

**ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD**

**Monday, 11th January, 2021**

**MEETING OF ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD**

**(Held remotely via Microsoft Teams)**

**Attendees**

- Directors:** Mr. J. McGuigan (Chairperson)  
Councillor Carson  
Councillor Corr  
Councillor McLaughlin  
Councillor Newton  
Mr. P. Boyle  
Mr. K. Ellison and  
Mrs. K. McCullough.
- Officers:** Mrs. K. Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager;  
Mr. N. Munnis, Partnership Manager; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.
- GLL:** Mr. G. Kirk, Regional Director;  
Mr. J. Michael, Business Manager; and  
Mr. A. Walker, Partnership Manager.

**Apologies**

An apology was reported on behalf of Mr. C. Kirkwood.

**Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 14th December were approved.

**Matters Arising**

**Update on Director Recruitment**

The Board noted that the recruitment of new Directors would be addressed later in the meeting.

**GLL Staff Survey**

The Board noted that the development of a GLL staff survey had been delayed as a result of the various Covid-19 restrictions which had been imposed since March and agreed that planning should proceed to enable the survey to be rolled out when there was a return to a sustained level of business stability.

### **Update on Covid-19 Lockdown and Recovery**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 14th December, it had noted that it would, later in the meeting, have the opportunity to discuss with GLL issues which had been raised around i). the failure by GLL to consult with the Trades Union Forum on proposed changes to the role of Customer Services Advisor and ii). child safeguarding, in the context of cashless entry to centres. However, the matter had been overlooked and, accordingly, the Partnership Manager had undertaken to request the information from GLL and circulate it to the Board.

The Partnership Manager provided a brief overview of GLL's response, which he had forwarded to the Board by email on 21st December.

During discussion, the Director who had raised the issues initially, stated that the response had confirmed his assertion that GLL had chosen not to consult with the relevant staff on the new Customer Services Advisor role and he pointed out that consultation had only taken place when he had intervened on their behalf.

In relation to GLL's response to child safeguarding, he stated that it was his understanding that the current online/cashless booking system would only apply for the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic and he stressed that there remained an onus on GLL to fully address that risk moving forward. He would, therefore, continue to raise the matter.

In response, the Partnership Manager explained that an independent audit of GLL's health and safety operations, which had been partly completed, had been suspended due to Covid-19 and suggested that he discuss with the consultant the possibility of extending its remit to include this specific child safeguarding issue.

The Board noted GLL's response and endorsed the action which had been suggested by the Partnership Manager.

### **Non- Director Attendance Protocol**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 14th December, it had deferred until this meeting a report setting out a protocol for dealing with requests from non-Directors to attend future meetings, to allow for further consideration to be given to the period of notice required and the process for dealing with urgent requests.

Accordingly, the Partnership Manager submitted for the Board's approval the following revised protocol:

#### **"Draft Protocol:**

- 1. For the purposes of this protocol, non-Directors will be referred to as 'guests'.**
- 2. Guests will not be permitted to attend Board meetings for the purposes of observation.**
- 3. The Board will consider all requests from guests to attend a board meeting and present to the Board.**

4. Requests from guests/groups must be submitted at least one calendar week (five working days) in advance to allow for consideration by the Board.
5. The request must be in writing (electronic correspondence if preferred) and include details of the issue to be raised, the desired outcome and the number and names of those wishing to attend. It will be the responsibility of the applicant to inform the board of any IT/presentation equipment requirements.
6. Where a request is received from a group, the total number of guests permitted will not exceed three.
7. Irrespective of the Board's decision the external guest/group in question will be notified as soon as possible after the board meeting at which the decision was taken.
8. In all cases where a request to attend is approved, the guest will receive written confirmation including details of the date and time of the meeting along with standard conditions of attendance.
9. In the event that the reason for the request is urgent and cannot meet the advanced notice deadline as set out in Point 4 above, the request will be passed to the Chair who will deal with the request on behalf of the Board.

The Chair's will consult with all other Directors by email. In the Chair's absence, the Deputy Chair will assume this role.

The decision will be communicated by email to all members of the Board and formally recorded at the start of the meeting under routine matters.

10. At the meeting, a guest may address the Board to present their case but may not directly question officers from the Council or the strategic operating partner.

Board papers will not be circulated to guests in advance.

