

14th September 2015

Community and Health Committee

Outdoor Gym

Report of: *Ashley Culverwell – Head of Borough, Health, Safety and Localism*

Wards Affected: *All*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 A Leisure and Play Strategy is currently underway. Members are requested to consider whether they would like the possibility of an outdoor gym to be considered within this review.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Leisure and Play Strategy consider the full business case for the provision of an outdoor gym facility in the Borough.**
- 2.2 That formal discussions commence with providers of such facilities to explore full costings and joint venture opportunities, which may include a new revenue stream to the Council.**

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 As part of the Local Development Plan process a Leisure and Play Strategy is currently underway.
- 3.2 The provision of an out door gym by this Council is likely to be an additional welcome leisure offer to our community. Gyms of this type are proving to be very popular as they provide a flexible, easily accessible option to users. Partaking in physical activity of any type is to be encouraged because of its proven health benefits to both mind and body and fits in with the Council's priorities in this area.
- 3.3 Inclusion of such an offer within the leisure and play strategy will enable the demand for this equipment to be identified and a suitable location to be found. This could lead to a trial for additional sites in the future.

- 3.4 Whilst the equipment would generally be available free of charge, there may also be an option to generate an income to the Council for commercial use (for example for Boot Camps) This could provide an income stream to the Council.

4 Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To explore the provision of an additional offer to benefit the community's health and well being.

5 References to the Corporate Plan

- 5.1 Improving health and wellbeing links to the Council's priorities.

6 Implications

Financial Implications

Name & Title: Chris Leslie, Finance Director (Section 151)

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- 6.1 The final implications will be considered as part of the Leisure and Play Strategy Review.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Chris Potter, Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email 01277 312860 / christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk

- 6.2 None directly arising from this report.

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