

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR



Question submitted by: Councillor Ian Poyser

To Cabinet Member: Cllr Pat Patel, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Culture, Leisure and Sport

Question:

Dear Cllr Patel, One of my constituents has asked me to look into a matter regarding the Life Centre. I have been informed by a resident that there is an ongoing issue with Air Conditioning at the Bowling Hall which is leading to some public health concerns, specifically the risk of COVID19 infection. I'm lead to believe that the issue has been ongoing for almost 2 years. With rising COVID19 levels during winter months, the repair of this equipment should be a priority now that indoor bowling has now recommenced. Please can you kindly ask officers for a update on this issue and provide me with a plan of action and date by which this will be resolved so I can update the resident. Thank you for your time. Kind regards Cllr Ian Poyser

Response: (for completion by City Council officers and Cabinet Members)

The air handling unit at the Life Centre covers the whole building, not just the bowls hall and has retro-fitted Ionisation. This means that it is effective in reducing harmful pollutants and odours by introducing positive and negative ions into the system's airflow which is then delivered to the space. (Bi-polar Ionisation has been proven to reduce coronavirus by 99%). The air handling unit is working in delivering fresh air and extracting the air in the facility, what it can't do, at present, is cool the air below the external temperature.

The chiller unit that supplies cold water to reduce the air temperature is faulty and has been for some time. This has been invested by several contractors and remedial works have been identified and planned. However, we are currently experiencing a delay due to the availability of parts.

As you are probably aware, over the summer months we installed a number of temporary fans around the building to help keep the facility cooler, now that the outside air temperatures have fallen there isn't a demand to cool these areas but rather to heat these areas which the site can do.

Also for your information, the Council has recently up graded the building management system (BMS) that will allow closer monitoring of temperatures. This piece of work is nearly completed and will help to achieve optimal and consistent temperatures throughout the building.

In summary, I would like to reassure you that there isn't a public health concern and that Plymouth Active Leisure are doing everything they can to get the chiller unit and air handling unit fully operational again.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. K. I.', written over a horizontal line.

Dated: 14 October 2022