

Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	24TH JULY 2023
Heading:	HUCKNALL LEISURE CENTRE CAR PARK EXTENSION
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR CHRISTOPHER HUSKINSON, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR LEISURE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING
Ward/s:	ALL HUCKNALL WARDS
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	YES

Purpose of Report

Subject to consultation outcome, to recommend the allocation of funding for a car park extension at Hucknall Leisure Centre.

Recommendation(s)

Subject to consultation outcome, to allocate funding for a car park extension at Hucknall Leisure Centre.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To ensure that there is adequate parking provision for the leisure centre to meet growing demand.

Alternative Options Considered

Not to allocate funding – rejected, the extension is necessary due to the sustained increase in leisure centre users.

Detailed Information

Works have now been completed for the second swimming pool at Hucknall Leisure Centre with the opening event held on 15th July, providing a fantastic new facility for the local community.

Car parking capacity was reviewed at the project inception but at that time, based on existing and predicted attendances no additional need was identified.

However, since that time attendances have risen significantly and are now 20% higher than previously. With this increase and the predicted usage of the new pool there is a need to consider additional car parking at the site. Initial plans have been drawn up which rationalise the existing layout and create additional spaces to the side of the centre, adjacent to the new learner pool on land owned by the Council. This will take up some of the grassed area, including where the redundant adiZone is located. However, there will still be sufficient space for the play area and fencing between the two areas will remain. The play area will also be refurbished once Section 106 funds become available.

Due to the potential sensitivities with the proposal, full consultation and engagement will be undertaken with ward members and local residents prior to submission of a planning application.

During the winter months when demand is highest there were a number of complaints regarding parking, including inconsiderate parking and blocking of the adjacent footpath, forcing pedestrians to walk through the car park. There were also issues with leisure centre users parking on adjacent residential streets.

The introduction of a Parking Order at the site later in the year will help to address some of these issues but further measures are required. This will include installing bollards along the footpath to prevent vehicles going onto the pavement. This work will be undertaken as part of the improvements to the main car park. The current layout is poor and space will be re-orientated so that it is easier to navigate and for drivers to see where spaces are available.

It is intended to deliver the scheme prior to the New Year when membership numbers and usage are at their highest.

Initial development work has identified a cost of between £600k - £750k and it is therefore recommended that up to £750,000 be allocated to support delivery of the project.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Support the Health and Happiness corporate priority through: Strategic Leisure: 1. Complete the Leisure Transformation Programme, maximising the wellbeing benefits whilst reducing the cost, 3. Maximise wellbeing outcomes in the new Leisure Operating Contract

Legal:

The Legal Team and Executive Director of Governance are actively supporting and advising in relation to all Regeneration projects where required.

Where required specialist external legal advice is being obtained to advise on the funding programmes to ensure all risks to the Council are fully considered. [LE 14/07/2023]

Finance: Costs to be funded from Capital Receipts of £400k and £350k prudential borrowing. [PH 17/07/2023].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	No implications
General Fund – Capital Programme	Up to £750,000
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	No implications
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	No implications

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Programme budget pressures from market changes.	Risk is mitigated by the due diligence work undertaken and approved through a gateway process. Monitoring of market trends and budget forecasting to reduce risks.
Resourcing and delivery risks associated with multiple project/programme delivery	Corporate Risk identified. Appointment and engagement of staff and consultants to support the programmes where necessary. Project Management for each programme.

Human Resources:

No HR issues identified.

Environmental/Sustainability:

Sustainable elements will be incorporated to the design where appropriate.

Equalities:

No issues identified for this report, the existing car park and proposed extension are at the same level as the centre entrance.

Other Implications:

Not applicable.

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable.

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable.

Background Papers

Not applicable.

Report Author and Contact Officer

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