Approved guest attendance will only be permitted from the start/introduction of the relevant agenda item. The guest(s) must leave the meeting on conclusion of the relevant agenda item and before the next item is introduced.”

After discussion, the Board approved the Non-Director Attendance Protocol, subject to the first paragraph in point 10. being amended to read as follows:

**“At the meeting, a guest may address the Board to present their case but may not directly question a Council officer or the strategic operating partner, as that function rests solely with the Board.”**

### **Director Attendance Statement/Extension of Tenure**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 11th March, 2019, it had approved a protocol for the future monitoring and management of Directors' attendance at Board meetings. Under the protocol, a Director who failed to attend three consecutive meetings, without providing notice, or five consecutive meetings, either with or without providing notice, would be notified by the Partnership Manager.

The Partnership Manager reported that he was awaiting a response to a standard letter which he had forwarded recently to a current Director who had been absent from the last five Board meetings, with apologies having been submitted on only two of those occasions. Should that Director fail to respond, he would then be invited by the Chairperson to confirm if he wished to remain on the Board and the outcome would be reported at a future meeting.

He reported further that Mr. Boyle, Mr. Kirkwood and Mrs. McCullough had reached the end of their initial three-year term of appointment. All three Directors had confirmed officially that they wished to extend their tenure for a further term, subject to approval being granted by the Board.

The Board noted the information which had been provided in relation to the Director attendance statement and granted approval for Mr. Boyle, Mr. Kirkwood and Mrs. McCullough to remain on the Board for a further three years.

### **Proposals for Future Board Meeting Agenda Items**

No agenda items were identified by Directors for future meetings.

### **Update on the Council's Revised Government Arrangements**

In advance of the agenda items being considered, the Partnership Manager highlighted two issues which would have a significant impact upon the work of the Board over the coming months.

Firstly, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 20th November, had agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting setting out the terms of reference for a review of the Council's governance arrangements, in relation to the delivery of its leisure service.

He explained that it had been the intention to commence the review immediately, with the views of Elected Members and Directors to be sought in relation to a proposed terms of reference and other issues. However, that process had been delayed until such time as the Council was in a position to return to something approaching normal service delivery.

Secondly, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 23rd October, had agreed to suspend meetings, with the exception of Standing Committees, to enable officers to work on maintaining recovery as a priority. That, he pointed out, meant that the Board would be unable to meet for the foreseeable future and would delay in particular the recruitment of new Directors.

In response to a number of issues which had been raised, he confirmed that Directors would be kept fully informed of any issues which would arise whilst the Board was in abeyance. He added that Council officers and their GLL counterparts would work

to maintain a state of readiness in the event that Board meetings would recommence earlier than anticipated.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

(The GLL representatives joined the meeting at this point.)

### **Synthetic Pitch Utilisation and Business Performance**

The Board considered the following report which had been prepared by GLL:

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

**1.1 To provide the Board with a 2020/21 year to date update on the synthetic pitch utilisation and business performance managed by GLL in Belfast, since last reported on 20th January, 2020.**

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

**2.1 The Board is requested to note the information below.**

**GLL officers will be in attendance to provide any additional information or clarification.**

#### **3.0 Main Report**

**3.1 Occupancy and income figures for each individual centre 3G pitch managed by GLL in Belfast are presented below along with overall citywide service figures. In Quarter 1, the facilities were closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. NI Executive restrictions during periods of Q2 and Q3 have had an impact in the normal operation of pitches throughout this six month period.**

#### **3.2 City Wide Offering Quarter 2**

	July Capacity	July Occupancy	July Income	Aug Capacity	Aug Occupancy	Aug Income	Sept Capacity	Sept Occupancy	Sept Income
Andersonstown	0	0	£0.00	866	255	£285.50	866	240	£645.50
Ballysillan	680	10	£0.00	670	103	£1,731.00	672	173	£2,831.50
Brook	614	99	£1,067.00	616	307	£4,976.00	602	412	£7,925.00
Girdwood	648	188	£297.00	636	235	£5,940.00	612	251	£4,503.00
Lisnasharragh	0	0	£0.00	433	8	£160.00	433	31	£1,360.00
Olympia	1,320	23	£837.00	1,299	54	£1,909.00	1,251	75	£2,412.00
Ozone	684	38	£204.00	690	112	£806.00	690	140	£1,597.25
Whiterock	753	0	£1,546.00	707	121	£3,384.00	709	156	£3,927.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,699</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>£3,951.00</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>£19,191.50</b>	<b>5,835</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>£25,201.25</b>

