

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: CLLR JULIE MCMANUS

KEY DECISION: YES

PORTFOLIO AREA: COMMUNITY SERVICES

PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: COMMUNITY SERVICES

WARDS AFFECTED: BIDSTON AND ST JAMES

SUBJECT: BEECHWOOD RECREATION CENTRE

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

- (1) Agree the award of a 5-year concession contract for the delivery of a community leisure service based at Beechwood Recreation Centre to Tranmere Rovers.
- (2) Authorise the Director of Delivery Services to enter into the grant of a lease of the Beechwood Recreation Centre at a rent based on the offer made by Tranmere Rovers Football Club on terms that the lease runs concurrently with the concession contract and is only granted after service of notices under the landlord and Tenant Act 1954 to exclude inappropriate grant of rights.

2. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 2.1 In March 2016, Council approved a budget option for the financial year 2016/2017 for Leisure Services to seek an alternative provider for Beechwood Recreation Centre with associated savings of £73,000 per annum. The initial approach of a community asset transfer did not attract interested parties who were able to submit a financially viable application. However, the expected saving was removed from the Leisure Services budget and has since represented a budget pressure.
- 2.2 Subsequently, a number of alternative options were considered with the option of a 5-year concession contract being selected as the preferred option. A delegated decision in January 2019 authorised the Assistant Director of Community Services to carry out a procurement process to seek a provider to run a leisure service from Beechwood Recreation Centre.
- 2.3 Having completed this procurement process and in line with the delegated decision, a decision is now required on the award of contract. Out of the submissions received Tranmere Rovers submission

scored the highest and it is, therefore, recommended that the concession contract is awarded to Tranmere Rovers.

- 2.4 Once a decision is received the Council may enter into a process to transfer Beechwood Recreation Centre to the successful operator, under a 5-year concession contract. The successful transfer of the Recreation Centre will realise the saving expected while ensuring that the leisure services continue to be provided to the residents of Beechwood.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Signed: <i>J. McManus</i> Executive Member: Cllr Julie McManus Date: <i>4/11/2019</i> Also present: <i>Colin Clayton</i>	Signed: <i>C. Clayton</i> Chief Officer: Nicola Butterworth / Colin Clayton Date: <i>4/11/2019</i>
Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s):	

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

Contact Officer: Matthew Humble

Date: 24/10/2019

Date of Publication:

Date of Expiry of Call-In Period:

