



City of Westminster

Children's, Environment and Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Monday, 6th February 2017

Report of: Cllr David Harvey

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Environment, Sport and Community

Report Author and Contact Details: Cllr David Harvey
davidharvey@westminster.gov.uk
X2228

1 Sports and Leisure

The Active Queens Park Project re the redevelopment of Moberly & Jubilee Sports Centres

- 1.1 The Active Queens Park project is continuing to progress well and works are on schedule for both the Moberly site and Jubilee phase 1, which includes the re-provision of 12 affordable homes.
- 1.2 The works to deliver the new Moberly Centre are planned to be complete in February/March 2018. The existing Jubilee Centre will remain open until the new facility at Moberly is opened to the public.

Seymour Leisure Centre re the proposal to co-locate Marylebone Library

- 1.3 A key objective for any re-development project will be to deliver an enhanced sports and leisure offer for the local community and the inclusion of a new library facility at the Seymour site, which is now part of the brief. This new facility will provide a permanent solution for a dedicated library service for Marylebone residents.
- 1.4 Officers are working with local stakeholders and services to explore initial design options which, if a suitable proposal is identified, will progress for wider public consultation in due course.

Queen Mother Sports Centre

- 1.5 Officers are reviewing feedback from the first round of consultation on the use of a Development Opportunity Framework (DOF) which is being led by Planning Policy. As the DOF consultation document makes clear, it can be said with certainty that a new or refurbished sports and leisure centre will form a major part of any redevelopment of the site, as the sites use is strongly protected by planning policy.
- 1.6 It is anticipated that a second round of consultation on the DOF will take place later this year.

Chelsea Barracks

- 1.7 The Developers for the Chelsea Barracks have engaged Officers to agree the detailed specification and lease for the new community sports and leisure centre which forms part of their s106 obligations and will be delivered as part of phase 6 of the project. This indicates their commitment to the scheme and details on the facilities and programme of works will be confirmed in the coming months.

Outdoor Learning re the Sayers Croft Centre

- 1.8 Improvements to the outdoor adventure facilities have now completed improve the attractiveness and diversity of facilities for visitors. The new high ropes course will help to address the growing need for more accessible facilities and will provide more flexibility and a wider range of outdoor activities and capacity for site visitors. Works were completed in December 2016.

Improvement works across the sports and leisure facilities

- 1.9 The new leisure centre contract includes over £9m investment in facility improvements across the Council's entire leisure portfolio. Positive progress is being made and a summary of progress is provided below:

Facility	Project	Project Description/ update	Current Project Status	Project Value (£m)
Paddington Rec	Health and fitness improvements and new public toilet facilities.	Improved fitness facility with new equipment, new studio, improved café entrance, new toilet facilities, larger dog exercise area and new bluebell glade.	Planning Permission submitted	£1.7
Marshall St	Improved changing and health and fitness facilities.	New hot yoga facility, changing room improvements, personal training area, and new equipment in the health and fitness facilities.	Works complete	£1.1
Queen Mother	Improved health and fitness, changing, new entrance, new health suite and new cycle storage facilities.	New hot yoga facility, improved health and fitness facility including new equipment, improved dry side changing facilities, new health suite, new secure cycle storage and new external entrance.	Works complete	£1.6
Porchester	Health and fitness improvement, hot yoga, spa improvements and dry side changing rooms. Works include a variety of enhancements to the front of house facilities at Porchester Hall.	A planning application has been submitted to progress these works. Works are progressing in respect of the health and fitness improvements.	User consultation progressing	£1.4
Little Venice	Health and fitness improvements.	A refresh of the gym facility and new equipment.	Works complete	£0.5

Jubilee	Health and fitness improvements.	A refresh of the gym facility and new equipment and enhanced access control.	Works complete	£0.1
Seymour	Health and fitness improvements (including new equipment), new hot yoga facility, changing room improvements and new health suite facility.	Options regarding the colocation of the library facility are being progressed.	Design work progressing	£2.5

ActiveWestminster Awards

1.10 The 2016 ActiveWestminster Awards took place on Friday 2nd December at Lords Cricket Ground, with in excess of 170 guests in attendance, including the Lord Mayor, Cabinet Members and children and young people. The awards celebrate the amazing achievements and contribution to sport and physical activity in Westminster. The awards are made possible by a number of sponsors, including ActiveWestminster partners and contractors.

1.11 Award nominations are now open across the following 10 categories:

- Active Volunteer of the year
- Active School of the year
- Active club of the year
- Health & Wellbeing project of the year
- Champion of the Future
- London Youth Games
- Active Place of the year
- Inclusive and Active Award
- Coach of the year
- Outstanding Contribution Award

1.12 The evening Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and the team are producing a short de-brief presentation to assist with planning 2017's event.