### 3.3 City Wide Offering Quarter 3

	Oct Capacity	Oct Occupancy	Oct Income	Nov Capacity	Nov Occupancy	Nov Income	Dec Capacity	Dec Occupancy	Dec Income
Andersonstown	866	240	£651.00	834	0	£0.00	848	0	£0.00
Ballysillan	434	114	£1,882.50	416	0	£0.00	424	25	£409.00
Brook	3,650	249	£3,933.00	3,430	17	£412.00	3,580	92	To be Calculated
Girdwood	636	323	£5,801.00	612	78	£1,395.00	624	69	£1,243.50
Lisnasharragh	433	17	£680.00	417	0	£0.00	424	10	£400.00
Olympia	1,299	89	£2,889.00	1,251	6	£165.00	1,272	15	£498.00
Ozone	442	115	£2,432.00	426	29	£629.00	432	38	£754.00
Whiterock	736	199	£4,043.00	709	57	£4,056.00	721	To be Calculated	To be Calculated
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,496</b>	<b>1,346</b>	<b>£22,311.50</b>	<b>8,095</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>£6,657.00</b>	<b>8,325</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>£3,304.50</b>

### 3.4 Peak/Off Peak Flows

- a) **Covid-19 restrictions have resulted in a reduction in the number of user groups. In the early period of Q2 usage was limited to affiliated clubs and school groups. In the latter part of Q2, restrictions were lifted to allow non-affiliated club use.**
- b) **Covid-19 restrictions have limited competitive game usage and all youth small-sided games programmes have yet to return.**
- c) **3G pitch utilisation remains seasonal and based on demands from sports clubs.**
- d) **Association Football is the main sport utilising 3G pitch services, through clubs, leagues, schools and casual usage. Gaelic Sports and Rugby are also played on 3G pitches but not with the same demand as Association Football.**
- e) **Peak usage is from 6 pm – 9 pm across all pitches.**
- f) **Daytime usage is predominantly occupied by schools during term time. Holiday daytime use would be taken by a variety of community groups, clubs and NGBs delivering holiday programmes but Covid-19 has resulted in none of these activities taking place in 2020.**

### 3.5 User Groups

**Our user groups are represented through the following categories:**

- **Sports Clubs**

- Leagues
- National Governing Bodies
- Casual
- Schools
- Community groups,
- Casuals
- Belfast City Council

### **3.6 Action to maximise occupancy in 2021**

- a) All centres will be building their 2021 budget books to include action and outreach plans to drive utilisation and income in this area.
- b) GLL will continue to engage with the Irish FA, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby to ensure NGB-led grassroots programmes, festival and coach education programmes are encouraged on these facilities. The introduction of Avoniel in 2021 will add to our synthetic pitch options.
- c) GLL will continue to be represented on the Belfast City Council and Irish Football Association Stadium benefits working group linked to the National Stadium at Windsor Park.
- d) Targets for each centre will be developed to increase occupancy and income in line with 2021 business planning process.
- e) Target markets include local schools and businesses to drive daytime occupancy and off peak usage will continue in early 2021 and permit activities in line with current Covid-19 restrictions.
- f) Specific projects will be established focusing on adult casual participation leagues (5 & 7 a side) across the small sided pitches in the city. These projects will be in line with the Leisure Transformation Programme and will work in partnership with Belfast City Council, the Irish FA and local community groups.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

#### **Update on Healthwise and Physical Activity Referrals Programme**

The Board considered the following report which had been prepared by GLL:

##### **“1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide the Board with a six monthly progress update on the exercise and health referral programmes managed by GLL in Belfast.

## 2.0 Recommendation

2.1 The Board is requested to note the information below.

GLL officers will be in attendance to provide any additional information or clarification.

