

REPORT TO SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY BOARD

28 March 2019

Subject:	Review of the Legacy Plans for the Sandwell Aquatics Centre & Commonwealth Games 2022
Cabinet Portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Leisure and Commonwealth Games – Councillor Bill Gavan
Director:	Executive Director – Neighbourhoods – Alison Knight
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Abigail Kellas Project Officer

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board:

1. consider and comment upon the information presented on the proposed Legacy plans; and
2. make recommendations on taking forward the approach outlined.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Scrutiny with an overview of the recommendations to develop and launch the Legacy workstream.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR VISION 2030

Vision 2030 Ambition	Ambition Statement	How the Legacy to this 2030 Vision
Ambition 1	Sandwell is a community where our families have high aspirations and where we pride ourselves on equality of opportunity and on our adaptability and resilience.	Through education and sports development, future generations in Sandwell will inspired to compete at the highest level in sports. We will encourage families to be active and inspire all generations to participate in physical activity and join sporting clubs. The Sandwell Aquatics Centre will be a facility which encourages children and athletes to dream of achieving international sports accolades. The facility will provide Smethwick and wider Sandwell with more opportunities than they currently have access to, increasing aspirations across the borough.
Ambition 2	Sandwell is a place where we live healthy lives and live them for longer, and where those of us who are vulnerable feel respected and cared for.	We will help more people be active, fit and well by providing services in a way and a place and time that is convenient to them. Sandwell Council will work closely with the community to ensure that residents use the facility Commonwealth Games to live healthier lives.
Ambition 3	Our workforce and young people are skilled and talented, geared up to respond to changing business needs to win rewarding jobs in a growing economy.	Through the build and development of the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the delivery of the Commonwealth Games, there will be an increase in jobs and apprenticeship opportunities. The provision of new jobs and training programmes will present the local community with the opportunity to train and develop. Sandwell Council will work closely with schools, colleges and local businesses to ensure that our community gets the best opportunities available to them.
Ambition 4	Our children benefit from the best start in life and a high-quality education through their school careers with outstanding support from their teachers and families.	We will work closely with schools, colleges and other educational providers to ensure there is an established support structure in place which will develop stronger relationships. We will work with families to encourage parents to be more involved in their child's education, using the Commonwealth Games and athlete engagement to drive ambition and inspiration.

Vision 2030 Ambition	Ambition Statement	How the Legacy to this 2030 Vision
Ambition 5	Our communities are built on mutual respect and taking care of each other, supported by all agencies that ensure we feel safe and protected in our homes and local neighbourhoods.	We will provide more opportunity for people to participate and engage in sport by delivering a robust programme of classes, activities and initiatives to divert young people away from anti-social behaviour and crime. We will use the Commonwealth Games as an opportunity to not only develop and continue effective partnership working, but as a platform to showcase Sandwell and build community pride. The Sandwell Aquatics Centre will build stronger community links and encourage communities to come together.
Ambition 6	We have excellent and affordable public transport that connects us to all local centres and jobs in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, the airport and wider West Midlands.	Situated in a residential area, the Sandwell Aquatics Centre will be built between Galton Bridge train station and Rolfe Street train station. Working with partners, we will invest to improve local transport links surrounding the facility, ensuring that people have efficient and cost-effective ways to access the facility across both Sandwell and the wider West Midlands. Public transport improvements will also incorporate the review and improvement of bus routes. We will also invest in the local area to improve highways and increase road accessibility to the aquatics centre.
Ambition 7	We now have many new homes to meet a full range of housing needs in attractive neighbourhoods and close to key transport routes.	The Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Commonwealth Games will provide local neighbourhoods with excellent facilities. We will encourage new businesses to Sandwell, bringing economic regeneration to the area. This will further encourage the development of new houses and improved highways and transport links in Smethwick, allowing residents to easily access jobs and amenities across the region. The facility will bring investment to Sandwell, meaning that Sandwell will be a noticeably better and more attractive place to live.

