

Item: 4

Education, Leisure and Housing Committee: 27 March 2024.

Provision of Sport and Leisure across Orkney.

Proposed Establishment of Short-life Working Group.

Report by Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the establishment of a short-life member/officer working group to consider the findings of a consultant-led review into the provision sport and leisure services across Orkney.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is invited to note:

2.1.

That, in May 2023, Strategic Leisure Limited was appointed to carry out a review of sport and leisure services across Orkney and is due to submit its final report in March 2024.

2.2.

That the objective was to review sport and leisure across Orkney within current constraints and to produce an options appraisal with recommendations for a sustainable and economically delivery model for sport and leisure across Orkney, both Trust and Local Authority offerings.

It is recommended:

2.3.

That a short-life member/officer working group, comprising the undernoted core membership, be established to consider the findings of the consultant-led review into the provision of sport and leisure services across Orkney:

- Chair, Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- Vice Chair, Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- 2 Additional Elected Members of Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Head of Community Learning, Leisure and Housing Service.
- Service Manager (Leisure and Culture).

- Team Leader (Sport and Leisure).
- Senior Duty Officer (Swimming Pools).
- Senior Duty Officer (Facilities).
- Outdoor Education Advisor.
- Pickaquoy Centre Trust Managing Director.
- Sportscotland Partnership Manager and lead Partnership Manager.
- 1 representative from the Active Schools Team.
- 1 representative from NHS Orkney.
- 1 representative from Education Service – Orkney Islands Council.
- 1 representative from Orkney 2025.
- 1 representative from each of the Isles swimming pools.

2.4.

That the Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing should submit a report to the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee, no later than November 2024, advising of the outcome of the work of the short-life member/officer working group and presenting recommendations for consideration.

3. Background

3.1.

Before COVID-19, a Project Initiation Document proposing a review of Sport and Leisure Services in Orkney, to identify the most economically advantageous model to deliver high quality, sustainable leisure services, was approved by the Senior Management Team.

3.2.

The Project Initiation Document was discussed once pandemic restrictions had eased in 2022, and following an invitation to quote in April 2023, Strategic Leisure Limited were appointed in May 2023 to carry out the review of sport and leisure services across Orkney.

3.3.

Strategic Leisure Limited's work continues, with its final report to be submitted in March 2024.

4. Next Steps

4.1.

It is proposed that a short life member/officer working group be established to consider the findings of the consultant led review of Sport and Leisure services across Orkney.

4.2.

The proposed short life member/officer working group should comprise the undernoted core membership, who will also consult more widely as and when required:

- Chair, Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- Vice Chair, Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- 2 Additional Elected Members of Education, Leisure and Housing Committee.
- Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Head of Community Learning, Leisure and Housing Service.
- Service Manager (Leisure and Culture).
- Team Leader (Sport and Leisure).
- Senior Duty Officer (Swimming Pools).
- Senior Duty Officer (Facilities).
- Outdoor Education Advisor.
- Pickaquoy Centre Trust Managing Director.
- Sportscotland Partnership Manager and Lead Partnership Manager.
- 1 representative from the Active Schools Team.
- 1 representative from NHS Orkney.
- 1 representative from the Education Service – Orkney Islands Council.
- 1 representative from Orkney 2025.
- 1 representative from each of the Isles swimming pools.

4.3.

It is anticipated that the short life working group will conclude its business by September 2024.

4.4.

Thereafter the Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing should submit a report to the Education, Leisure and Housing Committee no later than November 2024, advising of the outcome of the work of the short-life working group and presenting recommendations for consideration.

5. Corporate Governance

This report is presented in order to comply with internal governance and is not for the exclusive purpose of supporting or relating to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the Council Plan or the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

6. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

7. Legal Aspects

7.1.

A working group is not a committee or sub-committee of the Council. A working group does not have delegated authority to make decisions.

7.2.

The Council has adopted the following principles in relation to member/officer working groups:

- The working group should be subject specific.
- The working group should have a short life, ideally no longer than six months.
- The relevant Corporate Director should report the findings of the working group to the service committee, including a recommendation to disestablish the working group.
- Member/officer consultative groups should be considered where the work of the group was expected to continue beyond six months.

8. Contact Officers

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