

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Active Communities: Establishment of a Community Interest Company to Deliver Active Communities Programmes and Operate Council-Owned Leisure Centres

Report to Cabinet

Date: 22nd December 2020

Report of: (a) Cabinet Member for Sustainable Stockport

Key Decision: (b) Y

Forward Plan ☒ General Exception ☐ Special Urgency ☐ (Mark with a Y if applicable)

Summary:

This report seeks Cabinet approval for further work to progress on the establishment of a new wholly-owned Community Interest Company (CIC) to deliver active communities programmes on behalf of the Council and to operate Council-owned leisure centres. These new arrangements will be a different structure to that currently operated with the leisure trust, Life Leisure, who have provided a well-regarded leisure service within the Borough for the last 18 years but have faced huge operational challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)

I fully endorse and support the approach outlined in the report.

Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)

Cabinet are asked to authorise the establishment of a Community Interest Company to deliver active communities programmes on behalf of the Council and to operate Council owned leisure centres subject to:

- (i) the development of a detailed business case and benefit rationalisation for moving to a Community Interest Company with advice on the optimum timescale and scope of services to minimise overall Council spend on active communities/leisure whilst maximising the impact of interventions to improve levels of physical activity in the Borough.
- (ii) the development of a detailed implementation and transition plan to move from current arrangements to a Community Interest Company at an appropriate time which minimises overall Council spend on active communities/leisure whilst maximising the impact of interventions to improve levels of physical activity in the Borough.

Cabinet are asked to delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) and Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate & Support Services), in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Sustainable Stockport and Resources, Commissioning & Governance to take all action necessary to establish the Community Interest Company and transfer services to the new organisation.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**
Communities & Housing

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Paul Richards
Tel: 0161-474-2940

'Urgent Business': **(g)**

Yes/ No (Please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.
