

Report to Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting: 23 June 2009

Subject: Former Leisure Task & Finish Panel

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Committee Secretary: A Hendry



Recommendation:

- (1) To include within this Panel's Terms of Reference those from the former Leisure Task & Finish Panel relating to:**
- (a) the Waltham Abbey Sports Centre and**
 - (b) the monitoring of the Youth Initiatives Scheme and Play Strategy**
- (2) To not include within this Panel's Terms of Reference the evaluation of the provision of sporting facilities as part of the development of the Epping Forest College**

1. Members will be aware that Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 2nd of June, wound up the Leisure Task and Finish Panel and transferred its outstanding work to this Panel. The Terms of Reference for the Leisure Task & Finish Panel are attached and this report discusses the progress being made and makes recommendations for merging the Terms of Reference with the existing ones for this Panel.

2. Given the recent decision by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to refer the proposal to provide a new sports hall at the Waltham Abbey Sports Swimming Pool to the Cabinet meeting in July, the work of the Task & Finish Panel is essentially complete at this time. However, if later in the year (probably September) approval is given for the scheme to proceed, it is likely that this Panel will be asked to oversee the project and report to Overview & Scrutiny and Cabinet accordingly. It is therefore suggested that the former Terms of Reference be included within those of this Panel. **(Recommendation (1)(a))**

3. Within the former Panel's terms of reference there are two further issues:
- (i) the monitoring of the Youth Initiatives Scheme and Play Strategy; and
 - (ii) the evaluation of, with the Epping Forest College, options for the provision of community sporting facilities as part of the on-going development of the college.

With respect to item (i) this work is continuing and it will be necessary for the Panel to receive reports at future meetings. **(Recommendation (1)(b))**

With respect to item (ii), it is unlikely at this time that the College will be actively pursuing the provision of leisure/sports facilities as part of current developments. On that basis there are no immediate plans to prepare any reports for the Panel and Members may therefore wish to delete that element of the Terms of Reference on the basis that in the event circumstances change, consent can be sought from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to reinstate it. **(Recommendation (2))**

4. There are no resource implications since the work of the former Leisure & Task Finish Panel had already been considered within current budget allocations.