

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

15 March 2010

### Report of the Chief Leisure Officer

#### Part 1- Public

#### Matters for Information

### 1 LEISURE FACILITIES – FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

#### Summary

Management information summaries for Larkfield Leisure Centre, Angel Centre, Tonbridge Swimming Pool, Poulton Wood Golf Centre, Tonbridge Castle/Customer Services, Tonbridge Cemetery, Country Parks Car Park Income and Poulton Wood Grounds Maintenance are shown at [Annexes 1-8].

#### 1.1 Leisure Services Business Unit – Overall Financial Performance

1.1.1 The Board's attention is drawn to the Leisure Services Business Unit's overall financial position following the revised estimates process, which was above profile by £2,700 at the end of January 2010. Expenditure overall is below profile by £29,500. Income overall is £26,800 below target. The financial performance continues to be closely monitored in liaison with the Director of Finance and Management Team.

#### 1.2 Larkfield Leisure Centre

1.2.1 This contract is currently above profile by £27,600 as shown at [Annex 1].

1.2.2 There is a saving of £6,650 in expenditure, with small savings in all areas except staffing, water supply and sewerage, which are all marginally overspent. It should be noted that Supplies and Services expenditure includes the cost of a Plant Condition Survey and Swim School Audit, which will be funded from the Leisure Services Business Unit Reserve.

1.2.3 Income is £20,950 above target. Lifestyles Fitness income continues to trade well, at £16,050 or 3% above target at the end of the period. Fitness sales remain strong and the recent membership sale proved successful. Despite the bad weather in December and January, swimming income is £9,350 above target and coaching course income is trading to profile.

#### 1.3 Angel Centre

1.3.1 This contract is currently above profile by £2,900 as shown at [Annex 2].

- 1.3.2 Expenditure savings total £8,900. Again, there are small savings in all areas, mainly in staffing and utilities. Expenditure of £890 relating to the Plant Condition Survey, undertaken recently, will be funded from the Leisure Services Business Unit Reserve.
- 1.3.3 Overall income for the contract was £6,000 below target. Sports Hall income is above profile by £11,700 or 17% above target and community related income is performing to profile. Lifestyles Fitness and coaching course income are trading below profile at 97% and 91% of target respectively. Income for the All Weather Area and Sportsground Pitches have been affected by the bad weather throughout the winter period and are trading below profile at 90% and 91% of target.

#### **1.4 Tonbridge Swimming Pool**

- 1.4.1 This contract is currently below profile by £31,350 as shown at **[Annex 3]**.
- 1.4.2 Overall income for the contract was below target by £41,800. Casual swimming is trading below profile by £22,400 or 94% of target, mainly due to the extended period of closure in December and the recent bad weather. Coaching course and one to one swimming income remain below profile by £8,100 and £2,750 respectively. Catering continues to perform on target.
- 1.4.3 Expenditure is underspent by £10,450. Savings primarily relate to utilities and casual staffing. Expenditure includes the cost of a Plant Condition Survey, Swim School Audit and the purchase of Health and Safety equipment, totalling £3,600 which will be funded from the Leisure Services Business Unit Reserve.

#### **1.5 Poulton Wood Golf Centre**

- 1.5.1 Income for the golf courses is below profile due to extremely poor weather conditions this winter. The snow closed the 18-hole course for 14 days and the 9-hole course for 16 days in January. The weather conditions also affected the catering operation with a number of Christmas functions cancelled due to difficulties in travel. Income for Poulton Wood Golf Centre is £44,100 below profile for the first ten months of the financial year **[Annex 4]**.

#### **1.6 Tonbridge Castle/Customer Services**

- 1.6.1 The Customer Services team at Tonbridge Castle continue to deliver a wide range of services on behalf of the Council. In addition to the operation of the Gatehouse attraction, wedding bookings and tourist information, the team is expanding on the services it provides to customers as a first point of contact mainly through face-to-face operations. Expenditure is down on last year and income is up **[Annex 5]**.
- 1.6.2 The joint partnership between Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council and Kent County Council continues to work well. Meetings take place regularly to iron out any issues and make improvements to performance and services provided. More

partners have now joined Gateway, and others are expressing an interest to join in the very near future. The statistics show an increase of visits to the Gateway, in comparison to the previous period. Tonbridge Gateway continues to receive publicity through various media channels.

## **1.7 Tonbridge Cemetery**

1.7.1 Income at the Cemetery is £4,582 below profile for the first ten months of the financial year **[Annex 6]**. The reduction in income has, however, been largely offset by a reduction in expenditure of £3,623.

## **1.8 Country Parks Income**

1.8.1 Income from the Council's two Country Parks is £1,441 above profile for the first ten months of the financial year **[Annex 7]**.

## **1.9 Poult Wood Grounds Maintenance**

1.9.1 This contract is currently £10,500 above profile as shown at **[Annex 8]**.

1.9.2 Expenditure savings relate mainly to staffing. Close monitoring in all areas of the contract is ongoing. The contract performance and standards of ground maintenance remain very high.

## **1.10 Legal Implications**

1.10.1 None.

## **1.11 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.11.1 Collectively, the facilities covered by this report generate income and expenditure in excess of £4.5m per annum.

## **1.12 Risk Assessment**

1.12.1 Taking into account the levels of income and expenditure involved, it is essential that the financial performance of the facilities is closely monitored, and any issues are identified and addressed at an early stage. Any significant variations in financial performance could have a major impact on the Council's revenue budget.

## **1.13 Policy Considerations**

1.13.1 Community, Customer Contact.

Background papers: Nil

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