

## Questions on Agenda Item 14, Asset Management Plan

I note your inclusion of the following text in Clause 4.10, Paragraph 3 (Page 24) of your Asset Management Plan:

“The Council intends to review the future of the existing swimming pools at Blackbird Leys and Temple Cowley which have reached the end of their useful life alongside proposals to construct a new competition standard pool adjoining Blackbird Leys Leisure Centre a project for which funding is in situ.”

1. I note that you only refer to existing swimming pools. I am sure the Council is aware that Temple Cowley Pools and Fitness Centre is not only a 25m swimming pool, but a complete wet/dry leisure centre that includes a diving pool, sauna, steam room, gymnasium and exercise studio. Does your obviously careful omission of the reference to the additional facilities at Temple Cowley Leisure Centre mean that the Council intends retaining them on the site?

A) *No, the term is used to describe the leisure centre.*

2. The City Council has stated as fundamental to its business case for constructing a new non-Olympic, 25m swimming pool in Blackbird Leys where there is no evidence of demand, that it must achieve £1.5m from the disposal of the Temple Cowley Leisure Centre site. Given that the plan now states that “the Council intends to review the future” of the swimming pool (at least), can you confirm that you do not now need £1.5m from this source?

A) *The £1.5 million is included in the financing of the new pool.*

3. Given that your last two condition surveys of Temple Cowley Leisure Centre have told you quite clearly that it can have a useful life of at least another 25 years for a level of investment that is 25% of the £13m+ cost of constructing the proposed new 25m non-Olympic swimming pool in Blackbird Leys where there is no evidence of demand, can you please detail the evidence you have that leads you to assert that the facility has reached the end of its “useful life”?

A) *This is not correct. Please see the answer supplied to questions 12, 41, 42, 50, 51, 52, 53, 56, 68, 71, 84, 86, 99 from July 2011 City Executive Board meeting.*

<http://www.oxford.gov.uk/Direct/CompetitionStandardPoolPublicQuestionsandAnswersCEB21July2011.pdf>

4. Can you please detail the evidence you have that leads you to assert that the existing swimming pool at Blackbird Leys has reached the end of its “useful life”?

A) *As above.*

## Question on Agenda Item 14

I note that the Asset Management Plan, page 24, Section 4.10, talks about the contract with Fusion for provision of leisure. You assert there that this contract will achieve savings of £7m. As you are very well aware, there is a contractual obligation for the Council to spend £5.5m on leisure facilities, so the potential saving can only possibly be £1.5m. This fact, and the real position, has been pointed out to you many times. Why have you chosen to persist in misleading the public in this way?

A) *The leisure contract achieves a £7 million revenue saving over its ten years. The repair and maintenance works would need to be undertaken irrespective of the contract.*

**Question on Agenda Item 5**

I note that a key objective of the City Council's Youth Ambition Programme is a commitment to improved opportunities and life chances. Can you please tell me how your proposed closure of the diving pool at Temple Cowley Leisure Centre, the only publicly funded diving pool in Oxford, that can be brought back into use of under £70,000, supports this objective?

A) *The youth ambition programme is about sustainable opportunities to improve the lives of our young people. The diving pit has been closed for a decade and Temple Cowley Pools is planned for closure when the new high quality pool opens in Blackbird Leys.*