

# PETITION SCHEME GUIDANCE RELATING TO MR F E SHARPE'S PETITION



## I. Background

I.1 The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act, 2009 required every local authority to adopt a Petition Scheme (by 15 December 2010) which set out how it would handle petitions. The City Council adopted a Petition Scheme in August 2010. The response to a petition will depend on what it is asking for and how many people have signed it but may include -

- taking the action requested
- holding an inquiry or researching the matter
- holding an inquiry or researching the matter
- holding a public meeting or a meeting with petitioners
- holding a consultation
- referring the petition to the relevant scrutiny panel
- calling a referendum
- writing to the petition organiser giving views about the request and/or letting the petition organisers(s) know what the City Council has already decided to do or proposes to do on the issue

I.2 In accordance with the Act and the Council's own Petition Scheme, there is provision for the petition organiser(s) to ask the relevant scrutiny panel to review the Council's response, if they consider that the Council has not dealt with the petition properly.

I.3 Petition organiser(s) may appeal because the action their petition calls for is rejected, no matter how thorough the Council's process for coming to that decision. Reviewing appeals of this sort should not be onerous providing the Council keeps records of how it decides to respond to each petition.

I.4 In such a case, the scrutiny panel will need to bear in mind the list of potential response to the petition (listed above). The statutory guidance states 'an adequate response is likely to be proportionate to the issue set out in the petition and the level of support the petition has received'.

I.5 The panel will agree its response which could include the following –

- b. the Council's response to the petition was satisfactory;
- c. the Council's response to the petition was not satisfactory and/or recommend one of the following –

- taking the action requested
- holding an inquiry or researching the matter

- holding an inquiry or researching the matter
- holding a public meeting or a meeting with petitioners
- holding a consultation
- referring the petition to the relevant scrutiny panel
- calling a referendum
- writing to the petition organiser giving views about the request and/or letting the petition organisers(s) know what the City Council has already decided to do or proposes to do on the issue

## 2. Summary of Information on Mr F E Sharpe's Petition

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Subject:</b>
2 March 2011	petition and covering letter received from Mr F E Sharpe
9 March 2011	letter from Mr T Howes (Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance) to Mr F E Sharpe confirming receipt of petition
17 March 2011	letter received from Mrs R Collins in support of Mr F E Sharpe's petition
No Date	letter received from Mr S E Lilly in support of Mr F E Sharpe's petition
18 March 2011	letter received from Mr F E Sharpe providing additional information
22 March 2011	letter from Mr J Coulton (Assistant Director for Culture, Sport and Leisure) providing a response to Mr F E Sharpe
30 March 2011	letter from Mr F E Sharpe asking for this matter to be reconsidered in light of Mr Coulton's response
6 April 2011	letter from Mr R Jago (Democratic Support Officer) to Mr F E Sharpe confirming receipt of his letter
20 April 2011	letter received from Mr F E Sharpe supporting the petition
29 April 2011	letter received from Mr F E Sharpe requesting that the matter be passed to the relevant scrutiny panel

- 7 June 2011 letter from Mr R Jago (Democratic Support Officer) to Mr F E Sharpe advising that the matter had been referred to the Chair of Customers and Communities
- 19 July 2011 letter from Mr T Howes (Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance) to Mr F E Sharpe advising that the matter would be considered by the Customer and Communities OSP
- 25 July 2011 Mr F E Sharpe's question to City Council Meeting

### 3. **Process to be Followed at the Panel Meeting**

- 3.1 The petition organiser(s) will be allowed up to five minutes in total to present their case. The petition organiser will determine how to use their time (they may ask one person to speak or share the time amongst several speakers).
- 3.2 Five minutes shall be allowed to respond on behalf of the Council. The representative(s) of the Council will determine how to use their time (they may ask one person to speak or share the time amongst several speakers).
- 3.3 After each presentation, members of the panel may ask questions to clarify any points made by the speakers.
- 3.4 The panel will then discuss the matter. Members of the panel may ask further questions of the petition organiser(s) or the Council. The petition organiser(s) and the representative(s) of the Council will not normally speak during the debate, except to answer questions.
- 3.5 When the Chair of the panel considers that the matter has been debated for a reasonable length of time, the representative(s) of the Council and the petition organiser(s) will be offered the opportunity to sum up. Each side will be allowed five minutes for this purpose.
- 3.6 The panel will agree its response which could include the following –
- a. the Council's response to the petition was satisfactory;
  - b. the Council's response to the petition was not satisfactory and/or recommend one of the following –
    - taking the action requested
    - holding an inquiry or researching the matter
    - holding an inquiry or researching the matter
    - holding a public meeting or a meeting with petitioners
    - holding a consultation

- referring the petition to the relevant scrutiny panel
- calling a referendum
- writing to the petition organiser giving views about the request and/or letting the petition organisers(s) know what the City Council has already decided to do or proposes to do on the issue

#### 4. **Documents Attached**

- Plymouth City Council's Compulsory Petition Scheme
- Mr F E Sharpe's Petition (Plymstock Swimming Pool Site)
- Mr J Coulton (Assistant Director for Culture, Sport and Leisure response of 22 March 2011, including Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy 2006-2016

## CITY OF PLYMOUTH

**Subject:** Compulsory Petitions Scheme  
**Committee:** Council  
**Date:** 2 August 2010  
**Cabinet Member:** Cllr Ian Bowyer  
**CMT Member:** Adam Broome, Director for Corporate Support  
**Author:** Tim Howes, Monitoring Officer  
**Contact:** Telephone 01752 305403, tim.howes@plymouth.gov.uk  
**Ref:** TH  
**Part:** I

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### Executive Summary:

The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 requires every local authority, to adopt a Petition Scheme which sets out how it will handle petitions, and by 15 December 2010 every local authority must have an on-line petition facility, under which anyone may set up a petition on the authority's website, and other petitioners may sign up to the petition on-line.

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### Corporate Plan 2010 - 2013:

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#### Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

There are no tangible implications.

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#### Other Implications: e.g. Section 17 Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management, Equalities Impact Assessment, etc.

There are no tangible implications.

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#### Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

It is recommended that Council :

- (i) Designates the AD Democracy and Governance as the Council's Petitions Officer;
- (ii) Adopts the Petition Scheme attached at Appendix 1;
- (iii) Creates an on-line petition scheme by the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010; and
- (iv) Agrees to amend the Constitution to include the petition scheme.

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#### Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

The Council is obliged to implement a scheme.

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#### Background papers:

Sections 10-22 Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009  
DCLG Statutory Guidance on Handling Petitions

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**Sign off:** comment must be sought from those whose area of responsibility may be affected by the decision, as follows (insert initials of Finance and Legal reps, and of HR, Corporate Property, IT and Strat. Proc. as appropriate):

Fin		Leg		HR		Corp Prop		IT		Strat Proc	
Originating SMT Member											

## 1.0 Purpose of the Report

1. This report seeks approval to recommend the Council to adopt a new petition scheme.
2. The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 requires every local authority, to adopt a Petition Scheme which sets out how it will handle petitions, and by 15 December 2010 every local authority must have an on-line petition facility, under which anyone may set up a petition on the authority's website, and other petitioners may sign up to the petition on-line.
3. The petition scheme:
  - must be approved by a meeting of the full Council before it comes into force;
  - must be published on the Council's website and by any other method appropriate for bringing it to the attention of those who live, work or study in its area;
  - can be revised at any time but the revised scheme must be approved and publicised as detailed above; and
  - the authority must comply with its petition scheme.
4. The Act defines different categories of petitions, and allows the authority to define the number of signatures required for each category:
  - "Petitions for Debate" must be reported to and debated at full Council. It is proposed that the appropriate threshold level for signatures in this category of petition for is 5,000.
  - "Petitions to hold an Officer to Account" require a senior Council officer to attend a meeting of one of the Council's Scrutiny Panels to answer questions and explain how they are delivering public services. It is proposed that the appropriate threshold level for signatures in this category of petition is 2,500.
  - "Exempted Petitions" – These are petitions received in response to statutory consultation on planning and licensing applications and will continue to be reported to the appropriate Committees.
  - "Ordinary Petitions" - The authority can determine how these petitions will be handled. It is proposed that the appropriate threshold level for signatures in this category of petition is 25.
5. The Council has discretion on the "trigger level" of signatures required to trigger a debate at Council or to ask for a senior officer to give evidence at one of the Scrutiny Panels. The maximum threshold is 5% of the population or approximately 12,500 signatures. The model scheme suggests that the signatures required for requesting an officer to give evidence are half that needed to call a debate at Council. Some research has been done on similar and neighbouring authorities and the proposed threshold is in the "middle range" of those authorities.
6. The Council needs to designate a Petitions Officer, to be responsible for managing the scheme. The work will be undertaken within Democratic Support and therefore it is recommended that the AD Democracy and Governance is designated.
7. Petitions which are considered by the Council to be vexatious, abusive or otherwise inappropriate do not need to be accepted. However, the guidance states that authorities should approach petitions positively and not assume that the motivation is one which is vexatious, abusive or inappropriate.

