

Statement: PS11.06

Cabinet – 8 February 2022

Re: Agenda item 11 - Leisure Facilities Investment and Procurement

Statement submitted by: Richard Timmis

I am a user of Kingsdown Sports Centre, and I consider it to be a vital community facility that it should be retained by the council and continue to form part of the leisure centre package managed on behalf of the council.

From the survey we have carried out, we can show that the users of Kingsdown Sports Centre come from all walks of life and all age ranges, and come from a wider area than just the Cotham Ward, which is what is implied by the council report. School children within the catchment areas of the local schools (which extend well beyond the Cotham ward) and Bristol residents who live elsewhere but work locally are represented as well as local residents.

The centre runs a diverse range of activities appealing to parents with young tots, school children, students, young people, through to retired people. There are no other facilities locally that offer such a wide range of activities at the hours and prices that would make it as convenient and accessible for people to make the choice to have an active lifestyle.

I passionately believe that the council ownership and operation of this site as part of the portfolio of Leisure Centres should be safeguarded.