

REPORT TO CABINET

31 January 2018

Subject:	Commonwealth Games Aquatic Centre
Presenting Cabinet Member:	Councillor Paul Moore – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Investment
Director:	Executive Director - Neighbourhoods – Dr Alison Knight
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Key Decision:	Yes
Forward Plan (28-day notice) Reference:	SMBC13/10/2017
Cabinet Member Approval and Date:	Councillor Moore – 16 January 2018
Director Approval:	Dr Alison Knight – 10 January 2018
Reason for Urgency:	Urgency provisions do not apply
Exempt Information Ref:	Exemption provisions do not apply
Ward Councillor (s) Consulted (if applicable):	Ward coluncillors have not been consulted
Scrutiny Consultation Considered?	Scrutiny have not been consulted
Contact Officer(s):	Chris Jones chris2_jones@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to construct a new aquatics centre in Sandwell with the following minimum facility mix:
 - Olympic sized competition swimming pool with moveable floor / booms;
 - 25m x 10m diving pool with moveable floor;
 - 500 spectator seats;
 - 2 x 150 sqm activity studios;
 - Required change village space with 4 scholars' rooms;
 - 12 court sport hall;
 - 125 station gym;
 - 25 station ladies only gym;
 - Indoor cycling studio;
 - Sauna / steam room;
 - Café;
 - 50m warm up pool (for Commonwealth Games – long-term options to be reviewed); and
 - 5000 spectator seats (for Commonwealth Games – long-term options to be reviewed).
2. Authorise the Executive Director - Resources to agree an in principle capital budget of £27.6m to contribute towards the development of a new aquatics centre in Sandwell to meet local sport and leisure needs and host the aquatics events at the Commonwealth Games 2022;
3. In connection with recommendation 1, authorise the Executive Director - Resources to allocate £4m of the in principle budget to facilitate project start-up costs and initial works required to deliver the new aquatics centre;
4. Authorise the Executive Director - Resources to allocate a £1.5m budget to fund the Project Team and external advisors to manage the delivery of the aquatics centre;
5. Authorise the Executive Director - Resources to submit funding bids to Sport England, Black Country LEP, and other relevant funding bodies to support the delivery of the aquatics centre;
6. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to construct the new aquatics centre on Londonderry Playing Fields (Smethwick);
7. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to look at the adequate re-provision of any potential lost football pitches on Londonderry Playing Fields;

8. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Executive Director - Resources and funding partners to utilise the SCAPE Framework for the design and build of the new aquatics centre;
9. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to commission the design and delivery of highways infrastructure improvements, including improvements to facilitate public transport links;
10. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to create an internal Commonwealth Games Project Team consisting of 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Director (Service Manager Level 2), 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Manager (Grade J), and 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Officer (Grade G);
11. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods to commence the procurement of specialist contractors and advisors to support the internal Project Team to deliver the aquatics centre;
12. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Director - Monitoring Officer and the Executive Director - Resources to agree a Business Plan with Sandwell Leisure Trust for the operational management of the aquatics centre and enter into a lease in line with the Sandwell Leisure Trust Management and Funding Agreement;
13. The Council be recommended to appoint Members to the Commonwealth Games 2022 Working Group to support the delivery of the aquatics centre, the legacy of the Commonwealth Games, and community involvement in the delivery;
14. Authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Director - Monitoring Officer to sign legal agreements and contracts associated with the delivery of the Commonwealth Games 2022 and the aquatics centre;
15. The Executive Director - Neighbourhoods provide a further report to Cabinet for approval of final project costs, facility details, and procurement contract award;
16. The Executive Director - Neighbourhoods provide a further report to Cabinet on the future use of Langley Swimming Centre, Smethwick Swimming Centre and Harry Mitchell Leisure Centre, Smethwick.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to build a new aquatics centre in Sandwell to meet the needs of local residents, to provide a regionally significant facility to support the development of aquatic sport in the West Midlands area, and to act as the aquatics venue for the Commonwealth Games 2022.

