

**ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD**

**Monday, 7th August, 2017**

**MEETING OF ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD**

**(Held in the Lavery Room, City Hall)**

**Attendees**

- Directors:** Mr. J. McGuigan (Chairperson)  
Councillor Boyle  
Councillor Corr  
Mr. J. Higgins  
Mr. C. Kirkwood  
Mr. M. McGarrity  
Mr. R. Stewart and  
Mr. M. Webster.
- Officers:** Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director,  
City and Neighbourhood Services Department;  
Mr. N. Munnis, Partnership Manager; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.
- GLL:** Mr. G. Holland, Partnership Manager; and  
Mr. R. McKenna, Regional Community Sports Manager.

**Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor Long, Mr. P. Boyle, Mr. M. Keenan, Mr. N. Mitchell and Mr. G. Kirk (GLL).

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 15th June were approved.

**Matters Arising**

**Charitable Status**

The Board noted that the Partnership Manager was working with the Council's Legal Services Section to finalise the report on the potential for seeking charitable status and that it would be submitted to its next meeting.

**Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

### **Active Belfast Limited Returns to Companies House**

The Partnership Manager reminded the Board that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had been provided with an update on the status of those documents which were required to be submitted, on a regular basis, to Companies House in relation to Active Belfast Limited.

He provided a further update and pointed out that the Register of Directors now being held by Companies House reflected fully the current membership of the Board and that it had acknowledged on its website the receipt of the Annual Confirmation Statement for 2017/2018. He reminded the Board further that, on 15th June, it had agreed that a version of the Articles of Association, which had been submitted to Companies House previously and which had been returned to allow for some anomalies to be addressed, should be revised and be re-submitted, on the understanding that a further amendment would be required once the Board had reached a decision on whether or not to apply for charitable status. He circulated an amended version of the document for signature by the Directors and pointed out that it was anticipated that it would be accepted and acknowledged by Companies House prior to the next meeting of the Board.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

### **Independent Review of Current Operating Model**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had approved the terms of reference for an independent review of the current operating model for leisure provision, which had been commissioned by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 19th May.

The Partnership Manager reported that, following a tendering process, First Point Management and Consultancy Limited had been appointed by the Council to conduct the review, which was due to be completed by the end of September. A three-week consultation process would commence on 7th August and the consultants would, later in the week, be visiting the City to meet with key stakeholders, including the Active Belfast Limited Board, which would have a prominent role to play in the review process. Accordingly, he invited the Board to identify a suitable date on which to meet with the consultants and to agree the extent of its representation at that meeting.

After discussion, the Board agreed that it be represented at the meeting by the Chairperson and by Mr. J. Higgins, with the preferred date being the afternoon of Thursday, 10th August. The Board agreed also that those Directors who were not in attendance be offered the opportunity to attend the meeting and noted that the Partnership Manager would, in advance, forward to Directors the Terms of Reference for the review, together with background information on First Point Management and Consultancy Limited.

### **Reporting of Active Belfast Limited Performance**

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had agreed that, in future, quarterly KPI performance reports would be presented to the Board in the third month of the subsequent quarter, with the KPI spreadsheet and accompanying narrative to be circulated to Directors by the middle of the previous month.

The Partnership Manager explained that the revised reporting arrangements would, amongst other things, allow Directors additional time to scrutinise the KPI

spreadsheet and supporting information, in advance of considering the performance report in the following month. He confirmed that staff from the Council and from GLL were in the process of collating and analysing the performance data for the first quarter of 2017/2018, which it was anticipated would be circulated to the Board in the week commencing 14th August. The performance report for that quarter would then be presented to the Board on 18th September.

Noted.

### **Update on Aquatics Strategy**

The Partnership Manager reminded the Board that, at its meeting on 20th April, it had approved an outline plan and proposed timeframe for the delivery of a Belfast-wide Aquatics Strategy.

He reported that the proposed timeframe included provision to undertake an initial four-week consultation exercise with selected key stakeholders around the vision statement and the eight strategic principles which had been formulated by the Aquatics Strategy Working Group and approved by the Board, together with a proposed design format and content headings. He explained that the consultation process should have commenced on 5th May, however, due to technical and operational issues, it had been delayed until 10th July. A total of sixty-seven groups had been invited to respond to the consultation via the Council's Citizen Space online consultation platform, with submissions to be received by 11th August.

He confirmed that it had been necessary to make a number of minor revisions to the initial timeframe for the delivery of the Aquatics Strategy and that those had been reflected in the documentation issued as part of the current pre-consultation process. However, they would have no impact upon the completion of the overall Strategy or its anticipated launch in early 2018.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

### **Other Business**

#### **GLL Update**

Mr. Holland informed the Board that a voluntary redundancy exercise, which had been undertaken recently across all GLL-managed facilities to coincide with the temporary closure of the Andersonstown Leisure Centre, had now been completed. In total, fifty staff had been granted redundancy, including seventeen from Andersonstown Leisure Centre. The remaining staff in that Centre had since been transferred to other facilities.

He added that the new leisure facility in Castle Lane was scheduled to open in November and that details of its official opening would be circulated to the Board, once finalised.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The Board noted that its next meeting would take place at 4.30 p.m. on Monday, 18th September, with the venue to be confirmed in due course.

Chairperson