## 3.0 Main Report

### 3.1 Background

a) GLL currently delivers the following health related contracts and services:

Healthwise – 12-week exercise referral programme – Commissioned by Belfast Health Development Unit via Belfast City Council. Annual rolling contract value of £80K (£80,648.34)

Cardiac Rehabilitation – 12-week cardiac rehab programme – Commissioned by Belfast Health Development Unit via Belfast City Council. Annual contract value of £35K (£35,273.33)

Cancer Rehabilitation – 12-week cancer rehab programme – Commissioned by Belfast Health Development Unit via Belfast City Council. Annual contract value of £20K (£20,716.66)

\*Total from BHDU £137,568.33 taking account furlough payments for staff between March to 1st May 2020.

Move More Belfast - Commissioned by MacMillan Cancer. Three year contract value of £118K. Two year extension £56K from MacMillan, supported by GLL will come to an end December 2021

b) Programmes provide a 12-week physical activity programme, which adheres to regional standards and guidelines.

c) A team of dedicated health related exercise professionals delivers the above programmes. All staff are qualified to a minimum of Level III exercise referral. GLL currently employs eight dedicated Health staff directly managed by the Regional Business Manager.

d) All chronic conditions (cardiac and cancer) pathways are delivered by dedicated staff qualified to Level IV in the relevant chronic condition.

e) The aim is to promote and increase long-term adherence to physical activity and lifestyle changes

designed to improve the physical and mental health of clients who are inactive or sedentary and who are otherwise healthy or who have an existing health condition or other risk factors for disease.

- f) Staff support clients in meeting the Chief Medical Officer physical activity recommendations for adults and older people.
- g) Strategic partnerships and working groups established around chronic conditions pathways to ensure collaboration with key organisations such as Public Health Agency, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust and charitable partners.
- h) This year the proposed regional model was to be target based with payments for service delivery and contractual compliance. The payment per client was confirmed by the BHDU as £130 per client completed. For cardiac rehabilitation the payment was £150 per client and cancer rehabilitation as £150 per client. Target for GLL 2019-2020 was 1,073 completers across the three programmes.
- i) The impact of Covid-19 has resulted in the Health team not being able to deliver a face-to-face offering and therefore an agreement was made with BHDU that the programme would receive the full grant each quarter rather than be measured on KPI target delivery.
- j) Since 16th September, all referrals have been given the option of the hybrid model created by GLL in partnership with PHA which has provided a blended version of three types of delivery (face to face indoors, face to face outdoors and virtual/online) further description of this model can be viewed in 3.8 of this paper.

YTD update on all targets, referrals, progress and completions

3.2 Table 1 Healthwise KPIs 2019/20 – 2020/21

Programme	Measurable Objective	Annual Target	Progress To Date				Total
			Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
			19-20	2020-21			
Healthwise (Physical Activity referral scheme)	Total number of patients completing the programme (12 week programme)	677 *interactions recorded for referrals during covid	103	1124*	2496*		3620*

3.2.1. The support and work carried out by GLL to referrals during the last 6 months has been welcomed by BHDU and they have

agreed to release of funds for each quarter based on interactions are recorded as telephone call, motivational text message, email, home workout and video classes/sessions.

**3.3 Table 2 Cardiac Rehabilitation KPIs 2019/20 – 2020/21**

Programme	Measurable Objective	Annual Target	Progress To Date				Total
			Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
			19-20	2020-21			
Cardiac rehab Level IV	Delivery of Cardiac Rehabilitation Phase IV for clients (12 week programme) completing the programme	256 *interactions recorded for referrals during covid	19	356	288		644

**3.3.1 Due to the pandemic, cardiac nurses have been redeployed in the health service resulting in the phase III rehabilitation referrals been suspended for this period. The support and work carried out by GLL to existing referral clients during the last 6 months has been welcomed by BHDU and they have agreed to release of funds for each quarter based interactions that are recorded as telephone call, motivational text message, email, home workout and video classes/sessions.**

**3.4 Table 3 Cancer Rehabilitation KPIs 2019/20 – 2020/21**

Programme	Measurable Objective	Annual Target	Progress To Date				Total
			Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
			19-20	2020-21			
Cancer rehab Level IV	Delivery of Cancer Rehabilitation Phase IV for clients (12 week programme) completing the programme	150 *interactions recorded for referrals during covid	21	480*	*610		1090

