

## **Competition Standard Pool - Disability provision**

Assertions that there is no demand for a new pool are false. It is also false to assert that an investment of £3 million will facilitate a superior set of outcomes at Temple Cowley Pools and Gym than will be provided by a new build as planned at Blackbird Leys.

Concerning legislation, though the Equality Act replaced most of the Disability Discrimination Act from October 2010, the Disability Equality Duty in the DDA continues to apply

This Council will continue to invest to improve the quality of its Leisure Services and will provide better access for all residents, including those less able, to promote opportunities for increased well-being and better health outcomes for all.

I congratulate Leisure Services staff for achieving another record year for attendances, with more than 1.1 million users in 2011-12, including significantly increased participation from those less able.

This Council invests to improve outcomes and its leisure strategy is sound.

### Swimming pools

Temple Cowley Pools and Gym cannot be restored to a facility that will provide lasting quality leisure outcomes for three million pounds.

Mr Gibson exaggerates the cost of developing the planned pool and under estimates the investment required at Temple Cowley Pools and Gym.

The City Council's Leisure services breaks attendance records through providing what residents want at leisure facilities that are welcoming, affordable and accessible to all.

The new facility will be designed to be fully DDA compliant. A fully DDA complaint pool will increase accessibility and flexibility and enable better quality of experience with usage by target groups.

The design was consulted on with the Oxford Swans disability swimming group. Their input has enabled the pool to be fully compliant with the DDA 2011.

### **Examples include:**

#### Car Parking

The number of parking spaces will be increased by 21 spaces to the car park and an overflow area for a further 22 cars is to be provided. Upgraded coach, drop off and disabled parking areas are to be provided.

### Reception and arrival

Will be DDA complaint and welcoming for all users.

### Changing

Full disabled access to all facilities and changing areas.

### Pool hall

Installation of a longitudinal movable floor with movable floor allowing flexibility in depth. This enables far greater flexibility in the provision of disabled sessions. The movable floor to the 25m pool will be longitudinally orientated allowing shallow waters to be provided alongside deep water 25m lane swimming.

Alongside these specific adaptations, the facility will have a wider appeal across the city and beyond. It will be high quality, appealing facility that maximises usage from all members of the community.