2 IMPLICATION FOR THE COUNCIL'S AMBITION

2.1 The provision of a new aquatics facility in Sandwell will enhance the opportunity for people to participate in leisure activities and improve their health and wellbeing. It will help contribute to the reduction of heart disease, diabetes and other medical conditions. It will help create jobs in construction and the associated supply chain as well as in the hospitality industry during the period when the Commonwealth Games are held. There will also be a legacy of improved sustainable transport links that provide health benefits associated with more active travel options.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The Council has a good range of both formal and informal leisure provision throughout the borough and this report focuses on formal provision through the councils built facilities. To maintain the quality of the facilities and ensure both current and future demand can be met the Council formed the Select Committee for Leisure Provision to develop a Sport & Leisure Built Facilities Strategy. To support this, Sport England were commissioned to conduct an appraisal of existing provision with a specific focus on swimming pools and capacity. The review was carried out using the facilities planning model used by Sport England to make own investment decisions.

3.2 To complement this work, the Council commissioned external consultants; Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP) to carry out a consultation exercise on both existing and new sport and leisure facilities in Sandwell.

3.3 The KKP consultation report highlighted the high levels of physical inactivity in Sandwell with swimming and gyms being some of the more popular activities. There was also a view from respondents that a good range of mixed facilities that were clean with adequate privacy for users and managed by well trained staff was more desirable than those that didn't have these attributes.

3.4 The report also identified a number of barriers to using the facilities, such as:

- Accessibility (distance of facility from users homes);
- Quality and cost of the facility; and

- Usage of other facilities.
- 3.5 There were a number of facilities which respondents felt were not in good condition. These included Smethwick Swimming Centre, Langley Swimming Centre, and Harry Mitchell Leisure Centre. As part of any new development, respondents wished to see the following types of provision:
- Swimming pool for teaching and learning to swim;
 - Fitness gym;
 - Studio's for fitness classes; and
 - Swimming pool for competitions and events.
- 3.6 The outcome of the review, contributed to the work of the Select Committee for Leisure Provision and the formulation of Sandwell Sport & Leisure Built Facilities Strategy which sets out the long-term plan for the Council's leisure facilities stock. A report recommending the adoption of the strategy will be presented to Cabinet on 31 January 2018 before being presented at full Council in March 2018.
- 3.7 The conclusion of the review supports the Council's ambition to build a new facility with a 50m pool in the south of the borough where the demand is greatest. The development of a new wet and dry multi use leisure facility would also address the quality issue of some of the aging facilities referred to above and provide significant financial savings for the Council.
- 3.8 Whilst the Council has been developing the Sandwell Sport & Leisure Built Facilities Strategy, the opportunity arose to be involved in Birmingham's submission for the Commonwealth Games 2022 and utilise any new 50m pool in Sandwell to host the aquatics events.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Birmingham was selected as the Candidate City to host the Commonwealth Games 2022 by the UK Government and was awarded the Games by the Commonwealth Games Federation Executive on 21 December 2017.
- 4.2 In view of the above, the development of a new facility in Sandwell has a heightened level of urgency as this will need to be delivered well in advance of the games and no later than the summer of 2021 to allow sufficient time for testing and preparation for the games.
- 4.3 All existing facilities that may be affected by the provision of the new aquatics centre will remain open to the public until suitable re-provision is delivered.

