

DECISION NO:

For Member Services use only

Concurrence No: 066458

Action under delegated authority of Chief Executive	
Action under delegated authority of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance	X
Action taken by Chief Executive in consultation with Cabinet Member(s)	

Subject: Emergency Repair to Stainless Steel Learner Pool at John Warner Sports Centre

Signature and designation of officer(s) taking action:

_____ Chief Executive	10/03/2021 Date	_____ Director of Finance	08/03/2021 Date
			05/03/21 Date
		_____ Head of Finance	

Name of Cabinet Member(s) Consulted:

I have been consulted and concur with the proposals set out below:

Councillor P Mason	10/03/2021
_____ Cabinet Member Finance and Business Services	Signature: Date:

Councillor	
_____ Cabinet Member	Signature: Date:

Name of any member who has declared a conflict of interest in relation to this decision: _____

THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

The report overleaf sets out the decision to be taken, the reasons for the decision, and the details of alternative options, if any, considered and rejected.

Officer decisions are available for public inspection, both at the Borough Offices and on the Council's website. Officer decisions are kept for a period of six years at the Borough Offices and for six months on the website after the decision is made. Background papers are available for four years.

RECOMMENDED that: an exception to the Council's contract standing orders be approved due to the specialist and emergency nature of these works

Purpose

To expedite the emergency welding repair of the stainless steel learner pool at John Warner Sports Centre to be resolved before the pool can be re-opened.

The Project

Several leaks have been found in the stainless steel learner pool at John Warner Sports Centre and it needs to be urgently welded to stop water loss. The main leak is from a large crack approximately 10cm in length near the pit for the pool cover, but there also several minor ones that have been found that will also need to be repaired.

An approved contractor - Wrightfield Pools - has carried out a full leak detection of the learner pool to locate the faults. The test involved draining the pool and then using different chemicals and dyes on all the welds in the pool with a change in colour indicating a tear in the stainless steel.

Work on stainless steel pools is a specialised area and Wrightfield Pools are the only company the Council has found to date that are still able to maintain and install these types of pool. The original company that designed and installed the stainless steel pool at John Warner no longer carry out work in the UK only in Sweden.

Stainless steel retains heat very efficiently, which makes welding it more difficult and the welder needs to have significant experience. When faced with excessive welding heat, stainless steel can warp from the high temperatures and even distort during the cooling process.

This is why an exception to the contract standing orders is requested due to the specialist and urgent nature of the work. Wrightfield Pools have the necessary experience of welding stainless steel to carry out the work and are able to complete in the very tight timescale required to allow the pool to re-open.

Due to the current pandemic and pools re-opening from 12 April all the leisure sites that have stainless pool are already booking work with Wrightfield so it is essential this is carried out as soon as possible.

The estimated cost to complete this project is £8,650. This cost will include welding all of the seams in the small pool rather than attempting to just patch weld the cracks as this may not last. The cost of the work will be taken from the planned maintenance budget for John Warner Sports Centre as there are sufficient funds remaining.

Works Programme

To carry out the emergency welding repairs allow the learner pool to be re-opened.

Financial, Legal and Risk Management Implications

The main risk is that over time and especially if the pool was in use the leak would worsen and further water would be wasted. As the pool is made from stainless steel

the only possible way to repair is to re-weld the seams now that the leaks have been located.

The welding work cannot be carried out whilst the pools are open so it is essential to get it completed before the lockdown ends.

The works, costing £8,650, will be funded from the remaining in the maintenance budget.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The Council could chose not to carry out the repairs. However, this will create the risk that the pool cannot re-open which would result in a loss of income.

Contribution to the Council's Objectives

Maintain a stable financial position.

Help residents to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Contact Officer: Adam Bradford

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Date: 05/03/2021

Action reported to the Cabinet on:
