

## Growth Committee

13 October 2016

### Kingston Indoor Sports & Leisure Facilities Strategy

Report by the Interim Head of Culture

#### Purpose

To approve the Kingston Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy (2016-2028).

#### Recommendations of the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Identity

To **resolve** that the Kingston Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy (2016-2028) (attached as Annex 1) is adopted.

#### Key Points

- A. Kingston has an aspiration, and need, to consider its facilities planning, particularly in the context of the fact it has an ageing stock of leisure facilities.
- B. This strategy was written by specialist sport and leisure consultancy, Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP). Both the Assessment Report and the Strategy have been prepared in accordance with the guidance from Sport England contained in the document 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities (ANOG), December 2014. This recommended approach helps LAs and other potential users to understand the current and future facility needs in an area and the adequacy of provision to meet these needs. This will take account of the range of providers; the importance of education, private and voluntary sector provision and, under the duty to co-operate, cross boundary supply and demand issues
- C. The strategy is not based upon detailed technical assessments of the buildings, plant etc, nor does it address other wider issues such as parking needs or travel plans to each of the centres . This detail will be considered elsewhere in the development process as we take forward the recommendations.
- D. The Strategy provides clear direction to all partners so that together, we can plan and develop the more modern, efficient and sustainable range of community based sport and leisure facilities that Kingston requires.
- E. This is necessary to ensure that residents have the opportunity to be physically active and healthier, and where appropriate develop their sporting ambitions within their local community.

#### Context

1. The key drivers for having an Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy are: The fabric and plant at Kingfisher Leisure Centre and the Malden Centre are showing their age, and both facilities are considered to be coming to the end of their lifespan.

2. The layouts of Tolworth Recreation Centre and Kingfisher Leisure Centre do not tend to support ease of use nor economies of scale.
3. The ancillary facilities at Kingsmeadow Athletics and Fitness Centre are not commensurate with the quality of the athletics track facilities.
4. The Council has an ambition to grow its cultural infrastructure as an integral part of its proposed developments.
5. The rising age profile of the population are likely to lead to increased demand for facilities during the daytime (when much of the education stock is inaccessible to the public).
6. We need to review how we intend to offer leisure facilities in the future, the communities we serve and our links with the wider health and wellbeing, obesity and social care agendas, taking into account the increasing financial restraints we face and the health challenges posed by an ageing population.
7. Offering facilities and programmes of activity which contribute to; reducing health inequalities across the Borough for all ages, local economic development, supporting and promoting active lifestyles and increasing participation in sport and physical activity to allow residents to live longer, healthier, happier lives.
8. To have a robust evidence base upon which to be able to apply for external funding such as Sport England's Strategic Capital Programme which complement wider development plans .

### **Proposal and Options**

9. Replace Kingfisher Leisure Centre with a strategically significant community sport and wellbeing hub. This will encompass a modern fit for purpose community flagship leisure facility in the heart of Kingston, and integrate a range of community services in one place.
10. Aligned to the anticipated housing growth in New Malden, and the requirement for new facilities (due to the dated Malden Centre), develop plans for a community sport and wellbeing hub which enhances current levels of facilities and co-locates a range of services (taking account of any new school build in the area, as necessary and the ambitions outlined in the Cocks Crescent Supplementary Planning Document)
11. Investigate the potential of a new strategic community sports hub, incorporating both wet and dry-side facilities, which will serve residents in the South of the Borough that will integrate a range of community services in one place.
12. Replace ancillary facilities at Kingsmeadow Athletics and Fitness Centre, to ensure that it supports the wider health and wellbeing agenda, as well as competitive athletes who use the facility. Consider co-location of other activities which will lead to increased footfall and help its sustainability

13. As part of the investment in major leisure facilities, consider the potential to combine/include a combat sports/martial arts facility due to the high participation rates in several such sports in the Borough.
14. To work with Education to ensure that any improvements to sports facilities in schools are accompanied by the establishment of meaningful community use agreements.
15. To work with selected schools to increase their availability for community use.
16. Use the development of (new) facilities as a catalyst for requiring the Council's leisure management contractor to adopt a wider focus on health inequalities.

### **Consultations**

17. The recommendations for the strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the strategy

### **Timescale**

18. This strategy sets out an ambition to deliver the recommendations in the next twelve years from 2016 - 2028

### **Resource Implications**

19. The preparation and production of the indoor sports and leisure facilities strategy has been undertaken within existing budgets.
20. The Strategy promotes attracting external funding through partnerships locally, regionally and nationally.
21. There will be financial implications when considering the recommendations, colleagues in finance are aware of this strategy and were consulted as part of the process.

### **Legal Implications**

22. There will be legal implications when considering the recommendations to build new facilities, and in particular renegotiating the current leisure contract we have with Place for People Leisure, that is due to expire in 2021.
23. Colleagues in Legal will be contacted and involved in the implementation of the recommendations.

### **Risk Assessment**

24. The impact of the ambitions set out in the Cocks Crescent Supplementary Planning Document needs to be taken into consideration, in relation to the recommendation relating to the Malden Centre.

## **Equalities Impact Assessment**

25. A full EQIA has been completed.

## **Road Network Implications**

26. There will be road network implications that will need to be addressed when considering the recommendations to build new facilities.

## **Environmental Implications**

27. There will be environmental implications that will need to be addressed when considering the recommendations to build new facilities.

**Background papers held by author** - Sue Gregory-Johnson, Sports & Leisure Commissioning Manager, Kingston Sports & Leisure [sue.johnson@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:sue.johnson@kingston.gov.uk) 020 8547 5212

- None other than those referred to in this report

OR

- List of reports/documents