Facility specification

- 4.4 To achieve the Council's objectives, the new facility would need to have the following baseline facility mix as a minimum:
- Olympic sized competition swimming pool with moveable floor / booms;
 - 25m x 10m diving pool with moveable floor;
 - 500 spectator seats;
 - 2 x 150 sqm activity studios;
 - Required change village with 4 scholars' rooms;
 - 12 court sport hall;
 - 125 station gym;
 - 25 station ladies only gym;
 - Indoor cycling studio;
 - Sauna / steam room; and
 - Café.
- 4.5 In order to meet the requirements of the games, the specification would need to be enhanced as follows and all the pools would need be built to the standard to meet the Federation Internationale De Natation (Fina) facilities rules:
- 50m warm up pool; and
 - 5000 spectator seats.
- 4.6 Modelling will be undertaken on the long-term options for both Commonwealth Game specific elements of the facility mix. The 50m warm up pool may provide support beyond the Games for further community swimming and enable swimming continuity for local residents if there is a competition / swimming gala being held in the main pool hall.
- 4.7 Discussions will be held with the relevant partners on the spectator seating number requirement for the legacy use of the facility.
- 4.8 A final specification for the building will be reported to Cabinet at a later date for approval prior to procurement financial close and contract award.

Land availability for the new facility

- 4.9 The total land required to accommodate a facility of this size would be around 10 acres. Having undertaken a review of all suitable sites, officers have identified Londonderry Playing Fields in Smethwick (appendix 1) as the most suitable site for the aquatics centre. Although, there is another site that would have been suitable for the development, this is not in the Council's ownership and negotiations with the owners have not led to a satisfactory conclusion.

- 4.10 Londonderry Playing Fields is in a geographical location to meet the access needs of local residents. This area was also highlighted as having a high demand for a swimming facility by the facility planning model undertaken by Sport England to support the work of the Select Committee for Leisure Provision.
- 4.11 In view of the Commonwealth Games 2022 timetable, it is critical for the Council to have a site that is available for the development as soon as possible. The Londonderry Playing Fields site is able to fulfil the requirements for the games and provides a viable solution for the council to move forward on.
- 4.12 There are playing pitches on the site. Positive discussions are underway with the relevant authorities to mitigate the construction of a facility on this site. The Council will seek to ensure the re-provision of suitable playing pitches is made to mitigate the loss of any football pitches that may occur due to the construction of the new aquatics centre.
- 4.13 The site remains subject to formal ratification by the Commonwealth Games Federation. However, given the evidence found in the site appraisal on the suitability of Londonderry Playing Fields the Council has a strong business case for its proposal.

Benefits of a new built facility

- 4.14 The consultation work, Sport England facilities modelling and the recommendations of the Select Committee for Leisure Provision with respect to the Sandwell Sport & Leisure Built Facilities Strategy demonstrate the need for a new facility in the south of the borough. The location would meet demand and accessibility by car and public transport can be enhanced so that the site would be well served in this area, to cater for the needs of a diverse range of customers. The facility:
- Would be a high-quality standard and modern to meet customer expectations;
 - Provide commercial benefits through staging of national and local events and galas;
 - Enable local clubs to flourish and excel in swimming without having to travel to other 50m venues such as in Manchester, Coventry or Corby;
 - Could cater for the needs of dry sports such as badminton, basketball and netball, indoor tennis, gymnastics and trampolining;
 - Could provide more school swimming lessons;
 - Could provide a dedicated community use programme;
 - Help increase participation and the overall swimming offer;
 - Reduce costs for the council;

- Provide the opportunity to develop alternative uses for existing facilities that would no longer be required; and
- Future proof provision by being able to meet needs from population growth.

- 4.15 The development of new facilities would also help to get people more active and provide other benefits such as improving health and wellbeing (diabetes, cancer, heart disease, dementia etc), improve employee productivity, help tackle social isolation by encouraging people to participate in sport events, improve educational attainment and childhood obesity.
- 4.16 The delivery of this project will lead to highways infrastructure improvements for the surrounding area. This will look at both improvements to the highways to improve traffic flow. This route is already served by public transport routes but these will be further reviewed to seek enhancement through discussions with Transport for West Midlands.
- 4.17 The commonwealth games would provide a lasting legacy for Sandwell and the wider region. Evidence suggests that sporting events can create employment and wider economic benefits as well as inspire people to get involved. The post Glasgow Games study illustrated that jobs were created and contributions over £740m were made to the local economy. It would provide global exposure to Sandwell and the opportunity to harness this for ongoing and sustained improvement of the borough and achievement of the council's new 2030 vision.