Daily Mile & Westminster Mile

1.13 In early 2017, the team are preparing to launch the Daily Mile programme across Westminster Primary Schools, which will link schools to the Westminster Mile on Sunday 28th May. The Daily Mile aims to activate children and young people each day using their own school grounds or nearby places and spaces. Westminster already has at least 3 early adopter schools and the feedback has been excellent. A cross portfolio cabinet member letter has been prepared and will be released to schools in due course.

Porchester Hall re FREE Christmas Day Lunch for isolated older residents

- 1.14 The Council's leisure contractor (Everyone Active) organised a free event on Christmas Day at Porchester Hall for isolated older residents and unpaid carers. The event included a 3 course meal, Christmas carols, live music, films and a free raffle of donated items. The entire event was free to participants and sponsors included Everyone Active Events, Waitrose, Wishes Caterers, Perception Live Events, a Brazilian church group and International American Church.
- 1.15 The event was organised in partnership with Open Age and Age UK who provided 25 volunteers and was extremely successful with approximately 200 guests attending.

2 Libraries

Transformation programme

- 2.1 As reported to Committee on 28th November 2016, the library service is undergoing a transformation programme to deliver savings and remodel the service so that it is sustainable in future. The programme is on course to deliver £750,000 of savings in 2017/18 whilst retaining all libraries and opening hours. The next phase (January to March 2017) is the implementation of changes to the organisational structure with a reduction of 15 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) from the current structure and appointments to new roles and changes to job requirements and duties. This is expected to be completed by 31st March.

3 Parks, Open Spaces and Cemeteries

Procurement of new Contract for Management and Maintenance of Parks, Open Spaces and Cemeteries

- 3.3 The response from the grounds management industry has been very strong with 18 companies registering an interest in submitting a tender. The closing date for tenders is midday on the 1st December and it is hoped that new contract will be awarded in early February 2017.

Park Events

- 3.4 The annual Planit event has finished with full repairs and maintenance now taking place at the Embankment Gardens. All flower beds have been re-planted with re-turfing starting on Monday 9th January. All path surfaces will be steam cleaned and path edging repaired.
- 3.5 The "Christmas in Leicester Square" event ended on the 8th January following de-rigging the whole grass area within the square will be re-turfed
- 3.6 During the Christmas period, Christmas trees were located in the following gardens fully funded by residents and businesses; Berkeley Square, St Anne's Gardens and Paddington Street Garden.

4. Volunteering And Voluntary Sector

Abbey Community Centre

4.1 The Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Abbey Community Association and South Westminster Community Hub related management services have been extended from October 2016 to March 2019. The SLA funds the Abbey Community Association's rent at the Abbey Centre and contributes to the delivery of a range of services from the Centre at a cost of £154,500.00 per annum.

Time Credits

4.2 The second quarter monitoring report shows that the programme is performing exceedingly well against its targets. Some key statistics and highlights below:

- 110% target for individuals engaging with time credits
- 97% target for hours given (total time credits earned) for the year
- 75% target for local corporate spend partners
- 29% of members new to volunteering, 10% increase from last quarter
- 3813 Time Credits earned
- Spend rate more than doubled. 1178 Time Credits spent in this quarter, 2935 to date
- Time Credits now accepted across all 7 Everyone Active leisure centres for a wide variety of opportunities
- The Courtauld Gallery, a major cultural attraction in Westminster recently signed up to Time Credits

Team Westminster Do-It local website

4.3 The Do-It Westminster site continues to run successfully. As of 1st November, there were 407 live opportunities in Westminster. In the week prior to that, 16 people registered their interest, 24 opportunities and 122 organisations were added. Overall, 1,260 hours have now been logged by volunteers for opportunities in Westminster.

4.4 Officers carried out a 6-month review of the website and have worked primarily with Do-It to ensure that the site is maximised and is easy to navigate. One suggested example to improve the site was to ensure that Team Westminster Flagship opportunities are showcased better. Do-It are progressing this by updating the 'Getting Started with Team Westminster' link to include an overview of the 3 Team Westminster programmes; Ambassadors, Active and Social. Each overview and logo will link off to the relevant "organisation" page, where all opportunities in that programme can be viewed.