**3.4.1 The cancer rehab programme referrals are made through the Move More Belfast pathway to the cancer rehab physical activity programme. Due to Covid-19 and the disruption of service it caused, contractual KPIs remained the same as 2019-20 year value. However, the support and work carried out by GLL to referral clients during the last 6 months justifies the release of funds from BHDU each quarter. Interactions are recorded as telephone call, motivational text message, email, home workout and video classes/sessions.**

**3.5 Table 4 ‘Move More’ Belfast KPIs 2019/20 – 2020/21**

Programme	Measurable Objective	Annual Target	Progress To Date				Total
			Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
			19-20	2020-21			
‘Move More’ Belfast MacMillan Cancer	Total number of patients completing the programme including brief intervention	125 *interactions recorded for referrals during covid	56	52	46	50	204

### **3.6 Year-end Projections**

- **The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly affected the ability to deliver on KPIs set in previous years. However, the Health team have agreed with the funders on what is possible at this time and interactions are being recorded as a way to document the progress made throughout the year.**
- **Monthly review and performance management meetings are in place to ensure that performance is closely monitored and the required outputs delivered.**
- **As per contract compliance, monthly and quarterly returns are completed for all commissioners.**

### **3.7 Regional Model**

- **Public Health Agency has developed a new regional exercise referral model for Level III Healthwise programmes. Emphasis remains on shift to providing group based classes, to increase volume and social interaction.**
- **Currently GLL have programmed 26 health referral specific classes across the city and a menu of step down options for referrals post 12 weeks. These classes include low intensity circuits, swimming, walking and yoga.**
- **The specification of Healthwise, including entry criteria, has been revised in the new regional model to focus on particular conditions outside of the current chronic disease pathways.**
- **The PHA is currently rolling out a new online GP referral database. The online GP referral database is part of the new regional model designed to deliver efficiencies in the referral process and enable clients to start programmes quicker. All GLL Healthwise coaches have been issued personal laptops in order to process online referrals.**

### **3.8 Hybrid Model**

- **Under Covid-19 Health referrals are classified as clinically vulnerable and those overcoming cancer or a cardiac issue are classified as extremely clinically vulnerable. Due to these classifications a restart plan had to be in place to ensure that these demographics were not forgotten about during the pandemic.**

- As well as offering remote support for referrals, during the latter part of the summer, the health team was working closely with the PHA to evolve the health model into a hybrid intervention. The idea of this was to support the referrals and to future proof the schemes in the volatile environment we find ourselves in to date.
- During the planning phase of the hybrid model, the Better Health team lead the way in designing how this service could be delivered throughout the regions in Northern Ireland. In partnership with the PHA and other councils in the country, GLL were the key players driving the creation of the hybrid model for all three-health programmes (PARS, Cardiac and Cancer). This position was the result of the best practice work they had already been carrying out in the earlier months of the pandemic.

The hybrid model is broken down into three delivery options:

- Face to face indoor
- Face to face outdoor
- Virtual/online

### **3.9 Issues impacting on delivery/performance**

- Currently all contracts commissioned by Belfast Health Development Unit are based on one year rolling contracts. This creates challenges around staff recruitment and retention. It is anticipated that this will be addressed in the new regional model with longer-term contracts providing improved job security and stability of service.
- GLL's access to the new online GP referral database was delayed due to access and firewall security. This delay has been resolved but has resulted in a waiting list of referrals approx. GLL are working between two systems the historic paper and the new online as GPs/health care professionals are still not up to date with using the new online pathway. Discussions are ongoing with BHDU and PHA and it is hoped that this will be resolved soon.
- Redeployment of cardiac phase III nurses and the phase III rehabilitation classes that are currently not being delivered. Therefore no new referral for phase IV programme.

- **Waiting list due to honouring referrals membership when lockdown commenced and delay in hybrid model creation.**
- **Ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.”**

In response to a number of Directors who had highlighted the need to introduce specific programmes for those people whose health had been affected by Covid-19, Mr. Michael confirmed that GLL had held initial discussions with the Public Health Agency and the Belfast Health Development Unit in that regard.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

### **Update on Operating Restrictions and Impact of Covid-19**

The Board considered the following report which had been prepared by GLL:

#### **“1.0 Purpose of Report**

**1.1 To provide the Board with an update on the current operating restrictions and projected three month Covid-19 impacts.**