5 COMMONWEALTH GAMES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 One of the key elements of hosting a global event such as this, is the expectation to ensure they leave behind a legacy that provides real and enduring benefits for the local community. In the case of Sandwell, the Council's proposals for a new facility in the borough which is sustainable and meets the needs of the community has strengthened the submission.
- 5.2 The Commonwealth Games 2022 will also enable the engagement of the local community to be involved in the development of the Games and volunteering to support their delivery. There is a real opportunity to work to build a real long-term sporting legacy with Sandwell residents and this will be progressed in the build-up to the launch of the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- 5.3 There is always a real opportunity to engage with schools in the borough, both primary and secondary, to build enthusiasm for sport in Sandwell, increase long-term levels of physical activity and help young Sandwell residents achieve their aspirations and be successful.

5.4 In addition to the time pressure of developing the new facility there will be a number of other factors that will need to be taken account of, some of which may be opportunities for the borough, whilst others will need to be carefully managed working closely with the Birmingham Bid Company and the structures that will be established to manage the overall programme.

5.5 Some of these factors (not exhaustive list) may include:

- Additional levels of monitoring progress and input from the games organisers into specifications and construction of the facility and venue overlay designs;
- Ensuring the facility is built to the exacting quality standards required by the CGF;
- The need to comply with the host city contract, CGF games manual, sponsors and funders contracts;
- Ensuring Sandwell benefits from visitors, sponsorship, broadcasting rights, marketing, merchandise sales licenses, securing a route through Sandwell for the Queen's baton relay etc;
- Participating in opening and closing ceremonies;
- Securing a swimming team to use Sandwell as their training venue and the associated revenue arising from this;
- Assisting with transport planning for visitors and competitors to the venue;
- Working to support model venue exercises;
- Ensuring timing, scoring, results and games management systems are in place at the facility (and maximising any opportunities that may arise from sponsorship deals with providers); and
- Preventing ambush marketing.

6 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project Team

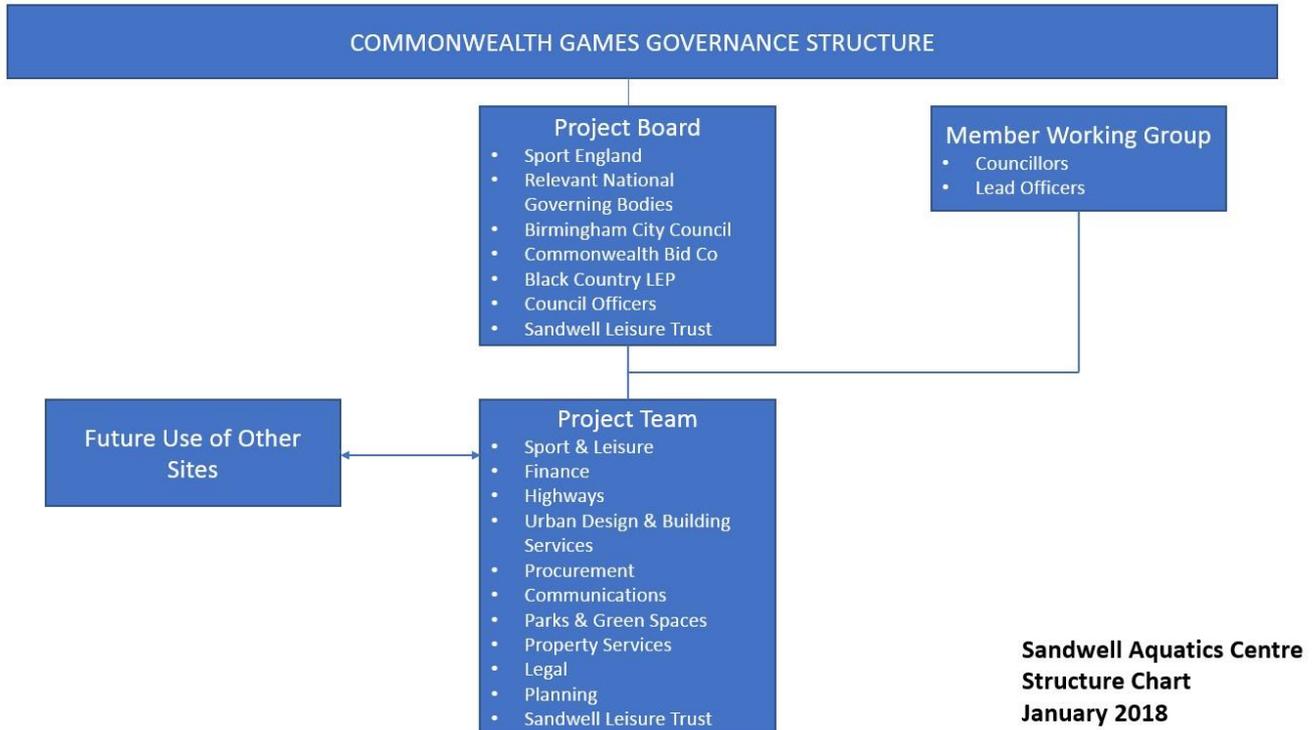
6.1 The successful delivery of this project will require dedicated project management resources supported by a multi-disciplinary team of officers and external specialist. It is recommended that the following posts are created to form this team:

- 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Director (Service Manager Level 2)
- 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Manager (Grade J)
- 1 x FTE Commonwealth Games Project Officer (Grade G)

- 6.2 It is also recommended that external specialisms in legal, swimming pool filtration & design, and mechanical and electrical design are also procured to support the project.
- 6.3 The total budget required for the Project Team is £1.5m for the period from January 2018 to March 2023.

Project Governance

- 6.4 The recommended governance structure is as per the structure chart below:



- 6.5 The project will be managed by a Project Board which will be chaired by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and will include strategic project partners, including Birmingham City Council, Sport England, relevant National Governing Bodies for Sport, and Sandwell Leisure Trust. The Project Board will be supported by a Member Working Group which will also include lead officers. The project will be delivered by the Project Team which will have a number of workstreams operating underneath it.
- 6.6 The Project Board will report in to the Commonwealth Games Governance Structure to the appropriate group.

Outline Programme

- 6.7 The outline programme for the delivery of the project is as follows:

Timescale	Activity
Jan-Dec 2018 (phase 1)	Site preparation, highways works, planning permission, design and procure specialist advisors and contractor to build aquatics centre and prepare site.
Jan 2019 – December 2020 (phase 2)	Construction of aquatics centre.
Jan 2021 – March 2021 (phase 3)	Handover to Sandwell Leisure Trust for operational use and open to public.
July 2021 (phase 4)	Nonexclusive access for Organising Committee of the Commonwealth Games to conduct tests.
June 2022 – August 2022 (phase 5)	Handover to Commonwealth Games for exclusive use of venue.
August 2022 – March 2023	Legacy construction works.

- 6.8 As can be seen from the indicative timescale, the delivery timeframe provides very little scope for slippages.
- 6.9 Throughout the project a work stream will be in place to engage with local residents and concentrate on the legacy of the Commonwealth Games 2022 and to maximise residents' involvement in the Games.

7 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 7.1 To enable the Select Committee for Leisure Provision to understand the views of Sandwell residents, a comprehensive community consultation exercise was undertaken over a period of 12 weeks. This consultation took the form of an online survey for residents to complete, which attracted 793 responses, and face to face / telephone consultation with local community groups, schools, and sports clubs.
- 7.2 The community consultation focused on residents' views on whether the existing older leisure facilities are in a good condition, meet their needs, and what further activities they would wish to participate in should facilities be remodelled or replaced with new provision.
- 7.3 The Select Committee for Leisure Provision also consulted with National Governing Bodies for Sport to understand what their priorities are for Sandwell and the facilities that they would require to meet their needs.