8. The Department for Communities and Local Government has issued statutory guidance on petition schemes, including a suggested model petition scheme.
9. Cabinet is asked to recommend Council to adopt the proposed Petition Scheme attached at appendix 1, which is based on the model scheme suggested by the DCLG, and to agree to insert the following or similar equivalent wording into the Constitution:

“Petitions with 5,000 or more signatures will be debated by at the next ordinary meeting of the Council unless it is a petition asking for a senior council officer to give evidence at one of the Council’s Scrutiny Panels. If it is not possible for the petition to be discussed at the next ordinary meeting then consideration of it will take place at the following ordinary meeting. The petition organiser will be given five minutes to present the petition at the meeting and put forward his/her case for action. The Council will decide how to respond to the petition and the petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision, which will also be published on the Council’s website as part of the minutes for that meeting.”

**Plymouth City Council's Petition Scheme**

Plymouth City Council welcomes petitions and understands that they are one way in which people's concerns can be expressed.

Within 10 working days of receiving your petition, we'll let you know how we plan to deal with the petition and when we will respond to you. We'll also say as much as we can about what we have done, or plan to do, with the petition.

Petitions may be sent, either on paper or via email, to:

- Democratic Support, Plymouth City Council, Plymouth PL1 2AA
- [democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk)
- First Stop (the main reception at the Civic Centre) (paper copies only)

*(From December 2010 onwards, online petitions can be submitted - advice will be available at a later stage)*

Plymouth City Council will consider all petitions received. (We will treat it as a petition if you say it is a petition, or if it seems to us that it is intended to be a petition.) The minimum number of signatures required on a petition is 25.

**What are the guidelines for submitting a petition?**

Petitions must include:

- a clear statement covering the subject matter
- what the petitioners want the council to do and
- the name, address and signature of everyone supporting the petition

Petitions should be accompanied by contact details (address [and email if available]) for the petition organiser (this is the person the council will contact to give a response to the petition). Anyone who lives, works or studies in the city of Plymouth may sign a petition.

**When will a petition not be accepted?**

A petition will not be accepted or dealt with:

- if it is considered to be vexatious, abusive or otherwise inappropriate
- it relates to matters where there are ongoing legal proceedings
- it targets individuals
- it applies to a matter where there is already a right of appeal (e.g. planning or licensing applications or statutory petitions (such as that for requesting a referendum on having an elected mayor) as these will be dealt with under separate arrangements

If your petition is about something over which the city council has no direct control we may consider making representations to the relevant organisation and, where possible, ask partners to respond to you. If your petition is about something that another council is responsible for, we will forward it to that council, and let you know that we have done so.

**How will the Council respond?**

The response to a petition will necessarily depend on what it is asking for and how many people have signed it, but may include:

- taking the action requested
- considering the petition at a council meeting
- holding an inquiry or researching the matter
- holding a public meeting or a meeting with petitioners



- holding a consultation
- referring the petition to the relevant [Scrutiny Panel](#)
- calling a referendum
- writing to the petition organiser giving our views about the request and / or letting you know what the city council has already decided to do or proposes to do on the issue

## Exclusions

If the petition applies to a planning or licensing application, is a statutory petition (for example requesting a referendum on having an elected mayor), or on a matter where there is already an existing right of appeal, such as council tax banding and non-domestic rates, other procedures apply. Further information on all these procedures and how you can express your views is available here:

- [Planning](#)
- [Licensing](#)
- [Council tax bands and business rates](#)

## Debate at city council meetings (over 5,000 signatures)

If the petition has received 5,000 signatures it will automatically trigger a debate at the next ordinary [city council meeting](#). In this case, we will confirm the date of the next meeting and the petition organiser will be given five minutes to present the petition and put forward his / her case for the action requested.

At the meeting, the city councillors will decide how to respond to the petition and the petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision, which will also be published on the council's website as part of the [minutes for that meeting](#).

## Officer evidence (over 2,500 signatures)

If your petition contains at least 2,500 signatures, you may ask for a senior council officer (Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, Directors and Assistant Directors) to give evidence at one of the Council's Scrutiny Panels (e.g. to explain progress or to explain the advice given to councillors to assist their decision making). The Panel may also require the relevant Cabinet Member to attend the meeting. Panel members will ask the questions at this meeting, but you can suggest questions to the Chair of the Panel by contacting the Democratic Support team ([democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk)) at least seven working days before the meeting.

## What can I do if I feel my petition has not been dealt with properly?

If you feel that the council has not dealt with your petition properly, the petition organiser has the right to ask the relevant Scrutiny Panel to review the council's response. The petition organiser should give a short explanation as to why the council's response is not felt to be adequate.

That Scrutiny Panel will try to consider your request at its next meeting. Once the appeal has been considered the petition organiser will be informed of the results within 5 working days and they will be published on the [council's website](#) as part of the minutes for that meeting.

### *Please note:*

In the period immediately before an election or referendum we may need to deal with your petition differently – if this is the case we will explain the reasons and discuss the revised timescale which will apply.

From,  
Mr F.E.Sharpe,  
124 Elburton Road,  
Plymstock,  
Plymouth.  
PL9 8JB  
01752-215111  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011

Regarding on going petition on web site  
[Petition.co.uk/signatures/plymstock-swimming-pool-site](http://Petition.co.uk/signatures/plymstock-swimming-pool-site)

To,  
The Democratic support Unit,  
Plymouth City Council  
Civic Centre,  
Plymouth.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please could notice be taken regarding comments enclosed from an ongoing petition at [petition.co.uk/signatures/plymstock-swimming-pool-site](http://petition.co.uk/signatures/plymstock-swimming-pool-site) and consider consulting the residents of the two Plymstock wards regarding a future plymstock swimming pool and site as we appear to be getting no were at the moment. Consultation has a way of speeding things up.

Yours Sincerely  
F.E.Sharpe. Plymstock.

*F. E. Sharpe*

# Plymstock Swimming Pool site petition

## Created by Frederick Sharpe on 19/06/2010

An appeal to Plymouth city council.

Please consult the residents of Plymstock and give them a vote on a Plymstock swimming pool site.  
This is a petition which should be taken notice of.

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
1 Mrs Diane Murton	Plymstock	Devon	Plympton have had a swimming pool for years but you need a car to get there. Central park is having a new pool but you need a car to get there. I think we have waited long enough for a plymstock pool. What has happened to all the money raised for it!	16/07/2010
2 Mr David Tomalin	Plymstock	Devon	Surely, this is a no brainer, why should all this lobbying be necessary? residents should automatically be given a vote	18/07/2010
3 Mrs. Norma Wallace	Plymouth	Devon	We in Plymstock have been campaigning for a swimming pool for ?????????years and it is about time we had one	18/07/2010
4 Mr Robert Parker	Plymouth	Devon	surely it's time for some kind of action on this? How long has the local population been waiting for a pool. It's time for the council to stop procrastinating and get moving.	18/07/2010
5 Mr Marc Hulin	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	18/07/2010
6 Mr John Miskelly	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	19/07/2010
7 Mrs Anne Miskelly	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	19/07/2010
8 Mrs Rose Davis	Plymouth	Devon	How much longer does Plymstock have to wait for there swimming pool	22/07/2010
9 Mrs Nicola O'Carroll	Plymouth	Devon	Why does Plymstock have to wait for Sherford to build to have a swimming pool because the pool will be built at sherford and not Plymstock so yet again Plymstock residents keep campaigning for a fruitless cause.	22/07/2010
10 Mrs Kirsten Amphlett	Plymouth	Devon	This has been going on for years, why do other areas get the facilities and Plymstock doesn't!	22/07/2010
11 Mrs Annette Towle	Plymouth	Devon	I am for a swimming pool being built in plymstock	26/07/2010
12 Mr Peter Gross	Plymouth	Devon	The City council still owes us a swimming pool when Seaton was pulled down.	26/07/2010
13 Mr & M Jean and Bill Tooze	Plymstock, Plymouth	Devon	We have been calling out for a swimming pool for Plymstock for years. We have paid into this fund for years and disgusted that a site within plymstock as not been found. \n\nWe do not want a swimming pool at Sherford.	26/07/2010
14 Mr Ivor Easterbrook	Plymouth	Devon	After all the rumours i think its about time that we had a swimming pool	27/07/2010
15 Mr Ryan Easterbrook	Plymouth	Devon	As an experienced swimmer in the area i think it would be ideal as i do not have to travel very far to do some swimming	27/07/2010
16 Mr Michael Hockey	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	01/08/2010
17 EARL WARE	PLYMOUTH	Devon	SHERFORD IS NOT PLYMSTOCK. IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT PLYMSTOCK RESIDENTS TO TRAVEL TO A SITE IN AREA WHICH IS FUNDAMENTALLY NOT WANTED OR NEEDED.	04/08/2010

