

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

31ST JULY, 2014

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

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HAWTHORN SWIMMING POOL - PROGRESS REPORT.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide a position statement on the progress of works on site at Hawthorn Pool.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members agree:

- (i) To note progress on site with all Health and Safety requirements and the structural survey of the pool hall roof.
- (ii) To note that a report will be presented to Cabinet in August with options as to the cost of bringing the facility back into use or not.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 In 2013, roof damage was identified at the pool and actions were taken to address health and safety issues, allowing the pool to remain open.

3.2 A requirement was subsequently identified in 2014 to undertake a structural survey of this area, which unfortunately necessitated the closure and draining of the pool for the duration of the works to allow suitable access platforms to be erected. Preliminary estimates at that time indicated that the process would take in the region of 12 weeks, however once access was gained to the roof space a more accurate assessment of timescale was possible.

4.0 PROGRESS

4.1 The swimming pool was closed to the public on Thursday 27 February 2014 and pool staff began draining the pool the following day. A detailed programme of work was produced to identify the sequence of operations to undertake appropriate surveys, remove any asbestos identified to facilitate a structural survey and to undertake a detailed assessment of the roof structure. Due to the complexity of the work involved, the agreed programme/sequence of events required a minimum of 22 weeks.

- 4.2 Immediate health and safety work was undertaken including the erection of edge protection and access scaffolding within the pool. Detailed surveys were conducted throughout March 2014 and works to remove any asbestos from within the pool hall were undertaken throughout June 2014. Progress with the works has been in line with the agreed programme and no delays have been incurred to date.
- 4.3 Due to good progress being made, the structural survey was completed ahead of programme.
- 4.4 A structural survey has been received and a report will be produced for Cabinet identifying the findings together with options for bringing the facility back into use or not. It is anticipated that the report will be available in mid August 2014.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Works on site have progressed ahead of the agreed programme. However, the swimming pool will need to remain closed until Cabinet can make a decision as to its future.