Vision 2030 Ambition	Ambition Statement	How the Legacy to this 2030 Vision
Ambition 8	Our distinctive towns and neighbourhoods are successful centres of community life, leisure and entertainment where people increasingly choose to bring up their families.	The aquatics centre is a facility which will be distinctive, not just for Sandwell but for the whole of the West Midlands. We will provide a facility for the community which will be accessible for all as well as facilities which will attract regionally significant competitions providing a boost for the community personally and economically. The legacy of the Commonwealth Games and facility will ensure that community life resonates outwardly to the wider community of Sandwell.
Ambition 9	Sandwell has become a location of choice for industries of the future where the local economy and high performing companies continue to grow.	We will provide local businesses with the opportunity to be involved in the build of the facility, which will provide a boost for the local economy. The Sandwell Aquatics Centre and Commonwealth Games will be of interest to businesses nationwide. Business in Sandwell will continue to grow as a result of the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and Commonwealth Games, further developing the local economy.
Ambition 10	Sandwell now has a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities.	<p>The Sandwell Aquatics Centre and Commonwealth Games will mean that Sandwell has a national reputation for delivering. The Commonwealth Games will encourage local partners and businesses to come together to support and contribute to the delivery of the games and success of the facility.</p> <p>The impact of the games and legacy of the facility must stretch much further than the 2022 Commonwealth Games. The Sandwell Aquatics Centre will become a facility that is nationally recognised for developing athletes in both swimming and diving that can compete at the highest level.</p>

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 To date, the priority of the Sandwell Aquatics Centre project has been centred around the design of the new facility. This is to solely ensure that the facility is delivered on time for the Commonwealth Games 2022. However, the lasting benefits that can be achieved from the delivery of this facility and the Commonwealth Games 2022 is far broader than just the construction of the facility.

- 3.2 As the design and build element of the project is on programme and the Project Team is at full capacity, it is now timely to start considering the launch of a Legacy Workstream for the project.
- 3.3 The Legacy Workstream for the project will ensure that the Sandwell Council can develop and deliver a Legacy Plan for the project.
- 3.4 It has been agreed with the Commonwealth Games 2022 – Members Steering Group that, in the first instance, the Legacy Workstream focuses on the following five themes:
- Sport Development and Clubs;
 - Public Health and Physical Activity;
 - Skills and Education;
 - Regeneration, Job, Tourism and Place building; and
 - Culture and Communities.
- 3.5 These themes support the delivery of Sandwell Council's Vision 2030 and link through to the Commonwealth Games 2022 Birmingham Legacy Pillars.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The design of the facility has been agreed through the collaboration of the entire design team, partners and key stakeholders. A design has been developed that delivers both the requirements of a community leisure facility and a building which can host the Swimming and Diving events for the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- 4.2 Following a pre-planning consultation exercise with residents, a planning application for the facility was submitted on January 29th, 2019.
- 4.3 The Legacy Workstream was launched in January 2019, with approval from Members Steering Group for the project team to hold several focus groups from April 2019 onwards. Focus groups will be held with Members, all directorates from across the Council and key stakeholders / partners. They will seek to ascertain what outcomes are desired / can be achieved from the delivery of the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Commonwealth Games 2022 being hosted in Sandwell.
- 4.4 Focus groups will be initially run internally for all directorates across the Council and Members. Following internal focus groups, the Project Team will then look to arrange external focus groups with schools and partner agencies from across the borough.

- 4.5 The outcomes identified from the focus groups will then be populated into five themes and contribute to the creation of a Legacy Plan. The Project Team aims for the Legacy workstream to be fully operational with a Legacy plan in place from December 2019.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The consultation exercise for the development Legacy workstream will begin in March 2019 in the form of focus groups. Focus groups will be run in a staged approach;

Phase One	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Team
Phase Two	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members• Internal Sandwell Council Staff
Phase Three	May / June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• External Stakeholders• Partners• Schools

- 5.2 At each stage the format and structure of the focus groups will be reviewed allowing the Project Team to review lessons learned and improve the facilitation of focus groups. At each stage a briefing report will be created, this report will analyse the data captured at each focus group and the lessons learned, and presented to the Commonwealth Games 2022 – Members Steering Group.

6 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 In summary, the priority of the Sandwell Aquatics Centre project so far has been the design of the new facility to ensure that it is delivered in time for the Commonwealth Games 2022. However, the benefits that can be gained from the delivery of this facility and the Commonwealth Games 2022 is much broader than just its construction.
- 6.2 It is recommended that Scrutiny agree to proceed with the development of the Legacy workstream as outlined above. Outcomes identified from the focus groups will then be populated into the five themes and a Legacy Plan will be developed.