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

**2.1 The Board is requested to the information provided below.**

**GLL officers will be in attendance to provide any additional information or clarification.**

#### **3.0 Main Report**

**3.1 At the outset of the Covid19 pandemic, all leisure centres were directed to close from 17th March – 9th July 2020.**

**During this time, centres were maintained by a small group of management staff who undertook daily building checks. That team also opened centres for statutory compliance works and supported on average 50 requests per week from Belfast City Council colleagues.**

**Our Healthwise team was initially stood down but returned to on-line client support from 1st May. Almost all other colleagues were placed on the coronavirus job retention scheme.**

**All customer accounts were frozen and communications ensured that stakeholders were regularly updated.**

**Following reopening on 10th July the approved list of centre activities gradually increased until October 2020 when further restrictions were announced although at that stage centres were permitted to remain open.**

- 3.2 A second and shorter lockdown of two weeks once more closed our centres from 27th November – 10th December. Management followed the demobilisation protocol used during the first lockdown
- 3.3 Following an NI Executive announcement on 17th December 2020, the Belfast leisure centres closed after business on 24th December.
- 3.4 The present closure is expected to last between 4-6 weeks, therefore giving indicative end dates of between 23rd January – 6th February 2021. Guidance from UK active (below) confirms the NI Executive position:

*Following the recent announcements, From 00:01 26 December to 1 January inclusive (ends at 00:01 on 2 Jan) Indoor sports and exercise facilities, including soft play areas, leisure centres, climbing facilities, rinks, gyms, swimming pools, equestrian centres and venues relating to sports activity must close.*

*From 00:01 2 January 2021 (note these restrictions are likely to last for at least a further 5 weeks) Outdoor gatherings for the purposes of exercise or sport are only permitted for elite athletes, for the purposes of P.E in or for schools, or if participants are members of the same household.*

*Outdoor sports and exercise facilities including activity centres, equestrian centres, Golf courses, marinas and venues relating to motor sport and water sport must close.*

*Indoor sport is only permitted for elite athletes or for P.E in, or for, schools.*

*Indoor sports and exercise facilities, including soft play areas, leisure centres, climbing facilities, rinks, gyms, swimming pools, equestrian centres and venues relating to sports activity must close.*

*Elite training and competition can continue, both indoors and outdoors*

- 3.5 In line with lockdown, the following actions have been completed by 24th December:

Centres closed down and building checker rota in place. Efficiency measures enacted in plant areas.

Communications to stakeholders completed

Booking systems suspended and customer accounts updated

Staff furlough arrangements enacted and ongoing staff communications plan being developed

**Note –**

**No income will be generated during January 2021. This should be noted against a January 2020 income position of £651,237.**

**Government CJRS (furlough) support has been extended to 30th April 2021 and will continue to be utilised where appropriate. At the time of writing it is not expected that the majority of our products will be available prior to late spring / early summer of 2021. This has been reflected in 2021 budget preparations.**

### **3.6 LTP impact**

**It should be noted that the water slides at Andersonstown LC have not yet been opened for public use.**

**The Surf Air offering at Andersonstown was in use from September – October 2020 and following testing was growing in popularity. Unfortunately the introduction of further operating restrictions in October resulted in closure.**

**Inflatable products for Brook and Lisnasharragh have been delivered and initially tested although these too remain to be made available for public usage.”**

The Board noted the contents of the report.

### **Update on Leisure Transformation Programme**

The Council’s Partnership Manager submitted for the Board’s consideration the following report:

#### **“1.0 Purpose of Report**

**1.1 To provide the Board with an update on the Leisure Transformation Programme (LTP) capital build projects and service modernisation.**

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

**2.1 The Board is requested to note the content and record receipt of the information presented.**

#### **3.0 Main Report**

**3.1 The LTP comprises two distinct strands. Namely, the capital build programme and the service modernisation programme. Members receive regular updates on various elements of the service modernisation programme through a variety of reports from BCC officers and GLL. Members of the board requested that regular updates on the capital build programme be included in the annual report schedule.**

### **3.2 Brook and Lisnasharragh Leisure Centres**

- a) Brook and Lisnasharragh leisure centres opened in December 2019 and were added to the routine KPI reporting systems from January 2020.**
- b) Both centres were fully operational and returning impressive business growth until the first Covid-19 lockdown in mid-March 2020.**

