group.

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<b>Property:</b>	There are no direct property implications associated with setting up the Task Group.			
<b>Policy:</b>	The Task Group will review the Council's draft Leisure Strategy and may make such recommendations as it considers appropriate.			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		There are no direct equalities implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>		X		There are no direct environmental implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Health Impact:</b>		X		There are no direct health implications associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>ICT Impact:</b>		X		There are no direct ICT impacts associated with setting up the Task Group.

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<b>Digital Services Impact:</b>		X		There are no direct Digital Services impacts associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Council Strategy Priorities:</b>		X		There are no direct implications for the Council Strategy Priorities or Core Business associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Core Business:</b>		X		
<b>Data Impact:</b>		X		There are no impacts on the rights of data subjects associated with setting up the Task Group.
<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	Sarah Clarke – Service Director Strategy & Governance Catalin Bogos – Performance, Research & Consultation Manager			

## 4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 At its meeting on 9 February 2021, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission (OSMC) agreed to set up a task and finish group to review the draft Leisure Strategy.
- 4.2 The intention is for the task and finish group to review the draft Leisure Strategy in the light of current guidance and best practice, and evidence to be gathered through a series of meetings with officers and other key stakeholders.
- 4.3 A draft scope and terms of reference for the task and finish group is set out in Appendix A for which approval is sought.
- 4.4 It is proposed that the task and finish group will report its findings and recommendations to a future OSMC meeting (provisionally programmed for 6 July 2021). Once agreed, these recommendations will be reported to the Council's Executive.

## 5 Supporting Information

### Introduction

- 5.1 This report sets out a proposed scope and terms of reference for a task and finish group which would be created by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission for the purposes of reviewing West Berkshire Council's draft Leisure Strategy.

### Background

- 5.2 The draft Leisure Strategy went out to public consultation between 8 October and 19 November 2020. It was initially due to be considered by Executive on 14 January, but this has been pushed back to allow for further development of the strategy in response to the feedback received.
- 5.3 At its meeting on 9 February 2021, OSMC indicated that they wanted to support the development of this key strategy by engaging in pre-decision scrutiny. OSMC resolved to set up a task and finish group for this purpose.

### Proposals

- 5.4 A scope and terms of reference for the task and finish group has been drafted and is included in Appendix A.
- 5.5 It is proposed that the group will act as a 'critical friend', reviewing the draft Leisure Strategy, taking account of current guidance and best practice case studies, as well as evidence gathered through a series of meetings with key stakeholders.
- 5.6 Particular areas of interest include:
- Checking that the consultation and engagement processes have been sufficiently wide-ranging and that the responses are representative of the full range of sports and leisure activities and of the wider community;
  - Ensuring that the draft strategy and subsequent delivery plan are based on high quality, local evidence about: provision and demand for local leisure services, now and in the future; and any barriers to local citizens participating in sports and leisure activities;
  - Ensuring that there is a clear rationale and business case for proposed major investments in sports and leisure facilities and key contracts to be tendered within the lifetime of the strategy.
- 5.7 The Task Group will report its findings and recommendations to a future OSMC meeting.

## 6 Other options considered

- 6.1 Alternative options considered include:
- (a) For OSMC not to review the strategy – this option was discounted because:
- the Strategy is of particular interest to local residents and stakeholders; and
  - the Strategy will incur substantial expenditure relating to key contracts and capital investments.
- (b) For OSMC to review the strategy as part of the normal business of a future meeting – this option was discounted on the grounds that a more in-depth review is required than could be achieved at a single meeting.

## 7 Conclusion

7.1 Setting up a task and finish group would allow for robust scrutiny of the draft Leisure Strategy before it goes to the Executive for approval.

## 8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix A – Draft Scope and Terms of Reference

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### Corporate Board's recommendation

- The timescales for preparation of the Leisure Strategy are still to be agreed, so timescales should not be specified in the report.
- The Task Group needs clear objectives for their review.

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### Background Papers:

[Leisure Strategy 2021-2031 \(Pre-Consultation Version\)](#)

### Subject to Call-In:

Yes:  No:

The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position	<input type="checkbox"/>
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission or associated Task Groups within preceding six months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Item is Urgent Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report is to note only	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Wards affected:** All wards

### Officer details:

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## Leisure Strategy Task Group Scoping

### Document Control

Document Ref:		Date Created:	
Version:		Date Modified:	
Author:			
Owning Service			

### Change History

Version	Date	Description	Change ID
1			
2			

*Overview and Scrutiny Review Matrix*

**Review Topic: Leisure Strategy**

**Timescale:**  
**Start: TBC**  
**Finish: TBC**

**Review Rationale:**

1. The draft Leisure Strategy went out to consultation in autumn 2020 and is due to be adopted in 2021 – the Task and Finish Group will undertake pre-decision scrutiny.
2. The Task and Finish Group will review the consultation and its responses to ensure the Council has looked sufficiently broadly across the District.
3. The draft strategy needs to be reviewed, ensuring that it and the subsequent delivery plan are based on high quality, local evidence about the provision of and demand for local leisure facilities, now and in the future.
4. There are proposals for major investments in sports and leisure facilities (e.g. Newbury Lido) and tendering of key contracts within the lifetime of the strategy, which must have a clear rationale and business case.
5. The Task and Finish Group will make comments / recommendations for further work and / or changes to the strategy prior to going to Executive for adoption.

**Key Questions:**

1. Does the Draft Leisure Strategy achieve all of its objectives?
2. Has the Council consulted widely enough in preparing the strategy, including community groups and seldom heard communities?
3. Do we have a clear picture of current and future demand for / usage of / satisfaction with local leisure facilities across the full spectrum of sports and leisure activities, based on high quality, local evidence?
4. Do we have a clear picture of any barriers to local citizens participating in sports and leisure activities and will the strategy be effective in addressing these?
5. How popular / well-used are local leisure assets such as the Newbury Lido and the Dolphin Centre in Pangbourne?
6. How effective has local stakeholder engagement been in informing the development of the strategy and associated major investment proposals (e.g. Newbury Lido), and is there a clear business case for these investments?

**Review Membership:**  
TBC (4 members)

**Chairman:** TBC

**Vice-Chairman:** TBC

**Lead Officer:** Gordon Oliver

## Leisure Strategy Task Group Scoping

### Information Required:

- Draft Leisure Strategy
- Consultation Report
- Evidence Base
- Leisure Programme

### Witnesses:

- Matt Pearce (Service Director – Communities and Wellbeing)
- Jim Sweeting (Sports and Leisure Manager)
- Others TBC