

Leisure Transformation



1. Background
2. Proposals
3. Consultation & engagement
4. Next steps

Background

- Key Decision points with Cabinet in January 2020, March 2021, September 2021
- March 2021: agreed in principle preferred sites for new build leisure venues and reaffirm commitment to the leisure transformation programme
- September 2021: confirmed final sites for new leisure venues in Bishop Auckland and Chester-Le-Street
- Leisure Transformation is a key programme within the overall Towns and Villages strategy
- Reports to ESC OSC in March 2021 and October 2021
- Feedback from ESC OSC captured as part of Cohort 1 leisure conversation
- Cohort 1 complete and Cohort 2 to be scheduled.

Expected Benefits

- An Increased social value and a considerable social return on investment
- Increased levels of physical activity and an emphasis on key groups
- Improving the physical, mental and social wellbeing of residents
- Contributing towards the regeneration of our towns and villages
- Supporting recovery from the pandemic with investment in County Durham
- Creating places, spaces and experiences for residents and visitors of the county
- Supporting the delivery of the council's climate emergency response plan
- Assisting towards the council's carbon reduction targets
- Achieving BREEAM accreditation for our new leisure centres
- Reduced maintenance and condition liability
- Reduced subsidy for the leisure services

Confirmed Plans: Refurbishments – Cohort 1

| TEESDALE | ABBEY | PETERLEE | SPENNYMOOR |
|---|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing room refurbishment • Pool Changing village • Wellbeing Suite • General maintenance and customer environment improvement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café • Soft Play • TAG Active • Fitness Suite • Wellbeing provision • Sauna • Group Exercise Studios <p><i>*changing room refurb to reflect the change in the activity mix – to include a sauna</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café • Soft Play • Cyber Towers • Adventure Climb • Ten Pin Bowling • Fitness Suite • Group Exercise Studios • Wellbeing provision | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café • Soft Play • Water Play • Library service • Central reception |

Proposals: Refurbishments – Cohort 2

| LOUISA STANLEY | Meadowfield | Newton Aycliffe | Riverside |
|---|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café • Soft Play • TAG Active • Cyber Towers • Adventure Climb • Wellbeing provision • Group Exercise Studios | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness Suite extension • Group Ex Studio • Wellbeing provision • Outdoor changing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Maintenance • Sauna and Steam refurbishment • Public Toilet refurbishment • Programme review | <p>Sporting Hub Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics refurbishment • Daytime education use • X2 new Football Pitches • Floodlighting improvements • Partnership project |

Proposals: Refurbishments

| Shildon* | Consett | Wolsingham | Freemans Quay |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>Athletics Track refurbishment already completed.</p> <p>Further plans are to be confirmed, but may include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General maintenance improvements • Expansion of the outdoor sports offer | <p>Reinstating the pool</p> <p>Programme review</p> <p>Café provision</p> | <p>Essential maintenance to the building, car parking and pool has already been completed as well as improvements to the Digital offer.</p> <p>Further plans are to be confirmed, including a programme review</p> | <p>Immersive Group Exercise alterations</p> <p><i>*proceed depending on contract arrangements</i></p> |

Finance

- Current construction industry market conditions are fluctuating
- Current budgets set using upper quartile of BCIS rates to apply some level of inflationary protection
- Risk allocations and contingencies included in the overall cost envelope
- Prudent approach to risk within the programme budget envelope.
- Programme will be subject to the findings of site surveys, material availability, supply chain and sub-contractor availability and capacity.

Consultation & Engagement

- Current plan, but subject to ongoing design progress

| | 2021 | | | | 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Leisure Transformation Communications & Engagement plan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cohort One (Sept – Nov 2021) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Refurbishments: Abbey, Peterlee, Spennymoor, Teesdale | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consett (Independent communications) | | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cohort Two (Spring 2022) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New builds: Bishop Auckland and Chester-Le-Street | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | |
| Refurbishments: Louisa Centre, Meadowfield, Newton Aycliffe, Riverside | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cohort Three (Late summer/autumn 2022) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seaham - TBC | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| Wolsingham, Shildon, Freeman's Quay - TBC | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | |

Consultation & Engagement

- Press Release / E Shot for Social Media/Apps/Digital screens
- Brief Members / MPs
- Reports to ESC OSC
- Internal DCC publications (Durham Buzz & Intranet)
- Engage with AAP Groups
- Engage with external reference groups: County Durham Partnership, Physical Activity Strategy Group, Sport England, Football Foundation
- Engage with Specialist interest Groups: Youth Parliament, Disabilities Group, Older People and Families
- Engage with Town & Parish Council's
- Engage with Leisure Members/Cubs/Stakeholders
- Drop in sessions at leisure venues – morning/ afternoon and evening
- Staff Face to Face briefing sessions
- Health Impact Assessment
- Equalities Impact Assessment

Cohort 1 Outputs

| Activity | Engagement |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Digital survey | 421 |
| Specialist User Groups | 294 |
| Venue Drop-in Sessions | 62 |
| Media Stats (Website visits) | 5,918 |
| Media Stats (Socials) | 39,844 |

| Digital Survey | Frequency | % of total |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Abbey Leisure Centre | 176 | 41.8% |
| Peterlee Leisure Centre | 123 | 29.2% |
| Spennymoor Leisure Centre | 64 | 15.2% |
| Teesdale Leisure Centre | 58 | 13.8% |
| Total | 421 | 100.0% |

- The first cohort leisure conversations was a valuable exercise – there was overall positivity towards the planned investments
- The feedback received suggests that plans for each venue should proceed as planned, given the overall support of residents.
- Minor points which were noted and will be considered in the final design developments
- Those users & clubs directly affected will continue to be engaged and where necessary mitigating arrangements put in place
- We plan to include more information on programme and activities in future communications.
- The reach of our digital engagement was good with a high number of visits to the councils consultation website and social media channels.

2022 Next Steps

- Complete the second Cohort of Leisure Conversations
- DCC Cabinet to consider site location and options for Seaham LC proposals
- Designs to progress for all schemes
- Budget position to be evaluated and submitted with further Cabinet report
- Plan for the delivery of subsequent consultation stages
- Commence refurbishment project delivery in 2022 on relevant projects