### **3.3 Andersonstown Leisure Centre**

- a) Andersonstown LC was completed and scheduled to open in March 2020. The opening was subsequently postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions.**
- b) The centre was part opened in July following some relaxation of restrictions. Dry facilities including the fitness suite, group exercise programme and outdoor pitch use were permitted under strict Covid-Safe operating protocols.**
- c) In August, the main pool was opened, again under strict operating protocols.**
- d) The leisure water (Splash Pad, Slides and Surf Air) remains closed. The Surf Air facility was briefly open for public use in September/October but was closed in November due to the introduction of further Covid-19 restrictions and has remained closed since.**
- e) Taking advantage of the forced closure, some additional works to the Splash Pad floor surface will be completed in February.**
- f) Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, the leisure water features may open around Easter of 2021.**

### **3.4 Avoniel and Templemore Capital Developments**

- a) Both sites have been transferred to the main contractor.**
- b) Construction has not been significantly impacted by Covid-19 restriction. Both developments remain on schedule as set out below.**

	<b>Avoniel</b>	<b>Templemore</b>
<b>Date contractor went on site</b>	January/February 2020 (site clearance and demolition).  Actual redevelopment works started late summer.	Contractor on site from October 2020
<b>Projected completion date</b>	September/October 2021	April 2022
<b>Current building progress (very brief description)</b>	Demolition and site clearance has been completed.  Construction of new building, cover for outdoor 3G pitches and associated fencing is well underway.	Hospital site has been cleared and foundations for new build element of facility are well underway.  Existing building is currently being stripped back in preparation for restoration works
<b>Facilities</b>	<p><b><u>OUTDOOR</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 X full size 3G soccer pitch (intermediate standard)</li> <li>• 1 X 7-a-side 3G soccer pitch</li> <li>• 5 X 5-a-side 3G soccer cages (3 covered)</li> <li>• Car parking</li> </ul> <p><b><u>INDOOR</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 x team changing facilities</li> <li>• 2 x multi-purpose studios</li> <li>• 2 x multi-use meeting rooms</li> <li>• Office/admin space</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>OUTDOOR</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parking</li> </ul> <p><b><u>INDOOR</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage and Interpretive space</li> <li>• Retained 3 lane 25yd pool</li> <li>• New 25m 6 lane pool with 150 spectator seats</li> <li>• Village changing</li> <li>• 80 station Fitness suite</li> <li>• Café</li> <li>• Steam/Sauna Spa</li> <li>• Flexible 'lettable' space (Caretakers House)</li> </ul>

**3.5 BCC and GLL officers will be in attendance to answer any questions.”**

The Board noted the contents of the report.

(The GLL representatives left the meeting at this point.)

**Active Belfast Limited Annual Plan – 2021/22**

The Partnership Manager drew the Director’s attention to a report which provided details of future Board meetings, an amended action plan for the delivery of the agreed objectives and outputs set out in the five-year Strategic Plan, Director recruitment and

proposed dates for open forum meetings. It sought approval also to hold an annual strategic planning workshop on a date to be determined in November.

After discussion, the Board agreed, in light of the revised governance arrangements which the Partnership Manager had outlined earlier in the meeting, to adhere to the Council's decision and not meet again in any format until the situation had improved.

### **Update on Director Recruitment**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 14th December, it had approved a proposed approach for the recruitment of up to a maximum of four new Directors. As in previous recruitment exercises, the process would be managed in consultation with Volunteer Now, given its extensive network of contacts within the voluntary sector.

The Partnership Manager reported that he had, on 4th January, held discussions with Volunteer Now and that a comprehensive recruitment plan had been formulated, which would, amongst other things, seek to target candidates from a variety of backgrounds to promote better diversity on the Board, in line with Director's wishes.

In terms of a timeframe, it had been envisaged that the recruitment campaign would commence in February and that successful applicants would attend their first Board meeting no later than June. However, in light of the revised governance arrangements which the Council had put in place to ensure that maintaining recovery would be given priority, details of which had been provided earlier in the meeting, that timeframe would no longer be achievable. Accordingly, he recommended that the Board agree to retain the recruitment plan and place the recruitment process on hold until such time as there was a return to a sustained level of business stability.

The Board adopted the recommendation.

### **Other Business**

No additional items of business were raised.

Chairperson