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
18 Mrs Jill Mylton	N/A	N/A	Plymstock has been asking for a pool for over 28 years, the young and old deserve some where they can swim to improve health and improve the environment by not making so many trips by car to Plymouth or Plympton.	05/08/2010
19 MRS SANDRA WAKEHAM	PLYMOUTH	Devon	I HAVE WRITTEN TO GARY STREETER AND HAD A REPLY FROM HIS SECRETARY SAYING THIS MATTER IS TO BE DISCUSSED ... YET AGAIN!! I AM DISGUSTED THAT OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY (AND WE ALL KNOW WHICH PARTS) HAVE MONEY SPENT ON THEM YEAR AFTER YEAR. WE IN PLYMSTOCK PAY A HIGH PRICE TO LIVE HERE AND GET NOTHING IN RETURN. THE COUNCIL HAVE TRIED 'BLINDING US WITH SCIENCE' BY TELLING US THAT SHERFORD IS PLYMSTOCK AFTER CONVENIENTLY CHANGING BOUNDARIES. WE DESERVE A POOL AND HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH. ONE OF THE REASONS THEY SAY IS THAT THEY CANNOT FIND A SUITABLE SITE. WOULD NOT THE SPACE BY ROYAL MAIL IN ORESTON/POMPHLETT BE SUITABLE AS THERE IS PLENTY OF SPACE AND AWAY FROM ANY RESIDENTIAL AREA? WHY SHOULD WE BE EXPECTED (IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR OWN TRANSPORT) TO HAVE TO RELY ON LOCAL BUSES IN WINTER MONTHS ESPECIALLY, IF YOU HAVE BEEN SWIMMING AND HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN.EVEN IF YOU ARE A 1 CAR FAMILY THIS IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE AS THE FATHER WOULD NEED IT FOR WORK.	06/08/2010
20 Mr Paul Faithfull	N/A	N/A	We moved to Plymstock in 1993 and we're still waiting!	06/08/2010
21 mrs rebecca eager	plymouth	Devon	N/A	06/08/2010
22 Mr Nigel Webber	PLYMOUTH	Devon	MORE INFO PLEASE!!	07/08/2010
23 Mrs Ruth Jordan	Plymstock	Devon	Residents of Plymstock should be consulted and given a vote on a Plymstock Swimming Pool site.	07/08/2010
24 Mr Allan Bennett	Plymouth	Devon	We have been waiting for at least 20 years and had many promises that plymstock will get its pool, but each time barriers are put in the way	07/08/2010
25 Mrs Bernadette Gibbons	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	10/08/2010
26 Mr George Harley	Plymstock	Devon	When??	11/08/2010
27 Mr Christopher Fry	Plymouth	Devon	We must have our say after all this time	16/08/2010
28 MRS TRACEY MUDGE	PLYMOUTH	Devon	N/A	19/08/2010
29 Mrs Peggy Poole	Plymouth	Devon	I support the appeal. We want the pool to be in an easily accessible place for everyone.	20/08/2010
30 Mrs Helen Pearce	Plymstock	Devon	I support the building of a swimming pool at Plymstock. Must we keep going into the city, to overcrowded pools? Its quite a way to go, especially as the Pavilions will close next year.	20/08/2010
31 mr barry hebblethwaite	plymouth	Devon	too much talking,not enough action,perhaps tory councillors should not forget who elected them,there are other parties so get cracking .	20/08/2010
32 mrs valerie Abel	PLYMOUTH	Devon	we need a pool in plymstock	20/08/2010
33 Mrs Susan Sharpl	Plymouth	Devon	This has been needed for years and would be used enormously - every session would be full from lane swimming mornings and lunchtimes to childrens fun sessions and teaching sessions. Fitness is being promoted by councils and this would fit in with that perfectly.	21/08/2010
34 Mrs Erika Hamling	Plymouth	Devon	Well needed. I bought a brick for the building of a pool many years ago so it has been needed for a long time.	21/08/2010
35 Dan Rolfe	N/A	N/A	N/A	21/08/2010
36 Mr Clive Shipping	Plymouth	Devon	Swimming pool is desperately needed NOW	21/08/2010

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
37 Ms Jocelyne Mas	Staddiscombe, Plymouth	Devon	Please consult the residents of Plymstock. Plymstock does not need a swimming pool. There are ample facilities in Plymouth and buses are easy to catch to get there. Do not waste money building a swimming pool in Plymstock. This will increase the traffic and the infrastructure which is already inadequate will not support the additional volume of cars. Please do not ignore ordinary people, they are the ones who vote for you. Plymstock does NOT need a swimming pool. Many thanks	22/08/2010
38 Mrs Debbi Bromfield	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	22/08/2010
39 Mr David King	PLYMOUTH	Devon	Please give the people of PLYMSTOCK a chance to vote for a swimming pool for the area.	22/08/2010
40 mr peter hudson	plymstock	Devon	N/A	22/08/2010
41 miss suzanne reeve	plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/08/2010
42 mr keith grundy	plymouth	Devon	a local pool would give all residents, young and old, a very valuable health and social amenity, so no more delays lets see some action.	24/08/2010
43 mrs delma anne mudge	plmouth	Devon	we need a sight with good access and parking, possibly staddiscombe club area ,which is also on bus route.	24/08/2010
44 mr jack buckley	plymstock	Devon	plymstock is an expanding town we now have a new housing estate at staddiscombe,we have been waiting years for this swimming pool at plymstock enough is enough.this is a must for plymouth residents.	24/08/2010
45 mrs anna twaits	plymouth	N/A	N/A	25/08/2010
46 Mrs Margaret Frass	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	26/08/2010
47 miss rachel sweeney	plymouth	Devon	we so need a pool here as the only local one is a private gym/pool and i cant afford it. i always want a pool in plymstock when i was a kid and now 38 and having my own child still long for the plymstock pool. i think all the residents in plymstock will welcome this swimming pool . (IF WE EVER GET IT) STILL WAITING!!!!!!!!!!!!	27/08/2010
48 Dr Tracey Jones-Hughes	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	27/08/2010
49 Mr Philip Cockburn	Plymstock	Devon	A swimming pool in the area is long overdue	28/08/2010
50 Mrs Donna Chadwick	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	29/08/2010
51 Mr John Eschbaecher	Plymstock	Devon	A pool in Plymstock would be fantastic. It would save me a few miles of fuel each week! All for it.	30/08/2010
52 Mr John Cowie	Plymouth	N/A	Is anyone at Plymouth City Council hearing this ? Now that we have raised the funds to enable this to go ahead is there yet more obstacles that our local goivernment will dream up to stop our long sought after amenity? Selected deafness I fear yet again.....	30/08/2010
53 Mr Roger Jones	Plymouth	Devon	20 + years of promises is enough. When and where will it be?	30/08/2010
54 mr Roger Tomblin	plymouth	Devon	N/A	31/08/2010
55 mr g woolner	plymstock plymouth	Devon	N/A	01/09/2010
56 miss michelle chandler	Hooe	Devon	We so need a swimming pool in plymstock there is a real need this side of town	06/09/2010
57 MISS shirley hall	plystock	Devon	N/A	06/09/2010

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
58 Mrs Yvonne Dean	Plymouth	Devon	Plymstock not only needs a swimming pool, it deserves a swimming pool. I go to Plympton daily sometimes and it would be fabulous if we had one here instead of travelling to Plympton all the time. The children would have somewhere local to learn to swim, and the whole community would have somewhere to go for regular exercise which is a must for all of us, especially as the government keeps telling us all to exercise more. Swimming is a low impact way to exercise and is wonderful for all people with disabilities. PLEASE PLEASE let us have our own swimming pool. After many years of trying I feel it really is time for this to be given serious consideration. It has been far too long coming.	07/09/2010
59 Mrs Sandra Scoble	Plymouth	Devon		08/09/2010
60 Mrs Heather Broom	Plymouth	Devon		08/09/2010
61 Ms Julie Mingo	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/09/2010
62 Mrs Tracy May	plymouth	Devon	ABSOLUTE WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY. IF PEOPLE WANT TO SWIM GO TO ONE OF THE NUMEROUS SWIMMING POOLS IN PLYMOUTH OR PLYMPTON. HOW ABOUT PROVIDING SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNGSTERS FOR A CHANGE !!!!!!!!!!!!!	11/09/2010
63 Mr Jason Parfitt	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	11/09/2010
64 Mrs Bethan Parfitt	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	11/09/2010
65 MR Alfred Chapman	Plymouth	Devon	I have been supporting the need for a Plymstock swimmingpool since it was first suggested. I was in my early 60s then, I am 83 now and maybe too old to use it if it ever gets built!	11/09/2010
66 Mrs Tessa Merrett	Plymouth	Devon	My children have grown up and left home while we've been waiting for this pool. How much longer do we have to wait PCC ?	12/09/2010
67 Mr Pete Dean	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	12/09/2010
68 Mrs K Mabin	Plymouth	Devon	We live here and need a pool. We need a say on the site which is beneficial to everyone. Listen to what we need, not what you want!	13/09/2010
69 Miss Johanna Sidey	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	13/09/2010
70 Mr John Wilkins	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	16/09/2010
71 Mrs Kirsty King	Plymouth	Devon	Plymouth is a wasteland where swimming pools are concerned. Shame on Plymouth Council for running our pool's down and not replacing them. How long has this association been raising money and petitioning for this pool? My husband was a boy when they began and now he's nearly 40! Shame shame on Plymouth Council but it's not a surprise. A shambolic way to run a city!	19/09/2010
72 Mr Richard Walker	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	26/09/2010
73 miss andrea ross	plymouth	Devon	i think this would be a great thing to have,myself and my partner are getting healthy and as he needs things to strengthen his legs after an illness this would be great.	27/09/2010
74 Mr H Gurry	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	29/09/2010
75 MR ROBIN LOVE	PLYMOUTH	Devon	WE URGENTLY NEED A SWIMMING POOL IN THIS AREA	01/10/2010
76 Mr Peter Bartlett	Plymouth	Devon	This facility is very much needed here. For ther Health and wellbeing of local people	02/10/2010
77 Mrs Maggie Cox	Down Thomas	Devon	I have just relocated to the area. I like to swim at lease 4 time a week. There are a few small pool in the area. These are no good for regular swimmer. I like to do at lease 40 lengths. At the moment I don't go swimming regular. I really would love a good size pool. I have Ostarthritis in both knees swimming would be ideal.	04/10/2010
78 Miss Jessica Cox	Down Thomas	Devon	I would love a local swimming pool. I would swim at leased 4 time a week.	04/10/2010
79 Mr John Cox	Down Thomas	Devon	I would use the pool at lease twice a week. And when I retire most days.	04/10/2010
80 Mr Royston Maule	Plymstock Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/10/2010

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
81 Vanessa Williamson	plymstock	Devon	we need a swimming pool in plymstock for the residents of all ages , particularly children/teenagers.	08/10/2010
82 Mr Michael MAHONEY	PLYMOUTH	Devon	Plymstock people have the right to decide the location of their swimming pool.	09/10/2010
83 Mrs Danielle Lytle	Down Thomas	Devon	We are just outside the boundary of Plymouth City but use all the Plymouth facilities. Central Park takes 40+ mins to get to as does to get to Plympton. Pavillions pool is a fun pool and NOT a swimming pool. South Hams is on the doorstep and seems to be largely ignored with the nearest pool being Kingsbridge.	10/10/2010
84 Mrs L Crocker	plymouth	Devon	N/A	19/10/2010
85 Mrs Joy Riley	Plymouth	Devon	I would like to see a swimmingpool in Plymstock. We have been waiting years for this.	19/10/2010
86 Mr Michael Hockey	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	19/10/2010
87 Mrs Jill Thomas	Plymstock	Devon	Many people have been working hard for more than 15 years to bring this about. We are constantly told to exercise more. A local pool would provide the ideal way of exercising with the added benefit of being able to walk there. A win win situation.	24/10/2010
88 Mr Geoffrey Wheeler	Plymstock	Devon	after many years of promise come on give the area a pool for young and old we can all use it.	01/11/2010
89 mr chris henderson	plymstock	N/A	N/A	03/11/2010
90 Mr and Jackie and Mike Langley	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	05/11/2010
91 Mrs Deborah Thomas	N/A	Devon	The residents of Plmstock need a pool	07/11/2010
92 mrs diane woolford	plymouth	N/A	N/A	08/11/2010
93 Mrs J Jones	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/11/2010
94 Mrs Michelle Robertson	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	10/11/2010
95 Mrs Gail Buckler	Plymouth	Devon	I have been a Plymstock resident all my life. We desperately need a local swimming pool IN Plymstock	11/11/2010
96 Miss Nadene McKinney	Plymstock	Devon	I would like a pool thats closer for Plymstock residents.	11/11/2010
97 Ms Shari Farrar	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	12/11/2010
98 Mr Jordan Baker	Plymouth, Plymstock	Devon	A swimming pool will be a great place to get the youths off of the streets and causing hassel. It will also save the environment for people who live local and who will no longer have to drive to find their nearest pool	13/11/2010
99 Mr David Moore	Plymstock	Devon	I support this petition	14/11/2010
100 Mr Ian Cole	Plymouth	Devon	This has been ongoing since we moved to Plymstock in 1988!i	16/11/2010
101 Mr Edward Parkin	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	17/11/2010
102 Mr Mike Eastel	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	18/11/2010
103 Mrs Helen Poole	Plymstock	Devon	Would love a pool in Plymstock especially having a young family!	18/11/2010
104 mr & m norma & brian limpus	plymouth	Devon	with such a growing community in plymstock young and old we are desperately in need of a swimming pool	19/11/2010
105 miss lauren james	plymouth	Devon	definatly need a swimming pool in Plymstock. I'm a regular swimmer and often have to make half hour trips out of plymstock just to swim as local as possible.	23/11/2010

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Date</b>
106	mrs jacqui james	plymouth	Devon	Would love a local pool!	23/11/2010
107	mr andrew edwards	plymouth	Devon	N/A	25/11/2010
108	Peter McCorry	plymstock	Devon	In a part of plymouth of this size bordered on three sides by salt water children should be able to walk to a safe swimming site for learning watermanship skills	30/11/2010
109	Miss Hannah Taylor	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	01/12/2010
110	mr dave smitham	plymouth	Devon	i feel very strongly that plymstock should have a good size swimming facilities central for easy access	03/12/2010
111	Mr Roger Goulding	Plymouth	Devon	Plymouth Council should give us residents a say and consult us properly.	05/12/2010
112	Mr Peter Guilliat	Plymouth	Devon	Where is the site going to be?	06/12/2010
113	Mr William Ley	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/12/2010
114	Mrs Judith Ley	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/12/2010
115	Mr John Kenneth Balshaw	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/12/2010
116	Mr Nick Jory	Plymouth	Devon	Please consult local residents on this important issue!	10/12/2010
117	mrs joan monks	plymouth	Devon	I have been a resident for over 50 years at plymstock; I am a fit 80 year old who would love a daily swim- PLEASE get this pool built before I am too old to use it!	11/12/2010
118	Mr Chris Dawdry	Plymouth	Devon	All the comments above into one	11/12/2010
119	Dr Nikki Dawdry	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	11/12/2010
120	Mrs M Clarke	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	15/12/2010
121	Mrs Ayesha Pope	Plymstock	Devon	Really want have swimming pool in plymstock as it's important for children. Save transport to far away. My two little kids really love swim & make easy fit time when I finish my work from town as I tire of drive back into town twice day if we going to swim after work	20/12/2010
122	Mrs Theresa Johnston	plymstock,plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/12/2010
123	Mr John Lines	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	02/01/2011
124	Mrs Sonia Donovan	Plymouth	Devon	As a founder member of the PDSWA and committed to supporting a pool before I am too old to use it.Plymstock is treated poorly in comparison to Plympton and Ivybridge for example and yet has a larger population.It is also getting more and more difficult to drive the 5 miles to Central Park with increased traffic on Laura Bridge.The money saved so far should not be handed over without the residents having a say.	03/01/2011
125	Mr and E.S. SLADE	plymouth	Devon	we have personally raised a cconsiderable sum of money for the pool and do not think that the council can legally make any decisions without consulting the resicents who have raised this money	04/01/2011
126	Mr Charles Burlison	Plymouth	N/A	N/A	13/01/2011
127	Mrs Hannah Wood	Plymstock	Devon	The Plymstock Swimming Pool will be a great asset to the Community. Not only will there be financial gains and opportunities to build new social circles, but the whole community will have opportunities to keep fit and healthy. This will be a fantastic opportunity, even more so as it will be on our doorstep!!	14/01/2011
128	Mr Steven Jones	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	15/01/2011



Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
129 mr brian jones	plymouth	Devon	N/A	15/01/2011
130 mrs judith JE jones	plymstock,plymouth	Devon	N/A	15/01/2011
131 Mrs Deborah Baker	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	16/01/2011
132 ms catherine mills	plymouth	Devon	N/A	17/01/2011
133 Mrs Jean Patricia Miller	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	17/01/2011
134 mrs lisa finlayson	plymstock	Devon	N/A	17/01/2011
135 Mr Neville Marlow	Plymouth	Devon	How much longer is the council going to ignore us. Perhaps if we didnt pay council tax, they would take pity on us	19/01/2011
136 Miss Elizabeth Jacobs	PLYMOUTH	Devon	N/A	19/01/2011
137 mr george kelley	plymstock	Devon	N/A	20/01/2011
138 Mr Richard G Cockram	Plymouth	Devon	As a local resident I strongly support this petition as most of the funds for this pool have been obtained from the local residents and our young people need it in Plymstock.	20/01/2011
139 Mr Nick Smyth	Hooe, Plymouth	Devon	N/A	21/01/2011
140 Mr John Tait	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	21/01/2011
141 Mrs Rebecca and Barry Watts	Plymstock	Devon	We need it now,not another 20 years time !	21/01/2011
142 MRS HELEN JILKS	PLYMOUTH	Devon	IT IS ONLY RIGHT THAT RESIDENTS HAVE A SAY ON THEIR SURROUNDINGS	21/01/2011
143 Mr Ray Haines	Plymstock	Devon	The pool would be extremely well supported in the future by young and old. I regularly travel over to Central Park for a swim which is and always will be a horrendous journey.	22/01/2011
144 Mr Derek West	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/01/2011
145 mrs julie rendell	plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/01/2011
146 mrs eileen bryson	plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/01/2011
147 Mrs Ann Johnson	Plymouth	Devon	Plymstock needs a swimming pool.	23/01/2011
148 mrs Sarah Pile	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	23/01/2011
149 Mrs Michelle Prue	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	23/01/2011
150 MR Andrew Amphlett	plymstock	Devon	N/A	24/01/2011
151 mr michael west	elburton	Devon	N/A	24/01/2011
152 mr and frank and bridget crowe	Plymouth	Devon	plymstock needs a swimming pool in plymstock in a central position not on the outskirts.	24/01/2011
153 Mrs Tracy Childs	Plymstock	Devon	We've waited long enough	26/01/2011
154 Mrs Alison Coles	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	26/01/2011
155 miss laura phillips	plymouth	Devon	N/A	26/01/2011
156 Mrs Margaret Bennett	Plymstock	Devon	residents should be consulted as to where pool is constructed and it should be constructed ASAP	26/01/2011
157 Miss amanda trafford	plymouth	Devon	N/A	27/01/2011

