

## Request by Member for Scrutiny Review



Please complete the form below to request consideration of your issue by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Proposers Name:</b> Councillor Chris Whitbread	<b>Date of Request</b> 6 March 2006
<b>Supporting Councillors (if any):</b> Task and Finish Panel on Leisure	
<b>Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised:</b> <u>Future Management of Waltham Abbey Sports Centre</u>  The Dual Use Agreement with King Harold School is due to expire in September 2007. The Council in liaison with the School and County, will need to determine their respective future roles and the appropriate level of service.	
<b>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Public Interest Justification:</b>  The 30 year Dual Use Agreement, which facilitates community access to Waltham Abbey Sports Centre out of school hours, is due to expire in September 2007. The Centre was omitted from the main Leisure Management Contract. The Council will need to review future management options to ensure Best Value.	
<b>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</b>  The Centre serves both the school and the local community. Use of the Centre currently is largely to local clubs, sports leagues and private functions. Future management arrangements and service levels need to be determined, particularly given the investment in new Health and Fitness Facilities at Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool, less than 2 miles away.	

**Council Performance in this area (if known: Red, Amber, Green):**

**Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?)**

**Office Use:**

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<b>Proposers Name:</b> Councillor Steven Murray	<b>Date of Request</b> 6 March 2006
<b>Supporting Councillors (if any):</b>	
<b>Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised:</b> <u>Review of the Future Management of the Roding Valley Meadows Local Nature Reserve</u>  Essex Wildlife Trust on behalf of the Council has managed the Local Nature Reserve for the last 25 years. The current Management Agreement is due to expire in April 2007 and the Council will need to review options for the future.	
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<b>Public Interest Justification:</b>  The RVLNR is an area of both high conservation and amenity value. The Reserve is extensively used by local people. The management regime has a direct impact on their use and enjoyment of the site. The Council has a duty to ensure management arrangements are effective and respond to local need.	
<b>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</b>  The Local Nature Reserve encompasses a site of Special Scientific Interest. A number of diverse uses are made of the area e.g. walking, horse riding, cross country running, bird watching and wildlife research and study. The Reserve has the coveted "Green Flag" Award and has a number of features, which assist access by people with disabilities. The Management Plan needs to accommodate and balance these uses within the overall remit of protecting the area.	
<b>Council Performance in this area (if known: Red, Amber, Green):</b>	

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<b>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?)</b>
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<b>Office Use:</b>
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<b>Proposers Name:</b> Councillor Chris Whitbread	<b>Date of Request</b> 6 March 2006
<b>Supporting Councillors (if any):</b> Task and Finish Panel on Leisure	
<b>Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised:</b> <u>Review of Arts Development in the District</u>  The Council's Arts Development Team have a successful track record in community arts development work. The team, which includes three artists, works in partnership with the voluntary sector, schools and other partners to deliver a wide range of arts opportunities and performances. The review would be to explore options to build on the current work and ensure future need is being met.	
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<b>Public Interest Justification:</b>  The District has a lack of specialist performance, rehearsal and gallery space. Epping Forest Arts work with people of all ages and abilities on a community outreach basis, to involve people in the Arts. It is important to ensure that the Council's investment in the Arts is maximising the potential benefits and achieving Best Value.	
<b>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</b>  Through the Arts members of the community have the opportunity to explore issues affecting their lives and locality as well as learning new skills and interacting with others.	
<b>Council Performance in this area (if known: Red, Amber, Green):</b>	

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<b>Office Use:</b>
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<b>Supporting Councillors (if any):</b> Task and Finish Panel on Leisure	
<b>Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised:</b>  <u>District Council's Role and Involvement in Outdoor and Community Events</u>  Special Events can play an important role in enhancing community spirit and engagement, provides local family entertainment, raise the profile of the District and encourage visitors. However, events are increasingly more complex to organise due to legislative requirements largely to address health and safety issues. The Council has expertise and a history of involvement. Review would look at the future role and responsibilities.	
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<b>Public Interest Justification:</b>  Demand for safe, enjoyable community events and major events of North Weald Airfield have been expressed. Local Voluntary Organisations and Town and Parish Councils have aspirations to be involved but can lack expertise and resources. Leisure Services has limited resources. Need to achieve an understanding of the Council's future role and involvement in Event Management.	
<b>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</b>  Special Events/Community Events can bring communities together both in the planning, participation and enjoyment of such occasions. The Council's involvement in the future must be transparent, equitable and co-ordinated. North Weald Airfield has the potential to host major outdoor events such as music festivals. The Council needs to determine the feasibility and desirability of such proposals.	

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