

Local Authority Trading Company update

As a result of Community Services & Licensing (CS&L) committee voting for the Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) in December 2021 as the preferred management option for Leisure Centre post October 2024, the following work has taken place:

- Meetings with other councils to understand why and how they have approached setting up LATC's for leisure services
- Attendance at seminars to review the different structures
- Attendance at a CIPFA training session on how to avoid the pitfalls of setting up LATC's with Teckal exemption
- Commissioned report on tax implications which will affect the LATC
- Associate membership of Community Leisure Trust UK as a networking platform
- Development of a project plan
- Development of a project board and project team
- Procurement of consultants to complete a Business Case and feasibility investment plan

Business Case and Feasibility investment plan

This next phase of work will take at least 6 months and will include but not limited to:

- Defining the vision for the company
- Full financial analysis including a 5-year projection
- Company structure including terms and conditions of employment
- TUPE arrangements
- Support services (council services v external or a combination approach)
- Market Analysis
- Risk
- SWOT analysis
- Feasibility of development which includes but not limited to
 - Stakeholder consultation
 - Facility development as highlighted within the leisure and wellbeing strategy
 - Leisure transformation website and survey
 - Site analysis
 - Layout plan
 - Capital costs
 - Revenue business plan
- Draft and final report

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Timescales

Verbal updates will be brought back to CS&L throughout 2022 with the final report and recommendations being presented to:

CS&L committee – 26th January 2023

S&R committee – 2nd February 2023

Full council – 16th February 2023

Project Finance

An agreed budget has been allocated for the Business Case and Feasibility Investment plan.

As this is the first time SDC have set up a leisure company, the finances required for the preparation and set up will be reviewed at each stage of the project and reported back to the project board.

End of update

Project manager for leisure, health, and wellbeing