

**Subject:** Sustainable Procurement Update  
**Date of Meeting:** 9 February 2011  
**Report of:** Director of Finance  
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**Key Decision:** No  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report and supporting documentation provides Members with information on how the recently awarded Sports Facilities Management Contract has built-in social and environmental sustainability objectives.
- 1.2 The report provides detail on how the successful contractor intends to support the Council in meeting its sustainability objectives and ensure that VFM is secured.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee note the commitments made by Freedom Leisure within their winning tender submission.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Committee also note Freedom Leisure's Policy Statement setting out how they will operate the facilities included in an environmentally sensitive and sustainable manner.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The current sports facilities management contract commenced in April 2004 and was awarded to DC Leisure who has been operating the following facilities across the city:
  - Prince Regent Swimming Complex & Old Slipper Baths
  - Withdean Sports Complex
  - Moulsecomb Community Leisure Centre
  - Stanley Deason Leisure Centre
  - St Luke's Swimming Pool
  - Saunders Park, The Level and Seafront Paddling Pools
- 3.2 This current contract which does not include King Alfred Leisure Centre, Hove Lagoon Paddling Pool and Kingsway Multiplay, expires 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.
- 3.3 An EU compliant tender process began in April 2010 and following diligent and robust evaluation of all bids received, Freedom Leisure were awarded the

contract in December 2010 following approval at Cabinet on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010. Freedom Leisure is currently within the mobilisation period which concludes on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011.

- 3.4 All facilities outlined in 3.1 will be included as well as King Alfred Leisure Centre, Hove Lagoon Paddling Pool and Kingsway Multiplay.

### **Social and Environmental Sustainability Objectives**

- 3.5 To have a contractor that supported the Council's sustainability objectives played an important part in the tender process and subsequent evaluation. The resultant Freedom Leisure bid and contract is a good practical example of where these objectives have been addressed.
- 3.6 Freedom Leisure is a leading community leisure trust or not for profit social enterprise originally founded in 2002 to operate a range of facilities in Wealden District Council.
- 3.7 Freedom Leisure's vision is to provide inclusive and affordable leisure facilities to improve health and wellbeing of local communities. It aims to fulfil this vision through the development of strong partnership links with communities and through reinvestment into the facilities that they operate.
- 3.8 Some of the key sustainable/environmental elements provided by Freedom Leisure are set out below (Appendix 1 provides more detail of these)
- £125,000 investment in the first year of the contract in energy saving measures to help reduce the carbon footprint of facilities
  - Investment of £30,000 to offer a café area adjacent to the new fitness suite and reception offering a range of products. These products will be compatible with the aspiration towards health and well-being. Freedom's purchasing policy seeks to ensure that café products are sourced locally where possible, which is consistent with the council's policies where "Food Miles" is a relevant consideration.
  - The size of the Freedom operation within Sussex means that can achieve economies of scale whilst purchasing from local suppliers. They are also progressively introducing a fair trade range/Rain Forest Alliance throughout all sites.
  - Their Policy Statement outlined in Appendix 1 outlines how they will seek to reduce waste, monitor and control utilities consumption by purchasing gas, electricity and water through an external monitoring and purchasing service under an Energy Management Agreement (EMA).
  - They will produce a Green Transport Plan for Staff and users

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Members of the Culture, Tourism & Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee took part in a successful workshop with officers on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2010 to discuss key questions relating to the tender process and to help inform the specification for the new contract

4.2 Consultation also took place with staff at the King Alfred Leisure Centre who would transfer under TUPE to Freedom Leisure. Trade Unions were also involved with this consultation

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

5.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report, which is providing information on the commitments made by Freedom Leisure. The financial implications of the Sports Facilities Management Contract were included in the report to Cabinet in December 2010.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Karen Brookshaw Date: 27/01/11*

### Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report

*Lawyer Consulted: Sonia Likhari Date: 27/01/11*

### Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no Equalities Implications with the organisation successfully passing the pre-qualification questionnaire which includes Equalities criteria as part of the tender process

### Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Freedom Leisure have incorporated a number of sustainability commitments within their tender submission and therefore carried over to the contract. Full details of these are provided in Appendix 1 – Supporting Documentation.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no Crime & Disorder implications associated with this report

### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 Risk Management is appropriately managed within the contract agreed and signed by the council and Freedom Leisure

### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 Freedom Leisure will be providing inclusive and affordable leisure facilities to all residents of Brighton and Hove.

## **6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 Three contractor bids were evaluated as part of the tender process.

## **7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 The report is for the Cabinet Committee to note the social and environmental objectives built in to the recently awarded Sports Facilities Management contract.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

#### **Appendices:**

1. “Example of a procurement activity which has incorporated both social and environmental sustainability objectives.

#### **Documents In Members’ Rooms**

None

#### **Background Documents**

1. Cabinet Report 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 (Agenda item 129)