

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/095/2005-06.
Date of meeting: 19 December 2005.



Portfolio: Leisure

Subject: Leisure Portfolio Monitoring Report April to September 2005/06.

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Recommendations:

That, for the period April 2005 to September 2005, the monitoring report for the Leisure Portfolio be noted.

Introduction:

1. The Cabinet has asked for regular reports on the ongoing budget position for the Leisure Portfolio.
2. This report is the second Leisure Portfolio monitoring report for 2005/06 and shows the position for Leisure generally and for leisure facilities in particular, for the first half year to 30 September 2005.

Leisure Portfolio – Overall Outturn:

3. The table below summarises the financial position for the Portfolio as a whole for the first half year to 30 September, comparing the actual position to the original estimates. Figures in the final two columns shown in brackets represent an underspend or an over-achievement of income; those without, represent an overspend or under achievement of income.

Leisure Portfolio	Original Estimate 2005/06 £000	Original Estimate Month 6 £000	Actual Expend Month 6 £000	Variance from Original £000	Actual Month 6 2004/05 £000
Leisure Facilities	3,047	1,643	1,643	0	1,565
All Weather Pitch/ Loughton Leisure Centre Development	100	66	86	20	24
Arts and Museum	699	352	327	(25)	355
North Weald Centre	(273)	(120)	(175)	(55)	(171)
Sports Development & Other	623	301	269	(32)	287
Parks & Grounds	648	318	308	(10)	274
Net Expenditure	4,844	2,560	2,458	(102)	2,334

4. The table shows that the portfolio as a whole is underspent by £102,000 as at 30 September 2005. The actual expenditure for the same period in 2004/05 is shown for information purposes.

5. The leisure facilities show no budget variation on net expenditure, although this is composed of an expenditure underspend of £94,000 and an income shortfall of £94,000. The leisure facilities are dealt with in more detail in the next section.
6. Most of the other service areas show underspends to varying degrees. The Museum shows a saving on salaries and Community Arts a saving on materials and on payments to artists. North Weald Centre has an underspend on maintenance and electricity, combined with an overachievement of income relating to events run at the airfield. Sports Development shows savings on staff costs. The underspends on parks and grounds relates to underspends on tree, grounds and building maintenance, which will fall in line with the budget by the end of the year.
7. Loughton Leisure Centre Development costs are overspent by £25,000. A separate report detailing the circumstances and requesting a supplementary estimate is being prepared by the Head of Leisure.

Leisure Facilities Outturn:

8. The table below shows the gross expenditure, gross income and net expenditure to 30 September 2005 for the leisure facilities, broken down by centre. The actual expenditure to 30 September 2004 is shown for comparison.

	Original Estimate Month 6 £000	Actual Expend Month 6 £000	Variance from Original £000	Actual Month 6 2004/05 £000
Gross Expenditure				
Loughton Leisure Centre	1,175	1,195	20	1,142
Epping Sports Centre	724	671	(53)	619
Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool	562	573	11	516
Waltham Abbey Sports Centre	228	209	(19)	204
Ongar Sports Centre	519	466	(53)	444
Total	3,208	3,114	(94)	2,925
Gross Income				
Loughton Leisure Centre	629	627	2	571
Epping Sports Centre	354	311	43	312
Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool	248	257	(9)	221
Waltham Abbey Sports Centre	58	43	15	50
Ongar Sports Centre	276	233	43	229
Total	1,565	1,471	94	1,383
Net Expenditure				
Loughton Leisure Centre	546	568	(22)	571
Epping Sports Centre	370	360	10	307
Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool	314	316	(2)	295
Waltham Abbey Sports Centre	170	166	4	154
Ongar Sports Centre	243	233	10	215
Total	1,643	1,643	0	1,542

9. The variation on expenditure amounts to an underspend of £94,000. All three centres that show an underspend have savings on buildings maintenance, with the largest underspend being at Ongar (£34,000). Epping Sports Centre also has a £9,000 underspend on equipment expenditure (new and hired) and a £16,000 underspend on employee related costs.

10. The income variation amounts to £94,000. Of this around £32,000 is due to the time lag between income being received at the centres and appearing on the finance system. The remainder based on the current profiling represents a shortfall. A major part of this relates to the partial closure of Waltham Abbey Sports Centre for fourteen weeks, leading to an estimated loss of income of £16,000 as at 30 September (£19,000 at 14 October, when it re-opened fully)
11. The figures reported above represent the direct services within Leisure. As well as these there are support services and an employee related cost centre, which showed savings of £60,000 as at 30 September. The majority of this amount relates to savings on salary costs. After this has been taken into account, the actual underspend on Leisure amounts to £162,000.

Conclusion:

12. The position at Month 6 for Leisure shows an underspend of £162,000. The bulk of the underspend relates to salary costs and to various types of maintenance costs. There is also some shortfall on income, although some of this relates to timing differences. The situation should continue to be monitored carefully.

Resource implications:

Budget Provision: As set out in the report.

Personnel: None.

Land: None.

Community Plan/BVPP Reference: N/A.

Relevant Statutory Powers: N/A.

Background Papers: None.

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: None.

Key Decision Reference (if required): N/A.