

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 19 September 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Community and Sport

SUBJECT: Indoor and Built Sport Facilities Strategy

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To receive Halton Borough Council's Indoor and Built Sports Facility Draft Strategy.
- 1.2 To receive [Halton's Local Football Facility Plan](#) (LFFP).
- 1.3 Both documents enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future of the Council's Leisure Centres and football facility stock. The studies provided a need and demand assessment of the Borough's existing and future requirements. This will ensure residents have the opportunity to be physically active and healthier and where appropriate develop their sporting ambitions within their local community.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) The strategy be taken forward for adoption by the Council;**
- 2) The Football Plan be accepted as the document to go to for football facility investment in Halton;**
- 3) The action plan/priority lists are taken in order of importance;**
- 4) Officers are delegated to explore potential funding sources to enable investment in facilities to be accurately targeted; and**
- 5) The plans be updated periodically to ensure they remain up to date and reflective of local needs.**

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council commissioned Knight, Kavanagh and Page Ltd (KKP), specialist sport and leisure consultancy to produce an Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy.

3.2 The Football Association commissioned KKP to manage the process of local engagement, consultation and production of the football plan (LFFP).

3.3 The Council and its partners are committed to supporting residents to be active.

4.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 The studies undertaken to produce both documents considered the supply and demand for facilities in the Borough, taking into account the quality of the current stock.

4.2 The documents provide the evidence base in respect of the Council facilities so that there is:

- a clear strategic approach to deliver the Borough's vision for its sporting facilities
- a clear framework for the improvement, maintenance and development of existing and new sports facilities in response to current and future need;
- a clear investment strategy through priority facility interventions identified in the action plans:

The reports can also be used to inform any modifications or updates to other Local Authority strategic documents.

The reports comply with Sport England guidance and will support funding bids.

Previous reports to this Board have outlined the importance of quality of place and the role the Borough's leisure, culture and heritage assets play in supporting the Borough's economic growth by making Halton distinctive, a place where residents enjoy living and a place that visitors feel is worth experiencing.

In addition strategies for the development and improvement of the Borough's facilities reinforces the message and image that Halton is vibrant, and ambitious that the quality of life of its residents is at the forefront of any investment decision made by the Council.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Adoption of the documents will make it Council Policy with a vision to 'create a high quality accessible and sustainable facility capable of supporting sport, health and well-being which offer inclusive services for all; enabling the inactive to become active and more residents to fulfil their potential by participating in sport and physical activity, thus improving their long term health and well-being".

6.0 **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Indicative figures have been stated against some actions. Further feasibility work would be required to determine the likely design, scale, scope and cost of each action contained in the plans.

6.2 Use of capital receipts from land disposal, where applicable.

6.3 External funding sources to be sought aligned to specific facilities and/or sports (e.g. Sport England funding, Football Foundation other charitable grant awards and funding streams).

7.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

7.1 **Children and Young People in Halton**

Not applicable

7.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

Not Applicable

7.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The reports promote strong links between leisure provision and associated health benefits.

7.4 **A Safer Halton**

Not Applicable

7.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

The action plans present an opportunity to use investment in leisure provision as a catalyst for improving the urban environment

8.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

9.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

The proposals would promote equality of access to leisure facilities in the borough

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None