
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	23 January 2024
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/08/24/TM
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Subject:	Outstanding Remits Report - Communities		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 This report provides an update on several outstanding remits from the Education and Communities Committee. Updates have been provided on:

- U16s free gym membership project;
- Broomhill 3G pitch; and
- Boglestone Activity Centre refurbishment impact.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee notes the update on the outstanding remits from the Committee.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

3.0 Updates to Outstanding Remits

3.1 U16s gym access

Inverclyde Council worked in partnership with Inverclyde Leisure and funded gym access for under 16s as part of the Covid-19 community recovery programme in 2022. The scheme was a great success and allowed young people from Inverclyde's schools to use the 8 fitness gyms located throughout the Inverclyde community area.

The gym sessions gave senior school children the opportunity to use our gyms safely under the supervision of Inverclyde Leisure's qualified gym team. The scheme was very popular, and Inverclyde Leisure reported an increase in overall gym usage when the scheme was in place. Due to the success of the initiative, IL then launched a new 21/10 membership for young people as part of its contribution towards an Active Inverclyde and credits the free gym usage programme as a significant contributor to an increase in membership.

3.2 Broomhill Pitch

Several years ago, the 3G pitch at Broomhill was underutilised which led to considerations around whether it should remain as part of the Council's overall leisure estate. However, in recent years, use of the pitch has increased and it is now well utilised by clubs in the area. Therefore, it remains part of the Council's leisure estate and now forms part of the Council's overall pitch maintenance and replacement programme.

3.3 Boglestone Activity Centre – Spend to Save

The refurbishment project at Boglestone was a 12-week programme with the facility re-opening June 2019. The improvements that were made on site included the extension of the fitness for less gym, which utilised the old kitchen space to a usable fitness gym area. The main hall and stage area was transformed into a large soft-play area which also houses a 'Proud to Serve Costa Coffee' Café. This redevelopment has been a great asset and facility to the local community.

The project costs were around £830k. The vision and aims of the project were to remodel areas that were previously underutilised within the facility and to maximise services and encourage more activity within the local community.

The facility and Boglestone now has a large 'fitness for less' gym. This helps promote activity, health, and wellbeing with the area. The centre is also a very popular destination for adults and young children through activity within the soft-play facility.

Following the redevelopment, IL also promotes the centre through themed events such as Breakfast with Santa, Halloween Discos, and other themed events. This brings the local community together offering activities for children and parents to enjoy simultaneously.

IL also offers vitality classes and live active sessions at the facility following the refurbishment. This caters for ageing populations but also individuals being referred to exercise by GPs. The developments have been a great addition to the community and the centre is now a popular attraction for neighbouring residents. With the additional increase in operating hours and added services to this centre this had also led to increased employment within the local area.

The table below provides before (2017/18) and after (2022/23) annual data in respect of the redevelopment works at Boglestone Activity centre which highlights an increase in usage of 131%. The facility is a real focal point of the community, catering for the needs of the local area.

Boglestone Refurbishment Usage Comparison 2017/18, 2022/23

	Pre-development	Post-development	Differential	Percentage Increase
Usage	59,398	137,045	77,647	131%

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		x
Legal/Risk		x
Human Resources		x
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		x
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x
Environmental & Sustainability		x
Data Protection		x

4.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

4.3 Legal/Risk

None

4.4 Human Resources

None

4.5 Strategic

None

4.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
x	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

4.7 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

N/A

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

N/A

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
x	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

4.8 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 N/A

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None