



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Report of Councillor Paul Stokes,
Deputy Leader of the Council and
Cabinet Member for Leisure and
Culture

Proposal to consider the formation of an Overview and Scrutiny Leisure Working Group

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

To respond to a request to form a Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Working Group to monitor the performance of LeisureSK Ltd.

Recommendations

That the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Agrees that reports relating to the performance of LeisureSK Ltd continue to be considered at future Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings rather than schedule additional working group meetings.

Decision Information	
Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities? (delete as appropriate)	Connecting Communities Effective Council
Which wards are impacted?	All Wards

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 There are no major financial considerations arising from this report. However, there are resource implications should administrative support be required for additional meetings.

Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 Should the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee be minded forming a sub-committee or working group then it is within their remit to do so. Typically, working groups would be formed as 'task and finish' type groups to consider short-term term projects, or topics with a specified start and end date.
- 1.3 Should the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee wish to form a working group consideration needs to be given as to how the information and debate can remain in the public arena, and how the working group is to be administered. This will need to be agreed and reflected in a Terms of Reference for the working group.

Completed by: Mandy Braithwaite, Legal Executive

2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The remit of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee includes the Leisure Service and monitoring the performance of LeisureSK Ltd.
- 2.2 At a meeting of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 March 2024 a request was made to establish a separate working group to monitor the performance of LeisureSK Ltd. It was suggested that, as issues relating to LeisureSK Ltd took up a significant portion of the scrutiny meetings, this would allow the Committee time to fully debate other reports and topics.
- 2.3 Consideration has been given as to how a working group would operate. Attached to this report at **Appendix One** is a draft Terms of Reference for consideration by Members of the Committee.
- 2.4 The draft Terms of Reference provided requires further consideration to establish the following:
 - The proposed membership of the working group and how this would be agreed
 - The frequency of working group meetings
 - Whether formal reports would be required
 - Whether the meetings would remain in the public arena and be live streamed
 - What administrative support would be required
 - How information and discussions from the working group would be reported back to the main Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.5 Given the profile and importance of the subject matter it is recommended that reports and debate relating to the performance of LeisureSK Ltd remain on the agenda for the main Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings. This will allow all Committee members to receive the information and take part in the debate surrounding the performance of LeisureSK Ltd and will also ensure that the information which is publicly available can remain in the public arena.
- 2.6 Should additional meetings be required to discuss individual subjects or the performance of LeisureSK Ltd, the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee can schedule Extraordinary Meetings of the Committee as and when these are required. In addition, meetings can be scheduled for a longer duration should this be necessary to allow other reports to be fully debated.

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1 The performance of LeisureSK Ltd is a key issue for the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Therefore, it is valuable for all Members of the Committee to receive the same level of information relating to the performance of

LeisureSK Ltd and for them to be able to participate in the debate surrounding this key issue.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 The options considered in a response to a request to form a working group are contained within the body of this report.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 As detailed within this report retaining discussion and debate around the performance of LeisureSK Ltd at formal meetings of the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committees will ensure that information is publicly available.
- 5.2 Should additional meetings or extra time be required to discuss the performance of LeisureSK Ltd the Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee can call for an Extraordinary Meeting or request to extend the duration of scheduled Committee meetings.