

Report to Cabinet

12 July 2023

Subject:	Commonwealth Games Legacy Plan
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Charn Singh Padda, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism
Director:	Tony McGovern, Director for Regeneration and Growth
Key Decision:	Yes
Contact Officer:	Alexander Oxley, Capital Projects Manager alexander_oxley@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the SMBC Commonwealth Games Legacy Plan, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved.






2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The B2022 Commonwealth Games was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to promote Sandwell, attract investment and engage the community through sport. Now the games have concluded, it is imperative that SMBC implement a framework of Legacy activity to ensure the benefit of the games does not stop at the end of the competition in August 2022.
- 2.2 Sandwell Council's Commonwealth Games Legacy Plan ('Legacy Plan' hereunder) aims to capitalise on the benefits created by being a host venue at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- 2.3 The Legacy Plan outlines how SMBC will deliver against 3 key strategic objectives that span multiple directorates:
- Improve Health, Wellbeing and Physical Activity
 - Inspire Community Engagement and Collaboration
 - Support Growth in Economy, Place, and Reputation



2.4 All identified proposals in the Legacy Plan have been resourced within directorate/service area business plans. A further options appraisal is underway to understand whether further resources will be required to support these objectives.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	The Best Start in Life for Children and Young People- Delivery of the Legacy Plan will improve health and wellbeing outcomes for young people in Sandwell.
	People Live Well and Age Well- Supporting residents to live more healthy lives, with greatly improved leisure infrastructure, is a principle driver in helping residents to live and age well.
	Strong Resilient Communities- The Legacy Plan aims to further engage residents in their communities following the success of the B2022 CWG.
	A Strong and Inclusive Economy- Delivery of the Legacy Plan directly contributes to the economy, including support for business and improvements to the visitor economy.
	A Connected and Accessible Sandwell- Delivery of the active transport schemes captured in the Legacy Plan will improve the active travel network in Sandwell.

4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 Commonwealth Games

From 28 July to 8 August 2022, Sandwell hosted the 22nd Commonwealth Games (CWG) (“Birmingham 2022”), bringing together athletes from across the seventy-two Commonwealth nations and territories to participate in the largest multi-sport event held in England in the last 10 years.

Sandwell was responsible for the delivery of the Sandwell Aquatic Centre (SAC) which played host to all aquatic activity during the games and represented the only purpose-built facility.



When the construction of Phase 1 of the £92 million facility in Smethwick was completed in 2022, it became the 13th Olympic sized pool in the United Kingdom, and established a brand new, world-class facility for elite and community swimming and diving in Sandwell. It was the only new, purpose-built venue for the Games.

The SAC will be at the heart of the CWG Legacy in Sandwell, and greatly improves the leisure provision in the borough. However, the Legacy of the CWG is more than just the centre. It must encompass much wider outcomes which aim to bring our communities closer together and improve the economic landscape in Sandwell. The Legacy Plan, therefore, aims to capture these wider benefits and outline strategies to improve against these strategic objectives.

4.2 Consultation

The Legacy plan has been developed collaboratively across SMBC directorates. The Legacy Working Group comprises officers from:

- Leisure
- Public Health
- Borough Economy
- Business Growth
- Planning Regeneration
- Community Partnerships
- Education
- Housing
- Communications
- SAC Project Management Office

All members of this group have been responsible for actively developing the proposals included in the Legacy Plan. Furthermore, the significant consultation has been done with a range of key external stakeholders such as Swim England, SCVO, Sandwell Aquatics Club and University of Wolverhampton.

4.3 Timescales

Date	Milestone
12 th June 2023	Draft Legacy Plan (appended) received
12 th June- 19 th June 2023	SMBC Officer comment period



12 th July 2023	SMBC Cabinet
13 th July 2023	Press release (subject to Cabinet approval)
20 th July 2023	Legacy Plan formally 'launched' at the SAC opening ceremony

5 Alternative Options

5.1 Do nothing- Sandwell is currently the only delivery partner that has not published a CWG Legacy Plan. Failure to capitalise on the Legacy benefits of the CWG would represent a missed opportunity.

6 Implications

Resources:	All identified proposals in the Legacy Plan have been resourced within directorate/service area business plans. A further options appraisal is underway to understand whether further resources will be required to support these objectives.
Legal and Governance:	The Legacy Plan will have no material impact on legal or governance arrangements for SMBC. No lasting decision making structures will remain outside BAU.
Risk:	No direct risks implications.
Equality:	Delivery of the Legacy Plan aims to create more equitable and engaged communities across Sandwell.
Health and Wellbeing:	Delivery of the Legacy Plan aims to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for residents.
Social Value:	The Legacy Plan outlines how SMBC has and will deliver social value benefits that last long after the CWG.
Climate Change:	No direct climate change implications.
Corporate Parenting	No direct implications.

7. Appendices

- The SMBC Commonwealth Games Legacy Plan

8. Background Papers

- None