- 7.4 The information from this consultation exercise has been used to develop the minimum facility mix for the new aquatics centre and also support the choice of location, being central to the residents it will serve allowing for easy access.
- 7.5 A full Consultation Plan will be developed to support the delivery of this project. This will include the detailed consultation with local residents on the delivery of this scheme.
- 7.6 An enhanced consultation exercise on the site will be undertaken through the planning process to understand residents' views.

8 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

8.1 Option one – Build 50m pool and multi – use leisure facility (not recommended)

This option would create jobs in construction, leisure and hospitality and meet the needs of the borough and enable the council to achieve financial savings to help contribute to the General Fund deficit. It would also enable the council to look at alternative use for some existing leisure facilities that would no longer be needed. However, it would not meet the needs of the Commonwealth Games.

8.2 Option two – Build the aquatics centre for the Commonwealth Games (recommended)

This option would deliver all the benefits of option one as well as an international standard facility suitable for hosting the Commonwealth Games. It would provide additional capacity for community use and a lasting legacy of the Games and future proof leisure provision to meet the needs of a rising population. It would attract sponsorships, promote Sandwell nationally and globally and enhance the prospects of long term sustainability of the venue.

8.3 Do nothing and remain (not recommended)

The pursuit of this option would result in none of the benefits of either option above being achieved as well as cause significant reputational damage for the Council as the aquatics centre is a key venue for the Commonwealth Games. It would not meet the needs of the community, and result in the council having to retain 2 very old leisure facilities buildings. It would not generate the financial savings from reduced operating costs, and may well increase costs for the council in the future.

9 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The total cost of the recommended option is estimated to be in the region of £60m. However, 75% of the cost of the enhanced facility to meet the Commonwealth Games requirements would be met by the Organising Committee.
- 9.2 To deliver this project the Council will have to commit to an in-principle amount of £27.6m. The remainder of the funding will be met by the Commonwealth Games Organising Committee.
- 9.3 Officers will move to secure funding from other sources to reduce the £27.6m committed to by the Council. This will include, but not limited to, bid submissions to the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership and Sport England.
- 9.4 To deliver the project, the development of a Project Team will be required. The total budget required for the Project Team is £1.5m for the period from January 2018 to March 2023. This budget will fund the posts detailed in clause 6.1 of this report and the procurement of external expertise to support the delivery of the project.
- 9.5 A further report will be provided to Cabinet with full financial details following the full design and costing of the new facility. A full financial appraisal will be undertaken prior to this report being presented to Cabinet.
- 9.6 To enable the Council to deliver the facility in the required timescales, it will be necessary to deliver the project through a OJEU Compliant Procurement Framework. Following an evaluation by officers of the Frameworks to which the Council has access to, it is recommended that the SCAPE Framework is used. This recommendation is made following the comparison of Overhead and Profit fees along with the relevant experience of the building contractor(s) available through the SCAPE Framework. This appointment will be made in consultation with major funding partners.
- 9.7 Sandwell Leisure Trust will operate the facility on behalf of the Council. A full revenue business case for the operation of the facility will be reported to Cabinet in a further report following Business Plan negotiations with Sandwell Leisure Trust.

10 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 The Local Government Act 1972 s120 provides the council with the power to acquire land for any purpose and The Local Government (Miscellaneous

Provisions) Act 1976 s19 (1)(a) provides the council with the power to provide indoor recreational facilities which includes sports centres and swimming pools.

- 10.2 The Council will need to comply with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 when procuring contractors to develop the new facility.
- 10.3 There will be other contracts the council will have to sign with funding bodies and the Commonwealth Games organisers and appropriate legal advice will need to be sought prior to doing so.
- 10.4 There will need to be agreements in place for the operator of the new leisure facility as well as compliance with the host city contract.
- 10.5 The Council will also need to consult with Fields in Trust to seek their consent before building anything on the site as it is a protected site.

