

Ref: Church Stretton Leisure Centre – Soft Market Testing

Shropshire Council is currently reviewing operations at Church Stretton Leisure Centre in order to decide on how the required services are delivered in the future. In the current context those required services consist of four strands:

- Leisure and Sport
- Education
- Health and Welfare
- Community Liaison

In turn, there is an additional requirement for the strands to align with Sport England's response to the Government's *Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation* as highlighted in their strategy *Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)*.

To this end we wish to discuss and affirm our current understanding of what the market has to offer to assist the Council to deliver the changes being envisaged. **This initial process is intended as early market engagement only.**

Scope and Process

Please note that this is not the commencement of any formal procurement process and the Council is not committed to carrying out such a process.

For the avoidance of doubt no information provided in response to this process will be used by the Council in assessing providers during any subsequent procurement process.

This early market engagement exercise is intended to allow providers to outline their views and ideas and to provide information to the Council with no commitment to themselves or the Council.

The Council will consider the information received as a result of this exercise to help inform the Council's options appraisal and subsequent Council decision making process.

Disclaimer

The information in this document is solely for the purpose of the current early market engagement process and no representation, warranty, or undertaking is given by the Council as to its accuracy or completeness, and the Council accepts no liability in relation to it.

Facility Information

The swimming pool opened in 1971 and shares a site with St Lawrence CE Primary School. The dry-side facilities opened in 2011 with external funding from Sport England and shares a site with Church Stretton School (South Shropshire Academy Trust). It was linked seamlessly to the existing swimming pool facility. Together they serve a local population of 4,800 (mid-year population estimates ONS, 2015) in the immediate vicinity. The catchment area of usage extends to a population of 28,300 within a 15km radius.

The facility mix consists of the following:

20m swimming pool
4 x badminton court sports hall
22-station fitness suite
Dance Studio
Meeting Room
Tennis Courts
Vending area

Initial Expressions of Interest to discuss future options must be returned by Thursday 16th August, either by post or email using the following contact details:

Peter Davis
Leisure Services Manager
Shropshire Council
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6ND
Email: peter.davis@shropshire.gov.uk

Any organisations issuing an Expression of Interest will be sent further background information. Following this, site visits and further discussions for those confirming an interest will be arranged with a view to having these completed by Friday 14th September.