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
158 Mr & M C and S Harvey	Plymstock	Devon	Would be nice within walking distance	27/01/2011
159 Mrs mary stables	plymouth	Devon	N/A	27/01/2011
160 Mrs Eileen Willis	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	28/01/2011
161 Mrs Pamela Kingsland	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	28/01/2011
162 Mrs Patricia Rickard	elburton	Devon	I have no car and public transport takes so long we need a swimming-pool in our area. I want to take my grandchildren swimming before im too old. Weve been waiting far too long.	29/01/2011
163 mr brian povey	Elburton	Devon	N/A	30/01/2011
164 Mrs Charmaine gullely	Elburton	Devon	N/A	30/01/2011
165 Mr Darrell Gullely	Elburton, Plymouth	Devon	N/A	30/01/2011
166 Miss Catherine McGinty	Plymouth	Devon	Plymstock is a wonderful community to be part of. Please give us a real sense of community by allowing us all a say in what happens here.	31/01/2011
167 Mrs Edna gibson	Plymstock	Devon	Plymstock needs a pool.	31/01/2011
168 Mrs Nicola Holder	PLYMOUTH	Devon	site choice should automatically be given to local residents	01/02/2011
169 Mrs suan lee	plymouth	Devon	i would like to support and vote for a swimming pool in plymstock. It will be fantastic for all members ,all ages .my family will use it regularly.	01/02/2011
170 Mrs P Wastell	Elburton	Devon	N/A	01/02/2011
171 MRS FIONA THORNE	plymouth	N/A	N/A	01/02/2011
172 Mr Andrew Thorne	Plymouth	N/A	N/A	01/02/2011
173 mr dave redwood	plymouth	Devon	for years we have been promised a swimming pool why vote for people who break their promises?????????	02/02/2011
174 Mr Derek Hines	Plymstock	Devon	My wife & I, being pensioners and like a regular swim, would dearly appreciate a more local pool. We travel to the soon to close Pavilions at the moment	02/02/2011
175 Mr Ben Eynon	Oreston, Plymouth	Devon	N/A	02/02/2011
176 Mrs Karen Eynon	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	02/02/2011
177 Mrs Jessica Thompson	PLYMOUTH	Devon	N/A	03/02/2011
178 Mr Mark Osborne	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	03/02/2011
179 Mrs Jane Stacey	Plymouth	Devon	We moved to Plymouth in 1988 and were pleased to become members of the Plymstock swimming pool association. What has happened in those 23 years?	04/02/2011
180 Mrs caroline newby	plymouth	Devon	plymstock should have a swimming pool	04/02/2011
181 Mrs Annette Gayton	Plymstock Plymouth	Devon	N/A	04/02/2011
182 MR JAYESH NARANBHAI	PLYMOUTH	N/A	WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE A LOCAL SWIMMING POOL	05/02/2011
183 MR JOHN MORLEY	PLYMSTOCK	Devon	it's has taken a long time to get this far.	05/02/2011
184 Mr Stephen Wilshire	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	06/02/2011

Name	Town	Region	Comment	Date
185 mr jaroslaw dabski	plymouth	Devon	N/A	06/02/2011
186 Ann & Ann Madeline Janet Cuddeforde	Plymouth	N/A	From the onset Plymstock was the headed title, spearheaded initially by Plymstock residents therefore(& district) should be discounted in the siting of the pool. The site idealistically/morally/legally should be in Plymstock	07/02/2011
187 Mr Brian Gorvin	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	08/02/2011
188 Mr John Whiteman	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	09/02/2011
189 Mr Gordon Pickard	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	10/02/2011
190 Mrs Edwina Pickard	Plymouth	Devon	N/A	10/02/2011
191 Brian & Anne Ellis	Plymstock	Devon	Please end the long wait!!!!XW&V	12/02/2011
192 Mrs Anne Donohoe	Plymstock	Devon	We've been eating at least 10 years for a pool. Please let us have one before I forget how to swim.	12/02/2011
193 Mrs Joanne Burt	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	13/02/2011
194 Mr Neil Burt	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	13/02/2011
195 Miss Madeline and Grace Burt	Plymstock	Devon	N/A	13/02/2011
196 mrs anita blacker	plymstock plymouth	Devon	N/A	13/02/2011
197 Mrs Linda Stevens	Elburton	Devon	N/A	15/02/2011
198 mr peter francis	plymouth	Devon	we have been waiting for a swimming pool in plymstock for many many years now and it is long overdue in our growing community	15/02/2011
199 Mrs Esther Hudson	Plymouth	Devon	With three children all who can swim a bit, I would welcome a pool closer to home. Fort stamford isn't big enough and the others are too far away in times of high fuel costs	15/02/2011
200 mrs sheena edwards	plymouth	Devon	my family have been resident in plymstock for over 20 years and when my daughter was born, 19 years ago, we set up a subscription to the swimming pool fund. there have been plans made up site plans and still nothing has produced this pool?! Where is all this money will I get a refund WITH INTEREST. My daughter has now gone on to University so come on lets have the pool that plymstock deserves and tell us where the money is...	15/02/2011

**BEST ACHIEVING  
COUNCIL OF THE YEAR**



Mr F E Sharpe  
124 Elburton Road  
Plymstock  
Plymouth  
PL9 8JB

**Culture, Sport and Leisure**  
Department for community Services

Plymouth City Council  
Civic Centre  
Plymouth PL1 2AA

T 01752 307013  
F 01752 307003  
E [james.coulton@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:james.coulton@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)

Please ask for: James Coulton

Date 22 March 2011

My Ref JC/hc

Your Ref

Dear Mr Sharpe

**PLYMSTOCK SWIMMING POOL**

Thank you for your letter and the petition titled 'please consult the residents of Plymstock and give them a vote on a Plymstock swimming pool site'.

I have been asked to respond by my colleague, Tim Howes, the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance.

The Council's position on a pool for Plymstock is clear and we have published our proposals for future swimming provision in the city, in our swimming facilities strategy 2006-2016, and updated a part of our wider sports facilities strategy.

This is available on the City Council's website at [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk), however I have enclosed a copy of the relevant section for your information. This strategy, approved by the Council shows that there is an identified need for a pool to serve the east of the city including Plymstock and Elburton. The pool identified as being provided as part of the Sherford development is ideally suited to cover this area of the city. It would make no economic sense for Plymouth to duplicate facilities which are already planned within a short distance and for which there is a significant developer contribution.

The applicants (Red Tree) are proposing the provision of a Sports Centre in their planning application. The expectation is for the phased delivery of the Sports Centre with the swimming pool to be delivered early in phase 1 and for the management responsibilities to lie with the developer.

I trust this letter makes our position clear, and can I take this opportunity to thank you for your correspondence.

Yours sincerely

D J Coulton  
Assistant Director for Community Services (Culture, Sport & Leisure)

cc Tim Howes

# Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy 2006 – 2016



## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

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# Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

## Section 1

### 1.1 Introduction and context

The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy considers the current availability of swimming facilities within the city and potential future amendments to such provision. It has been prepared in conformity with PPG17 - Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation, which requires local authorities to undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sports and recreational facilities. Other strategies are being prepared to address other elements of the city's sport and recreation provision.

The geographical scope of the strategy is restricted to an analysis of the overall stock of all swimming facilities within the city boundary, their availability for formal and informal public use, the perceived quantity of provision and particular shortfalls that might reasonably be expected to occur in Plymouth by the year 2016, if no action were taken between now and then.

### 1.2 Alignment of the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy with Plymouth's 'City Strategy'

The vision for Plymouth as expressed in the City's Sustainable Community Strategy, is that:

**By 2020, Plymouth will be one of Europe's finest, most vibrant waterfront cities, where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone, where all can be "healthy, wealthy safe and wise"**

The four visionary goals articulate the city's ambition to be:

- **HEALTHY** - a healthy place to live and work (improving health and well-being)
- **WEALTHY** - a city that creates and shares prosperity (enhancing its economy and sharing the benefits with all its community)
- **SAFE** - a safe, strong city (reducing crime, making people feel safe, making the most of its environment)
- **WISE** - a location for learning, achievement and leisure (raising aspirations and attainment, promoting creativity and leisure)

**Key customers** are considered to be: children and young people, older people and those living in the most deprived wards.

These four goals are underpinned by eight **strategic objectives**:

- **Improving health and well-being;**
- Developing a prosperous economy;

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

- Promoting community safety;
- Raising educational achievement;
- Promoting inclusive communities;
- Developing an effective transport system;
- Maintaining a clean and sustainable environment;
- **Stimulating culture and leisure activities.**

The two strategic objectives highlighted identify the most obvious alignment for the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy. However, the City Council and its partners recognise that sport and physical recreation activities can also contribute to other agendas such as social inclusion, education and community safety.

