

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD**

**16 September 2013**

**Report of the Director of Street Scene & Leisure**

**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 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 at the end of July 2013. There is an overall expenditure saving of £23,823 and above target income of £52,605 resulting in an above profile position £76,428 at the period end. The financial performance has been closely monitored in liaison with the Director of Finance and Transformation and Management Team throughout the year.

1.1.2 It is very encouraging to note that in overall terms the surplus to profile is due to both over achievement in income and savings in expenditure. Generally, strong performance has been seen in fitness sales and coaching courses and although swimming is below profile at LLC, the good weather in July has boosted swimming income at TSP to £14,500 above target.

**1.2 Larkfield Leisure Centre**

1.2.1 The facility was £22,810 above profile to the end of July, as shown at **[Annex 1]**.

1.2.2 Expenditure was underspent by £20,501, with savings being made in staffing, premises relates expenses and supplies and services. There was a small overspend in electricity and gas charges. Income was £2,309 above target. Sales relating to Lifestyles Health and Fitness memberships have remained very positive, creating above profile income of £7,143. Coaching course income continued to grow, and ended the period at £17,732 or 18.5% above target. Casual swimming was below profile by £12,664 or 4.7%.

### **1.3 Angel Centre**

- 1.3.1 The facility was £34,821 above profile at the end of July as shown at **[Annex 2]**.
- 1.3.2 Expenditure savings amounted to £8,569 with savings in utilities and supplies and services offset by small overspend in staffing. Overall income was £26,252 above target. Most areas of income were above profile with Lifestyles Health and Fitness at £13,881 or 11.1% and the Sports Hall at £3,543 or 18.5% the key areas of high performance.

### **1.4 Tonbridge Swimming Pool**

- 1.4.1 The facility was above profile by £19,331 to the end of July as shown at **[Annex 3]**.

There was an overspend in expenditure of £4,713 made up of small overspends in staffing, general maintenance and utilities. Overall income was above target by £24,044. Swimming income was £14,537 or 7.9% above target, primarily due to the good weather in the early summer months. Swim School income continued to perform well at £4,817 above target and the net profit on catering was above target by £2,505 or 12.5%.

### **1.5 Poult Wood Golf Centre**

- 1.5.1 Income for the 18-Hole course was down over £55k on profile and 9-Hole course down £7k on profile, however both were up on last year's poor performance, with the 9-Hole course up £9k as shown in **[Annex 4]**.
- 1.5.2 Usage patterns follow a similar trend with 6,000 fewer rounds played than profiled but an overall increase on previous year.
- 1.5.3 A wet April with trolley bans limiting play, led to a slow start to the golf season compared to favourable weather early last year, although both last year and this both weather quickly turned and a better June and July have helped to increase usage and income.
- 1.5.4 It is hoped that continued better weather together with loyalty schemes and continued local advertising and promotion, including a stall at the Tonbridge Taster Day will be reflected in better performance.

### **1.6 Tonbridge Gateway/Castle**

- 1.6.1 Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council has been in partnership with Kent County Council at Tonbridge Gateway for four years, the Gateway facility offers a wide range of services to the general public. There are currently eight physical partner organisations working from Gateway, a mix of public and voluntary sector organisations. Charging for partners to occupy a space at Gateway came into force on 1 April 2011 and, although not all partners are charged as they may be funded by Kent County Council or Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, the

income from the paying organisations is rising and we are expecting an income in excess of £14,000 during 2013/14. The Gateway team carry out a variety of local authority services for our customers, in addition to the operation of the Gatehouse attraction, wedding bookings and tourist information. These transactions are carried out in a variety of different ways to meet customer demand including online, telephony and face-to-face.

- 1.6.2 At the close of business on the 31 July 2013 expenditure was slightly down as was the income **[Annex 5]**.

## **1.7 Tonbridge Cemetery**

- 1.7.1 Overall, income at the Cemetery was £5,777 below profile for the first four months of the financial year 2013/14. Whilst income was on profile for the purchase of graves, the lease of vaults/plaques, memorial permits, interments and the use of the chapel were below profile.

## **1.8 Country Parks Income.**

- 1.8.1 Overall, income for the two Country Parks was £982 below profile for the first four months of the financial year 2013/14.

## **1.9 Poulton Wood Grounds Maintenance**

- 1.9.1 This maintenance contract was just below profile by £534 at the end of July as shown at **[Annex 8]**.
- 1.9.2 Overall expenditure was well controlled and 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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