

RECONSTITUTION OF THE LEISURE IN-DEPTH SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP

Scrutiny Committee – 14 July 2015

Report of Chief Officer Legal and Governance

Status: For Decision

Key Decision: No

Contact Officer David Lagzdins Ext. 7350

Recommendation to Scrutiny Committee: That Members review the terms of reference and membership of the Leisure In-Depth Scrutiny Working Group to report to the Scrutiny Committee on leisure value for money.

Reason for recommendation: to enable a small working group of Members to meet more frequently and report back to the Scrutiny Committee on its findings for consideration.

Introduction and Background

- 1 Over the past year the Committee has established an in-depth scrutiny working group. It is necessary for the Committee to review the need for this working group and confirm the terms of reference and membership.

Leisure Working Group

- 2 At the meeting held on 15 July 2014 (Minute 7) it was resolved that the in-depth scrutiny working group be re-established to focus on value for money in the provision of leisure services to the Council including whether alternative, private sector provision could provide services for a lower cost to the Council and the customer. The terms of reference confirmed at that meeting were:
 - i. to benchmark with other authorities the amount spent by Sevenoaks District Council on the provision of leisure services through the leisure trust;
 - ii. to analyse the amount of subsidy per use of the Council's centres paid by the Council to Sencio – if possible in comparison with other authorities as well as over time;
 - iii. to assess customer satisfaction with the service provided;
 - iv. to assess the retention rates for fitness users, the key profit-making area of the business;
 - v. to look at initiatives those are in place or could be put in place to improve income and retention; and

- vi. in the context of value for money to look at alternative provision by private providers.
- 3 The membership was agreed as Cllrs. Gaywood, Grint, Mrs. Morris and Pett, with Cllr. Pett to be the Chairman. All of the former members are no longer members of this Scrutiny Committee.
- 4 An interim report had been presented to the Committee on 20 November 2015.
- 5 If the working group is reconstituted then, to minimise duplication, Officers will provide members of the new working group with the information that had been collected by the previous group.

Key Implications

Financial

None directly arising from this report.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

In-depth scrutiny working groups are only constituted for a municipal year, and must be reconstituted each new municipal year. Members would only be allowed to claim travel expenses for formally constituted working groups.

Equality Impacts

The recommendations in this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

Members should consider whether the the working group should continue to meet, agree the membership and terms of reference.

Background Papers:

[Scrutiny Committee – 15 July 2014 - Minutes](#)

[Scrutiny Committee – 20 November 2014 - Minutes](#)

Christine Nuttall
Chief Officer for Legal and Governance