11 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 The facility will be accessible to all but a full equality impact assessment will be undertaken for the development of the new facility to ensure it complies with both the Equalities Act 2010 and the relevant Building Regulations.

12 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 12.1 There are no data protection implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

13 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 13.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

14 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 14.1 There will be further detailed business planning and financial modelling that will take place as part of the development of the project. However, based on the facilities planning model used by Sport England and other Sport England data and the known need in the borough it is likely that the facility will be financially sustainable.
- 14.2 The use of sustainable modes of transport to ensure the greatest possible access.

14.3 Meeting the Councils obligations as Lead Local Flood Authority includes the promoting exemplary sustainable drainage options through flood risk assessment.

15 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

15.1 These are set out in the body of the report. The facility is likely to provide significant health and wellbeing benefits. The procurement of the construction contracts will ensure local employment and training opportunities are provided for including providing apprenticeships and ensuring wherever possible, materials are sourced locally and from sustainable sources. The facility itself will also be engineered to minimise energy use.

16 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

16.1 The implementation of the recommendations in this report will have an impact on other existing older leisure facilities in the borough, Langley Swimming Centre, Smethwick Swimming Centre, and Harry Mitchell Leisure Centre, which will need to be reviewed as part of a longer term built facilities management strategy. The Council are committed to keeping these facilities open unless suitable re-provision is delivered. Further Cabinet reports will be provided on the future use of these facilities.

16.2 The site has a primary allocation in the Site Allocations and Delivery Document (Development Plan) as Community Open Space. There is a general presumption against the development of land allocated as Community Open Space. The site was however rated as Low Value Low Quality in the Green Space audit (2013) and this rating suggests that the site should be assessed for its alternative development potential.

16.3 Paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that;

Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

1. An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
2. The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
3. The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

- 16.4 In relation to point 3 it is clear that it is proposed that the open space site is to be developed to provide alternative sports and recreational provision. Any planning application will therefore have to demonstrate that the need for the alternative sports and recreational provision outweighs the loss of the open space to justify the development. In addition, a sequential test may be required to confirm that there are no other suitable alternative sites that are in or near Town Centres.
- 16.5 As the development is a departure from the allocation as Community Open Space in the Development Plan, any application approved by the Planning Committee will need to be referred to full Council for determination.
- 16.6 There are playing pitches on the site. The Council will seek to ensure the re-provision of suitable playing pitches is made to mitigate the loss of any football pitches that may occur due to the construction of the new aquatics centre.
- 16.7 Highway and transportation impacts will be determined as part of Traffic Impact Assessment work at the earliest opportunity through pre-application processes leading the Planning Approval.

17 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1 The Commonwealth Games provides a significant opportunity to deliver a new aquatics facility which will not only meet the requirements of the games, but leave a lasting legacy for Sandwell for the benefit of the borough's residents. It will also provide huge media exposure for the borough both nationally and internationally which the Council can capitalise on to help attract visitors and investors and deliver its 2030 vision.
- 17.2 There are financial and delivery risks associated with the project which will need to be robustly managed and the council will need to give this capital project priority to ensure it is delivered on time and budget and to the prescribed specifications.
- 17.3 The proposed recommendations will give officers the authority to be able to act quickly as and when decisions need to be made in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure. The project governance arrangements will ensure members and other stakeholders are kept informed and are fully involved in the delivery of the project.

18 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Sandwell Council sport and leisure facilities consultation draft report:
Knight, Kavanagh and Page (May 2017);
Sandwell FPM report: Sport England (May 2017);
West Midlands on the move strategic framework 2017-30: West Midlands
Combined Authority (May 2017);
Sandwell Sport and Leisure Built Facilities (December 2017).

19 APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 site plan

