Question: PQ20.01&02

Cabinet - 22 June 2021

Re: Agenda item 20 - SLM Leisure Contract and Financial Assistance

Questions submitted by: Jules Laming, Friends of Jubilee Pool

Question 1:

Section 9 of the report states that existing leisure contracts may require short term extensions in order to facilitate service continuity and best value. It is assumed that this is an holistic statement that relates to all leisure provision within the City and not just the centres covered by SLMs contract. Can the Mayor confirm that this position will be taken with the contract for Jubilee Pool to bridge the period of time between 31st March 2022 and the next stage in the building's control and continued operation. Can he also confirm when negotiations on the extension of these contracts will start?

Question 2:

Section 13 of the report states that officers are in the process of preparing for a forthcoming procurement exercise, presumably for tendering all of the Council's Leisure contracts and not just SLMs. Can the Mayor explain how this process would affect the situation of Jubilee Pool as the Friends of Jubilee Pool progress the CAT process?

Reply:

Question 1:

- It is just the SLM contract and the Jubilee Contract which expire in March 2022. A report to March Cabinet noted that a decision on Jubilee Pool would be taken after citywide public consultation and engagement on the council's leisure investment strategy had been undertaken.
- Negotiations concerning any future contract extensions will proceed once the necessary approvals have been given. In the case of the SLM contract that is after this cabinet meeting.

Question 2:

- As already stated, it is just the SLM contract and the Jubilee Contract which expire in March 2022. There are no other leisure contracts being tendered.
- It does not we are still committed to supporting the community find a longterm sustainable solution for Jubilee Pool and I have asked officers to meet with the community following this cabinet report.