### 1.3 Alignment of the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy with Plymouth City Council's 'Corporate Plan'

This plan sets out five **Corporate Objectives**:

- **Building Plymouth's future** (This objective requires each service and strategy to identify how it specifically contributes to the City Strategy): **The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy recommended actions and policies will specifically assist the city in relation to its strategic objectives for 'health and well-being' and 'culture and leisure activities'.**
- **Providing excellent and efficient services** (This objective means that each service or strategy must identify how it can become or remain excellent – and become yet more efficient): **The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy has been specifically constructed to assist with and support the making of key decisions in relation to the future provision of sports facilities in the city.**
- **Putting the customer first** (For this objective to be met a service or a strategy needs to clearly identify its customers, what the service looks like to them – and how excellent customer satisfaction can be achieved or maintained): **The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy proposes performance indicators against which improvements in service delivery can be measured.**
- **Ensuring access for all** (Services and strategies must demonstrate that they are working to close existing inequality gaps if they are to meet this objective): **Inequalities in relation to access to local swimming facilities are identified in the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy. As such it proposes specific actions to reduce such deficiencies in service delivery.**
- **Improving our capacity to deliver together** (This objective requires each service or strategy to ensure that in partnership with others it is being delivered with the appropriate standards of, for example: financial and human resource management, etc.): **The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy identifies its relationship to the wider sports agenda and thus its local role. It is recognised**



## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

**that the sports facility requirement of the local community needs to be met by access to and ongoing improvement in the stock of facilities that are collectively managed by local providers. This strategy should enable each provider the opportunity to make its own specific contribution and to make informed decisions on its role within the city.**

### **1.4 Key Objectives of the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy key objectives are:

- To provide Plymouth with the right number of swimming pools, of the right quality, in the right place.
- To see a clear, coherent and equitable approach to facility development, enhancement, maintenance and management.
- To provide an adopted local standard for Plymouth in relation to the swimming facilities it should seek to provide for its local residents.

These key objectives are also in harmony with the intention of the key aims of the Amateur Swimming Association National Facilities Strategy for Swimming (December 2002):

- “to promote a strategic approach to the development and management of all existing and future swimming facilities
- to meet the recreational swimming needs of the community in general.”

# Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

## Section 2 – Where we are now?

### 2.1 Current swimming facility provision

The stock of facilities in Plymouth as shown below and in Table 2 is owned or managed by a number of different agencies. These include:

- Plymouth City Council
- Schools
- Higher education establishments
- Ministry of Defence (MoD)
- Commercial sector

Current indoor and outdoor swimming pool provision in the city is as follows:

- Plympton Swimming Pool
- Marjon Sport And Leisure
- Cannons Health Club
- Central Park Leisure Pools
- Club Moativation
- HMS Drake
- Plymouth College
- Plymouth Pavilions
- Devonshire Health & Racquet Club
- Mount Wise Open Air Pools
- Tinside Lido

Excludes small school, small hotel and small private facilities.

### 2.2 Description of current facilities

#### **Plympton Pool**

Built and opened in 1991, this is a local authority indoor heated community pool. The 25 metre pool, with integral 'splashdown' area and adjoining paddling pool, allows for a varied programme of activities. There is an open plan seating area for spectators.

#### **Marjon Sport And Leisure**

A 25 metre indoor heated pool within the College of St Mark and St John at Derriford. The pool is available for public use beyond college needs.

#### **Cannons Health Club**

An indoor heated pool situated within a private health club.

## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

### **Central Park Leisure Pools**

A local authority indoor heated pool originally built in 1965, but extensively refurbished in 1984 and 1996. The centre now contains a standard 33.3 metre 6-lane pool divided by a movable bulkhead, Olympic diving pool and individually heated learner pool. The Amateur Swimming Association National Facilities Strategy (December 2002) rates the diving pool as one of its six World Class training Centres. The latest addition to the facility is the 'Studio', a fitness area opened in 2005 and equipped with sixteen spinning bikes. There is a terraced seating area overlooking the pool for spectators. In common with the other local authority indoor pool at Plympton, Central Park offers a varied pool programme with activities to suit all ages and abilities.

### **Club Motivation**

A 15 metre indoor heated pool within a private fitness club at the Moat House Hotel.

### **HMS Drake**

A refurbished 25 metre indoor heated pool within a Royal Navy base. The pool is primarily used by service personnel and service clubs. In accordance with MoD policy, access beyond armed service needs is conditional upon a licence agreement. At present (August 2006) a nearby primary school is the sole non MoD user.

### **Plymouth College**

A former outdoor 25 metre pool, it was converted to become an indoor heated facility in 2002. The pool is located within a private day and boarding school. Beyond school needs the pool is regularly used by a local swimming club and also provides an occasional venue for some University of Plymouth clubs.

### **Plymouth Pavilions**

A public indoor heated fun pool with two water slides and jacuzzi. There is also a sloping beach area. Given the shape and vocation of the pool it does not offer formal lane swimming.

### **Devonshire Health & Racquet Club**

The private Devonshire Health and Racquet club offers two heated swimming pools, one indoor, one outdoor.

### **Mount Wise Open Air Pools**

Recently refurbished as a result of substantial grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The pools are unheated. The complex consists of a 25 metre main swimming pool, paddling

## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

pool and activity pool. The pools have outstanding views across the Sound. There is no charge to enter pools complex or to use the pools.

### **Tinside Lido**

Tinside Lido reopened in August 2003 following a £3.4 million refurbishment, which involved replacing the pool tank and constructing a new plant room. The lido, which is part of an Art Deco Grade 2 listed building, offers a large outdoor salt-water pool, three fountains, sunbathing terrace, panoramic views and evening light shows. In common with the Pavilions it does not offer formal lane swimming.

### **2.3 Demand for Swimming Pools**

The demand for swimming pools has been considered in two ways:

- By using the Sport England Sports Facility Calculator to compare the predicted requirement for pool space with the actual availability of pool space for the whole city;
- By considering the availability of publicly accessible swimming pools in terms of travel time to identify issues in particular areas of the city.

The Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) helps to estimate the amount of key community sports facilities required to meet the needs of a local population.

It uses information on facility participation and applies these to the actual population profile of the local area. This ensures that the calculation is sensitive to the needs of the people who actually live there.

The SFC then turns this estimation of demand into actual facilities. For swimming pools it uses square metres of water.

It is important to remember that the SFC looks at demand for facilities and does not take into account any existing supply of facilities.

The SFC can be used for both strategic planning and for individual developments. In both cases it can be used to show:

1. Current facility needs of an area;
2. Future needs for facilities, based on changes in total population;
3. The impact of sports development programmes and changes in participation rates.

The current Sports Facility Calculator predicts a current requirement for Plymouth of 2509m<sup>2</sup> of pool space for general public use, based on a 2006 population figure of 246,354.

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

### 2.4 Assessment of actual Plymouth pool space

The total water area of the eleven facilities under consideration amounts to some 5170m<sup>2</sup>, more than double the requirement predicted by the Sports Facility Calculator, which is 2509 m<sup>2</sup>. However, a simple total is potentially misleading, given that some of these facilities are reserved for members and guests or only operate during a particular season etc.

In order to determine a more representative figure for publicly available water space, a weighting system has been developed, which incorporates access criteria. The effect of the weighting is to revise the amount of water space available, measured in m<sup>2</sup>, for pools that have less than 100% public access.

The weighting criteria used are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**

Type	Weight
Pools that have open public access	1.0
Private pools for members and guests	0.5
Educational facilities with some programmed public/club use	0.3
Seasonal outdoor pools	0.25
MoD facility with access restrictions	0.125

The effect of these weighting factors is to reduce the amount of pool space considered as available for general public use from 5170m<sup>2</sup> to 2398 m<sup>2</sup> as outlined in Table 2.

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

**Table 2**

**Current Provision – Swimming pools**

Site Name	Ward	Area m <sup>2</sup>	Weighting	Revision m <sup>2</sup>
PLYMPTON SWIMMING POOL	Plympton St. Mary	212	1.0	212
MARJON SPORT AND LEISURE	Moor View	250	0.3	75
CANNONS HEALTH CLUB (PLYMOUTH)	Sutton and Mount Gould	160	0.5	80
CENTRAL PARK LEISURE POOLS	Peverell	429	1.0	429
CLUB MOATIVATION (PLYMOUTH)	St. Peter and the Waterfront	105	0.5	52
HMS DRAKE	Devonport	191	0.125	24
PLYMOUTH COLLEGE	Compton	254	0.3	76
PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS	St. Peter and the Waterfront	594	1.0	594
DEVONSHIRE HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB INDOOR	Moor View	250	0.5	125
DEVONSHIRE HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB OUTDOOR	Moor View	200	0.5	100
MOUNT WISE OPEN AIR POOLS	Devonport	325	0.25	81
TINSIDE LIDO	St. Peter and the Waterfront	2200	0.25	550
	<b>Supply</b>	<b>5170</b>		<b>2398</b>
	<b>Sport England Calculator (2006 Population Demand)</b>			<b>2509</b>
	<b>Deficit / Surplus</b>			<b>-111</b>
	<b>Or expressed as 4 x 25m Pool units</b>			<b>-0.52</b>

Excludes small primary school, small hotel and small private facilities.

## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

### **2.5 Summary of current shortfall/surplus**

After the weighting exercise the total available pool space in Plymouth amounts to some 2398m<sup>2</sup> (Table 2), which equates to approximately 11.3 four-lane pool units (212 m<sup>2</sup> is taken as 1 four-lane 25m pool unit in the SFC).

Local authority/public sector operators provide 1866m<sup>2</sup> or 77.8% of this total. The supply from the private sector amounts to 357m<sup>2</sup> or 14.9% of the global amount. Educational facilities and the MoD contribute 151m<sup>2</sup> and 24m<sup>2</sup> respectively, or 6.3% and 1.0% of total provision.

As might be expected the local authority/public sector provides the overwhelming majority of pool space for general public use. This result underlines the lead role for the local authority/public provider in ensuring equitable access to water space. This role is likely to continue given the expense/difficulty of access to other facilities.

The summary table for the Plymouth study area indicates a current overall undersupply of 111m<sup>2</sup> or 0.52 of a swimming pool unit (4x25m pool).

This is a purely numerical analysis of the area of pool space available for public use; it does not consider qualitative issues.

Recommendations for future strategic choices must also consider such factors including:

- The demand for quality new facilities;
- The aspiration to address inclusion and social issues;
- Future population growth;
- The age and condition of existing provision;
- The maintenance of existing provision until new facilities become available.

### **2.6 How does Plymouth compare with members of its peer group?**

In terms of total pool water available per 1000 population and excluding any local weighting Tables 3 and 3A show that Plymouth is at the top of the group of “near neighbours” as defined by the Audit Commission and second within the group defined by the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

Plymouth offers in excess of 21m<sup>2</sup> total water area per thousand of population (within the Audit Commission peer group). All of the comparator cities/authorities within this group are below 20m<sup>2</sup> per thousand of population. The second place within the group is some 2.0 m<sup>2</sup> behind Plymouth and the third placed authority almost 3.9m<sup>2</sup> behind.

The ratio for the South West region is 1.78m<sup>2</sup> behind Plymouth and the England ratio 4.43m<sup>2</sup> behind Plymouth.

## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

Tables 4 and 4A examine the situation with respect to pools with lanes, again not considering any local weighting. In Plymouth's case this means not including the outdoor pools at Tinside and Mount Wise and the fun pool at the Plymouth Pavilions.

The effect of this change is significant. Total water area is more than halved, falling from 5170m<sup>2</sup> to 2051m<sup>2</sup>, a reduction of 3119m<sup>2</sup>. Although the Pavilions accounts for 594m<sup>2</sup> of the difference, the calculation does illustrate the contribution of the seasonal pools to Plymouth water space.

Plymouth offers 8.52m<sup>2</sup> total water area per thousand of population. All, but two of the comparator cities/authorities within the Audit Commission peer group, are above this figure.

The ratio for the South West region is 4.45m<sup>2</sup> above Plymouth and the England ratio 3.71m<sup>2</sup> ahead of Plymouth.



## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

**Table 3**

**Report for facilities per 1000 population (Sport England)**

**Total Pool Area (All Pools)**

<b>England Ratio:</b>	<b>17.04</b>
<b>South West Region Ratio:</b>	<b>19.69</b>

**NEAR NEIGHBOURS (Audit Commission)**

Local Authority	Total Population	(1) Total Area in Sqm	(1) Capacity Ratio Per 1000
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>240769</b>	<b>5170.00</b>	<b>21.47</b>
Walsall	253567	4946.9	19.51
Darlington	97835	1725.25	17.63
Bristol	380494	6568.63	17.26
Salford	216143	3731.5	17.26
Tameside	213056	3660.35	17.18
Bolton	261070	4174.53	15.99
Kingston-upon-Hull	243598	3586.48	14.72
Derby	221742	2978.08	13.43
Gateshead	191109	2500.06	13.08
Wolverhampton	236628	3026.1	12.79
Sheffield	513391	6425.26	12.52
Coventry	300835	3503.85	11.65
North Tyneside	191711	2035.02	10.62
Calderdale	192425	1973.44	10.26

**Table 3 A**

**NEAR NEIGHBOURS (ONS)**

Local Authority	Total Population	(1) Total Area in Sqm	(1) Capacity Ratio Per 1000
Portsmouth	186717	5215.51	27.93
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>240769</b>	<b>5170.00</b>	<b>21.47</b>
Salford	216143	3731.5	17.26
Ipswich	117091	1766.5	15.09
Lincoln	85572	1024.5	11.97

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

**Table 4**

**Report for facilities per 1000 population (Sport England)**

**Total Pool Area (Pools with Lanes)**

<b>England Ratio:</b>	<b>12.23</b>
<b>South West Region Ratio:</b>	<b>12.97</b>

**NEAR NEIGHBOURS (Audit Commission)**

Local Authority	Total Population	(2) Total Area in Sqm For Pools With Lanes	(2) Capacity Ratio Per 1000
Walsall	253567	4111.90	16.22
Bristol	380494	5624.63	14.78
Salford	216143	2967.50	13.73
Darlington	97835	1340.00	13.70
Bolton	261070	3373.90	12.92
Derby	221742	2743.00	12.37
Wolverhampton	236628	2628.10	11.11
Kingston-upon-Hull	243598	2648.48	11.02
Sheffield	513391	5657.26	11.02
Calderdale	192425	1923.44	10.00
Gateshead	191109	1701.00	8.90
Coventry	300835	2606.37	8.66
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>240769</b>	<b>2051.00</b>	<b>8.52</b>
North Tyneside	191711	1599.30	8.34
Tameside	213056	1770.00	8.31

**Table 4 A**

**NEAR NEIGHBOURS (ONS)**

Local Authority	Total Population	(2) Total Area in Sqm For Pools With Lanes	(2) Capacity Ratio Per 1000
Salford	216143	2967.50	13.73
Portsmouth	186717	2562.30	13.72
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>240769</b>	<b>2051.00</b>	<b>8.52</b>
Ipswich	117091	985.00	8.41
Lincoln	85572	668.25	7.81

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

### Section 3 - Access analysis at a local level

#### 3.1 Choice and opportunity

Increasing the opportunity for people to participate and become more active is one of Sport England's core aims. Easy access to a range of quality sports facilities is fundamental to getting more people more active and improving the health of the nation. By using tools provided by Sport England (Active Places Power) we can look to set local performance indicators that consider the availability of publicly accessible swimming pools in terms of travel time.

Using the 'Facility Count by Travel Time' tool this strategy proposes to set the following local performance indicators for the Plymouth region:

That by 2016 an accessible public swimming pool will be available to 90% of Plymouth residents within each of the following time bands:	
▪ By walking, from a postcode centre point	30 minutes
▪ By public transport, from a postcode centre point	20 minutes
▪ By car, from a postcode centre point	10 minutes
▪ (To meet the proposed local performance indicator all three of the above criteria must be met within a particular postcode area)	

The Sport England 'Facility Count by Travel Time' tool has helped to identify three Plymouth postcode areas that currently do not satisfy these local performance indicators.

#### 3.2 Access Summary

##### Postcode area PL5 (N.W. of the City):

There is only one pool, HMS Drake, which is within a 30-minute walk time. Four pools: HMS Drake, Cannons, Central Park Leisure Pools and Plymouth College are within a 20-minute public transport journey time and four pools: HMS Drake, Cannons, Central Park Leisure Pool and Plymouth College are within a 10 minute car journey from a centre point in the PL5 postcode area. Of these only Central Park Leisure Pool could be described as being publicly accessible.

##### Postcode area PL6 (N.E. of the City):

There are two pools: the Devonshire Health & Racquet Club and Marjon (Plymouth College of St Mark & St John), which are within a 30-minute walk time. Three pools: the Devonshire Health & Racquet Club, Marjon, and Central Park Leisure Pools are within a 20-minute public transport journey time and a 10 minute car journey from a centre point in the PL6

## **Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy**

postcode area. Of these only Central Park Leisure Pool could be described as being publicly accessible.

### **Postcode area PL9 (S.E. of the City):**

There are no pools within a 30-minute walk, 20-minute public transport ride or a 10-minute car journey from a centre point in the PL9 postcode area.

# Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

## Section 4 - Where do we want to be?

A key objective already mentioned of the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy, is to provide Plymouth with the right number of sports facilities, of the right quality, in the right place.

Plymouth's Local Development Framework (LDF) identifies the spatial framework for Plymouth's growth over the period 2006 to 2021, in conformity with the requirements of the Devon Structure Plan 2006 – 2016 and the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy 2006 – 2026. Strategic Objective 1 states the objectives to accommodate at least the Devon Structure Plan levels of growth in the period between 2006 and 2016 and to allow for the longer term higher growth levels of the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) beyond 2016. The RSS sets a target of 24,500 new dwellings by 2026 in Plymouth and 31,500 in the Principle Urban Area (including Sherford and part of Caradon).

The sports facility calculator using the forecast population for Plymouth in 2016 <sup>1</sup>(266,689) predicts a future requirement of 2988m<sup>2</sup> of publicly accessible pool space.

This equates to an overall undersupply of 2.8 swimming pools (25m x 4-lane equivalent) if no action were taken between now and 2016.

The LDF Millbay and Stonehouse Area Action Plan 2006 – 2021 sets out a proposal to demolish the existing Pavilions swimming pool and ice rink and to provide new facilities at the Central Park Life Centre. Consideration needs to be given to a potential resultant loss of pool water area.

Should future developments entail the demolition of the Pavilions pool, then an additional 2.8 pools would need to be provided to compensate giving a total of 5.6.

### 4.1 Strategic recommendations to address the predicted undersupply

#### 4.1.1 Possible Action One: The construction of a Life Centre style facility

A Life Centre style project incorporating a 50-metre pool would increase the city's net pool area by nearly 850m<sup>2</sup> (4 pool units). It also offers the opportunity to address social issues and longstanding aspirations to improve the city's sports facilities.

#### Sporting and community justification

The Life Centre will:

- Respond to the demonstration of public support for the Life Centre project;
- Replace the ageing Central Park pools complex with a modern facility including a 25m warm-up pool/learner pool, 53x25m training and competition pool with two moveable booms and appropriate changing rooms;

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<sup>1</sup> Plymouth population in 2016 includes a new population in the Sherford area based on 5,500 new dwellings.

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- Establish Plymouth as a local, county, regional, European and international diving venue;
- Overcome the current deficiency of citywide provision;
- Meet the need for a high quality, centrally located, publicly accessible sports venue in the city;
- Ensure that subsidy is applied to meet social objectives;
- Emphasise developmental, multi-sport objectives becoming a hub site;
- Service health needs of key communities in the city's most deprived wards;
- Provide a county and/or regionally significant venue;
- Raise visibility – Central Park being at the heart of the city;
- Deliver a partnership-based facility serving the whole community;
- Meet the need for quality sports facilities in Plymouth – to compensate for years of under-investment;
- Contribute significantly to expressed/proven need for facility provision on a local, citywide and sub-regional basis.

The Life Centre style project will address the current citywide undersupply in pool space and reduce the predicted undersupply for 2016 to 334 m<sup>2</sup> or 1.6 swimming pools (25m x 4-lane equivalent).

There is a need to consider population growth and the effects of developments such as Sherford to the east and Derriford to the north of the city and also the travel time analysis which has identified postcode areas where travel times to a pool do not currently satisfy the proposed local performance indicators.

In the light of these concerns, the strategy recognises the relevance of local factors such as the travel time analysis, local aspirations and population growth in determining the position of a new facility, should the opportunity to construct a new pool(s) arise.

### **4.1.2 Possible Action Two: The construction of 25-metre pool(s) in Plymouth areas PL5/PL6 and PL9**

#### **Sporting and community justification**

- There is evidence of need from the travel time analysis for community accessible swimming opportunities in these areas of the city;
- There is a potential sustainable income base for a sports venue that provides the right facilities and programmes for the local community;
- The development has the potential to positively impact on issues such as health, community safety and social inclusion in these areas of the city.

#### **Possible sites:**

##### **PL9 Area:**

- A possible site to be identified in the Plymstock area; or
- Provision via the Sherford development.

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### **PL5/PL6:**

- Site yet to be identified in the North of the City.

## Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

### Section 5 – Capital and Revenue Funding Issues

#### 5.1 Overview

When examining possible amendments to the current pool stock, any change in local authority/public provision must consider the council's financial position. Swimming pools are expensive facilities to build and maintain. The local authority in Plymouth has been under obligation to reduce budgetary pressures and any decisions to increase swimming provision must be done within the framework of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

The indicative cost (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006) for a good quality 25-metre pool is some £2.35 million. However, it is essential that proposals for new facilities should consider not only the initial capital funding required, but also the long-term viability and management arrangements. Any new pool should be associated with income generating assets such as health and fitness, in order to minimise as far as possible the ongoing revenue support requirements.

Hence for planning purposes a capital budget of £3 to £3.5 million should be required for a 25m facility, depending upon location, mix of facilities etc with an ongoing revenue cost requirement of up to £200,000 per annum.

#### 5.2 Planning Obligations

Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Planning Obligations may be sought from developers (when planning conditions are not appropriate) to contribute towards the provision of infrastructure and services to enhance the quality of development and to enable developments to proceed in a sustainable manner.

Planning Obligations should meet the following tests, and should be:

- Necessary
- Relevant to Planning
- Directly related to the proposed development
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development
- Reasonable in all other respects (Circ 05/2005).

Wherever possible, planning obligations should be provided on the same site as the proposed new development. However, where it is agreed that this is not a sustainable option then a developer contribution can be requested for investment in the provision/enhancement of 'off-site' facilities.

Sport England strongly recommends that local planning authorities should maximise the use of developer contributions within planning obligations as a means of providing for the recognised sporting and recreational needs of their local communities, although there will be competing demands for contributions (e.g. affordable housing; transport infrastructure).

The LDF Core Strategy contains Policy CS33 – Community Benefits/ Planning Obligations - which sets out the council's policy. This policy will be amplified by a Supplementary



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Planning Document on Planning Obligations, which will set out a framework for the negotiation of planning agreements and the calculation of specific contributions. In addition, site-specific proposals in the LDF Site Allocations Development Plan Document, Area Action Plans and other local development documents will set out the priority requirements in relation to individual proposals.

# Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy

## Section 6 – Summary and Recommendations

### 6.1 Summary:

The purpose of the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy is to support the priorities of Plymouth's 'City Strategy' and Plymouth City Council's 'Corporate Plan.'

The audit of existing pool provision has been compared with the city's requirements predicted by the Sport England Facility Calculator (SFC). The same procedure has been used to examine the city's predicted future (2016) requirements.

The analysis has identified the following key issues:

- A current undersupply of 0.5 swimming pool units (25m x 4-lane equivalent),
- A predicted undersupply of 2.8 swimming pools (25m x 4-lane equivalent) by 2016 or an undersupply of 5.6 swimming pools if the Pavilions is closed.

(The predicted undersupply could occur if no remedial action were taken between now and 2016.)

### Life Centre

The Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy suggests that a 'Life Centre' style project is fundamental to resolving the citywide deficiency in pool space.

Funding opportunities via capital receipts, prudential borrowing, private sector investment and S106 contributions need to be explored, alongside ensuring any revenue implications are met either by the City Council, as part of its Medium Term Financial Plan, or by commercial revenue.

### Community Pools

In addition, the Plymouth Swimming Facility Strategy used the Sport England 'Active Places Power' database tool to propose new local performance indicators that measure the availability of swimming pools, in terms of travel time, for each Plymouth postcode area.

In this respect postcode areas PL5/PL6 and PL9 are priorities for additional pool provision. A swimming pool in the North of the City and in the East either in the Plymstock/Sherford area would ensure that Plymouth has reasonable provision for the longer term.

### New Pool (Area PL9/East of the City)

For thirteen years the Plymstock and District Swimming Pool Association has campaigned for recreation facilities large enough to support the needs of the wider Plymstock community. They have suggested various sites where a new pool could be situated.

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Within Plymstock itself a large-scale housing proposal at Plymstock Quarry is currently under consideration, as set out in the Local Development Framework North Plymstock Area Action Plan. Plans are also well advanced for a major development at Sherford, just outside the Plymstock area. These developments will provide high quality sustainable mixed use, but mainly residential new neighbourhoods and incorporate modern and sufficient public facilities.

Combined developer contribution will be sought for either on or off-site provision to help support delivery of a new swimming pool for the existing and new communities.

The Sherford development has already seen early discussion about on-site provision of a new sporting hub.

Off-site contribution would necessitate the identification of a suitable site elsewhere and would require consideration of further attributable costs.

### **New Pool (Area PL5/PL6/North of the City))**

A site to be identified to serve both postcode areas.

A number of sites are under consideration.

Management options and revenue support for each of these sites has yet to be determined. We are also keen to continue discussions with Marjons over maximising the use of campus based swimming for the public

### **Recommendations**

Should the recommendations in 6.1 be accepted the results would be the provision of the following new facilities:

- |                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. Life Centre      | (4 units) |
| 2. New Pool PL5/PL9 | (1 unit)  |
| 3. New Pool PL9     | (1 unit)  |

This would therefore satisfy the requirements outlined in section 4.

In order to achieve these aspirations it is proposed that future swimming pool provision in Plymouth should concentrate on the following:

1. Provision of the Life Centre project in Central Park The project incorporating a 50 metre pool would increase the city's net pool area by nearly 850m<sup>2</sup>. It would also offer the opportunity to address social issues and longstanding aspirations to improve the city's sports facilities.
2. Provision of an additional pool serving the East of the city/PL9 postcode area. This could be either at a site in Plymstock itself, but much more likely as part of a planned pool in the new Sherford development, funded by developer

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contributions for both Plymouth City Council and South Hams District Council. The management of such a facility to be determined.

3. Provision of a site to be identified in the North of the city to serve the PL5 and PL6 postcode areas.
4. PCC officers be requested to bring forward proposals in relation to Recommendations 1,2 and 3 that sit in the context of the Medium Term Financial Plan by the end of February 2007.
5. PCC officers be asked to discuss the Strategy with key stakeholders in the New Year.