

# Record of Cabinet portfolio member decision

## ESSENTIAL CAPITAL WORKS AT LEISURE CENTRES: TRANSFER FROM PROVISIONAL TO APPROVED CAPITAL PROGRAMME

**DATE OF PUBLICATION – 2 MAY 2013**

- NB: The Head of Legal and Democratic Services must receive a request to call-in this decision by 4.30pm on Friday 10 May 2013.
- Subject to the call-in mechanism this decision will be implemented on Monday 13 May 2013.
- The council's cabinet portfolio holder has taken the executive decision outlined below. This decision is published in accordance with the council's procedure rules.

DECISION TAKER	DETAILS OF DECISION
<b>Mr B Service</b>	<p>To transfer £200,000 from the provisional capital programme to the approved capital programme in order to cover the council's anticipated liability for essential capital works at the leisure centres in 2013/14.</p>
	<p><b>Reasons for recommending decision</b></p> <p>To maintain the leisure centres at an appropriate level there is an ongoing requirement for essential capital works to be carried out.</p> <p>Work undertaken under the essential capital works programme involves investment in the fabric of the facilities, the benefits of which occur over many years and go beyond the scope of work undertaken under day to day repair and maintenance. The work programme for the joint-use centres is agreed annually with Oxfordshire County Council, following consultation with GLL/Nexus (the council's leisure management contractor) and the cost is allocated in accordance with the joint-use agreements and management contract. The cost of any other essential works at the joint-use centres and the council-owned centres is allocated in accordance with the management contract. In addition to any planned work, the budget is also used as a contingency for any urgent work that needs to be undertaken at the centres.</p> <p>The provision of well-maintained leisure facilities, that meet current regulations where necessary and are accessible for all, contributes towards the achievement of several of the council's strategic objectives. Without investment in their upkeep, the structure of the centres would deteriorate. This would ultimately result in a reduction in customer satisfaction and a reduction in people using the facilities.</p> <p>The funds transferred to the approved programme for essential capital works for previous years and 2012/13 have all been either committed or spent. Consequently, the 2013/14 allocation of £160,000 in the provisional capital</p>

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	<p>programme now needs to be transferred to the approved capital programme to allow planned and urgent capital works to take place from 1 April 2013.</p> <p>The planned work for 2013/14 includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abbey Sports Centre - the existing swimming pool tank and tiled floor surround are worn, becoming dangerous and are beyond repair due to their age. Small holes and cracks have formed in the pool tank and many of the pool-side tiles are coming loose. Carrying out major relining of the pool tank and re-tiling the pool surround will provide a much improved service and safer environment for the pool users, helping to improve customer satisfaction levels.</li> <li>• Thame Leisure Centre – replacement sports hall floor. The existing floor is the original, which was installed in 1980. This is now worn and tired and beyond sectional repair.</li> <li>• Thame Leisure Centre – replacement windows to the dance studio. The existing windows are in a poor state of repair and are letting water in. They are the only wooden framed windows left on the building, and require yearly maintenance.</li> <li>• Park Sports Centre – the viewing gallery to the sports hall requires replacement flooring and the existing tiered seating should be removed as it falls foul of current health and safety regulations.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Alternative option considered</b></p> <p>The allocation remains in the provisional budget, which would prevent any works of this nature being undertaken. This would increase the likelihood of reducing customer satisfaction, usage and income in these facilities, as well as increasing the risk of incurring additional costs to address additional health and safety issues.</p>

If you have any queries regarding this decision please contact the decision taker above or Chris Webb, Facilities Development (Leisure) Officer, email: [chris.webb@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:chris.webb@southandvale.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01235 540358 / 07767 657594.

A copy of the report considered by the Cabinet member is available from Steven Corrigan, Democratic Services Manager, Legal & Democratic Services, 01491 823049, [steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk)