

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 01 December 2014

Portfolio:	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Review of Community Buildings - Fareham Town CATs Area
Report of:	Director of Community
Strategy/Policy:	Leisure Strategy
Corporate Objective:	Leisure for Health and for Fun

Purpose:

To report the draft master plan for implementing the requirements identified in community buildings needs assessment of the Fareham CATs area.

Executive summary:

In July 2008, the Executive agreed a broad vision for providing high quality community facilities across the Borough. The agreed way forward was to carry out a needs assessment of the community buildings in each of the CATs areas and then to prepare a master plan for implementing the outcome of each needs assessment.

In April 2013 the Executive considered a report on the Fareham CATs area master plan following the review of community buildings and requested that officers further investigate the provision of additional community space in the area.

This report identifies sites where there is the potential for providing additional community space subject to the availability of funding, the confirmation of need and any ownership issues being resolved.

It is proposed these that opportunities are pursued further as and when the opportunity arises and subject to further reports to the Executive.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

That the Executive approves the master plan for the Fareham CATs area.

Reason:

To conclude the review of community buildings in relation to the Fareham CATs area.

Cost of proposals:

Costs associated with developing any proposals in more detail can be met from existing resources.

Appendices: A: List of Community Buildings in the Fareham CATs Area.

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Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 01 December 2014

Subject: Review of Community Buildings - Fareham Town CAT Area

Briefing by: Director of Community

Portfolio: Leisure and Community

INTRODUCTION

1. In July 2008, the Executive agreed a broad vision for providing high quality community facilities across the Borough. The agreed way forward was to carry out a needs assessment of the community buildings in each of the CATs areas and then to prepare a master plan for implementing the outcome of each of the needs assessments.
2. The Fareham needs assessment was carried out between September 2012 and January 2013 and the results reported to the Leisure and Community Policy Development and Review Panel on 6 March 2013.
3. In April 2013 the Executive considered a report on the Fareham CATs area master plan following the review of community buildings and requested that officers further investigate the provision of additional community space in the area.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

4. The Fareham CATs area is the largest CATs area and covers five wards, Fareham South, Fareham North, Fareham North West, Fareham East and Fareham West. The overall area is served by a large number of both small and large community facilities and a full list of these is attached as Appendix A
5. The Fareham area needs assessment identified a need for:
 - A community centre in 'central' Fareham with good links to public transport and onsite parking.
 - A general need for additional ground floor meeting space, to accommodate groups and users that have disabilities.
 - A need for flexible multi-use rooms that can accommodate larger groups i.e. up to 100 people at a time, as well as small private meetings/consultations.
 - A need for lockable storage facilities within the existing facilities.

MASTER PLAN

6. To meet the identified need it is proposed that opportunities be explored as and when they arise. These are likely to include:

Fareham North West Community Centre

7. The Fareham North West Community Centre was constructed in the 1990's in what was anticipated to be a two phase project. The second phase was never completed but there remains an opportunity to extend the building to provide additional community space in this area, potentially as part of the Fareham Park project.

The X-perience Youth Centre

8. The Xperience youth centre at the junction of Trinity Street and Osborn Road is a two storey flat roofed building currently leased to Hampshire County Council for the provision of youth services. Following the review of youth provision by HCC, the use of the building has changed and is now used as office space by HCC Children's Services and a number of charities delivering a range of commissioned youth services.
9. The existing lease expires in 2026 and is protected under the Landlord and Tenant Act. However should HCC choose to voluntarily surrender the lease then there may be an opportunity to redevelop the site to provide increased community provision in conjunction with affordable housing.

Cams Alders Recreation Ground

10. Cams Alders Recreation Ground is situated in South Fareham and covers 14 hectares with sports facilities and a mix of built facilities.
11. A Members Steering Group has been established to develop a vision for new and improved sports facilities and enhancements to the public open space at Cams Alders Recreation Ground. Whilst this group is primarily looking at the long term sustainability of any new sports facilities, there may be an opportunity within this to include some additional community space.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. The opportunities are currently unfunded and this would require further investigation and reports to the Executive as and when opportunities arise.

CONCLUSION

13. The needs assessment for the Fareham CATs areas was completed in January 2013 and the draft master plan considered by the Executive in April 2013. Further investigations have been carried out into the provision of additional community space in the area, and this report recommends that opportunities are explored as a when they arise.

Reference Papers: