

CEB 10 September 2015 – CEB responses to public questions

Mr Nigel Gibson

1. Can you please detail any specific changes to the strategy that have been made as a result of the consultation on this area carried out earlier this year?

CEB response:

- *A number of changes have resulted from the consultation process, we have*
 - *added text in the strategy to increase emphasis on health outcomes*
 - *added to our delivery plan ‘influencing the city Street Trading Policy – healthy eating’ and ‘exploring options to re-open outdoor bathing sites – more people swimming’*
 - *added Cycling as a Focus Sport in the city.*
 - *Some budgets have also changes such as increased investment in the new track to modernise Horspath Sports.*
 - *A number of smaller changes have been made such as making diagrams and some of the wording clearer.*
2. Apart from Spires Academy which has an obvious vested interest in supporting the Council as it has directly benefited from £500,000 investment, which other schools in East Oxford have actively supported your strategy in moving health and fitness facilities further away by closing Temple Cowley Pools and so directly increasing their costs of transport to other centres?

CEB response:

All city schools had opportunity to engage in consultation. Either directly though our Schools Sports Development Officer or through partners including Sport England, Oxfordshire Sports & Physical Activity, Public Health and the Community Sports Partnership.

3. In response to some of my questions to CEB in April, I was referred to the consultation on leisure and also the Annual Performance Report expected in June 2015. The public would view these answers as crucial input to any strategy document, yet the results of the consultation did not provide any answer - when will the Annual Performance Report be made public?

CEB response:

The 2014/15 annual performance report for management of our leisure facilities was taken to Scrutiny Committee on 30 June 2015. The meeting agenda and papers were published on 22 June 2015, the report and record of this meeting is available on the Councils web

page, <http://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=355&MId=3539>

4. Several of my questions to CEB in April 2015 requested information that is fundamental to driving any strategy regarding leisure and health and fitness facilities in this city (specifically, questions 5 (usage of centres by ward, target group and level of participation), 10 (projected increase in carbon emissions), 11 (the ways in which people travel to leisure centres), 12 (Council ambitions to change travel modalities to more sustainable means and support your core

strategy for walking to be the most common), 13 (how will the Council effect any such changes), 25 (benchmarking of services)) - in the response you admitted that you don't hold this information, saying "data is neither readily available nor obtainable to quantify". How can you justify all the effort involved in the production of this report, and the strategy and associated recommendations and action plan, if you recognise that you don't have even the most basic information (such as which groups of people do what activities in which wards)?

CEB response:

Governance and reporting for our leisure management contract is considered relevant and robust.

5. Can you please provide more information regarding Appendix 3a - what differences, if any, are there between the two maps labelled "Run 1" and "Run 2"?

CEB response:

Sports England's nationally utilised Facility Planning Model (FPM) describes the status quo in 2014 (Run 1) and the position in 2025 with projected changes to demand (Run 2), for pool provision in Oxford. Converting population demand to availability of water space gives a theoretical excess of pool water supply in Oxford of 1,131 sq. meters in Run 1 and 1,029 sq. meters in Run 2.

6. What are the "population projections" used for Run 2 in Appendix 3a - can you please identify these changes by ward and comment in detail on how this information has informed the strategy?
7. Your projections shown in Run 2 in Appendix 3a identify clearly, and in accord with the work carried out by the Save TCP community interest company in 2014, that both now and in 2025 there will large areas of East Oxford (described by the Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 7th September as a 'blue hole') outside a sensible walking distance to a public swimming pool - how then is this strategy "creating a world-class leisure strategy for everyone" (p2, Executive Summary) since it so clearly and actively disenfranchises so many people in this area within your target groups as well as the general population who would have such provision if you had not deliberately run down and closed Temple Cowley Pools and Fitness Centre?

CEB response to questions 6 & 7:

Population projections used for Run 2 were 161,939 based on the Office of National Statistics sub-national population projections. Sport England's national FPM does not go down to ward level. This projection informed the strategy that there was existing and projected excess of pool water supply in Oxford which means that on a pool space basis we are able to cope with future population growth to the 2025 date.

Mr Artwell

1. Labour advertises communities and Consultation as being core to Labour. Can you explain why membership of Mr Sadler's "Reference Group", which is

designed to oversee the destruction of East Oxford Community Centre, was only possible if the Communities manager, Ms Cristofoli, called the selected people, rather than having the “Reference Group” opened to all who are concerned with the future life and well being of East Oxford Community Centre? Why was there no consultation regarding the closure of Film Oxford and the Community Garden, and the Games hall?

CEB response:

The Reference Group for East Oxford has been formed to facilitate and review the process of determining the needs, aspirations and design elements required by the local community to inform the proposed development of the East Oxford Community Centre site. It is there to suggest and support appropriate ways to engage with and consult as wide a range of people from the local community as possible over the lifetime of the group. Representatives were invited from a range of groups to represent local interests however the consultation on the proposed development will involve all of the wider community and the Reference Group is there to help facilitate this. All the information is freely available on the website:

<http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decC/EastOxfordCommunityCentre.htm>

Film Oxford, East Oxford Games Hall and the Community Garden are not closed. They are all open and being used by the local community and both Film Oxford and the East Oxford Games Hall are represented on the Reference Group.

For the future proposed development, there are several ways we could fund this project, one of which is to sell the nearby East Oxford Games Hall and Film Oxford sites. We are carrying out a feasibility study to see if this is possible, how much selling the two sites would generate, how the users of the two sites could be accommodated within an improved EOCC. The current users and tenants of the two sites will be actively involved in this process. Once we have worked through the feasibility study and if we believe there is a viable scheme then we will go out to public consultation on the plans.

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