5 Community Engagement

Open Forum

5.1 The next Open Forum public meeting is scheduled for:

- 20th March 2017, 6.30pm to 9pm at Lords

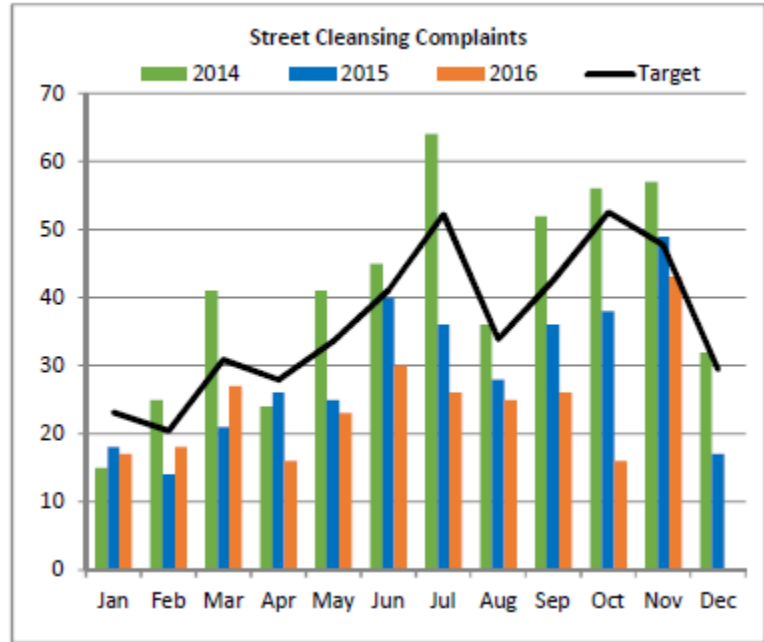
5.2 By the end of 2016 there had been nearly 13,000 visits to the Open Forum website. The platform has been recently been used by the Community Cohesion Commission, the Air Quality Task Group and for the consultation on the Development Opportunity Framework for the site at Upper Vauxhall Bridge Road.

6 Waste

Street Cleansing

Streets Cleansing	
This Month	
Nov-15	49
Nov-16	43
% Var	-12%
Target	48
Status	Ahead

YTD	
2015	331
2016	267
% Var	-19%
Target	354
Status	Ahead



6.1 Street cleansing services continue to perform to a high level. As shown in the above table, complaints are down 19% for the 11 months of 2016 against the same period in 2015. A total of 43 complaints were made during the month of November, against 49 during November 2015.

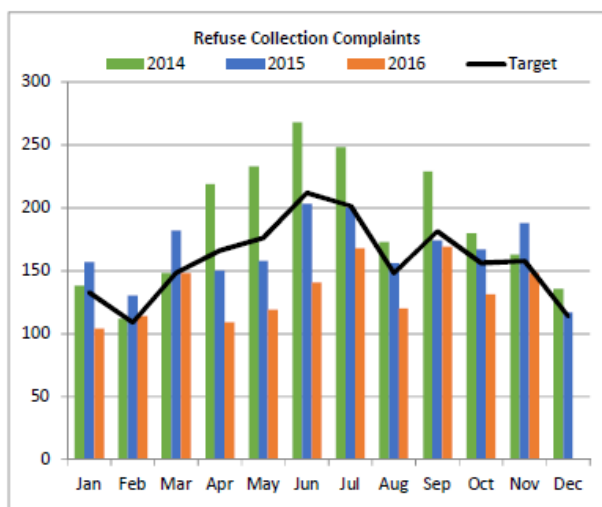
New Year's Eve clean up

6.2 After visitors to the City gathered to count in 2017, the New Year's Eve cleansing team began their clean-up. 120 sweepers worked over night, utilising 50 vehicles including 15 refuse trucks and 32 mechanical sweepers.

6.3 By around 4.30am the team had managed to clean up the area around the fireworks display within Westminster before finishing the cleaning of the West End by 6.30am. The New Year's Eve team then handed over to the New Year's Day Parade team who continued their effort into the early afternoon.

6.4 We estimate that we cleared over 85 tonnes of waste on New Year's alone, which included approximately 15,000 Champagne Bottles. This waste was used as fuel to generate 45,050 kWh of electricity for London; enough to watch 376,000 hours of TV or travel the entire length of the Jubilee Line.

Waste and Recycling



Refuse	
This Month	
Nov-15	188
Nov-16	148
% Var	-21%
Target	158
Status	Ahead

YTD	
2015	1865
2016	1471
% Var	-21%
Target	1789
Status	Ahead

6.5 Waste collection services continue to perform to a very high level. As shown in the above table, complaints are down 21% for the 11 months of 2016 against the same period in 2015. A total of 148 complaints were made during the month of November, against 188 during November 2015.

7 Environment

Open Space and Biodiversity Strategy

- 7.1 Officers are updating strategies for biodiversity and open spaces in a single new document. The Strategy will set out our vision for protecting and enhancing biodiversity and making the best use of Westminster's green infrastructure - both that managed by the Council and our partners.
- 7.2 Given the partnership approach of the strategy, we continue to have informal consultation with leading stakeholders. Formal public consultation is scheduled early next year.

Air Quality

- 7.3 The Council responded to phase 2 of the Mayor of London's consultation on air quality. The Council reiterated its support for proposals to tackle air quality. Phase 2 went into detail on the proposals and provided the Council with an opportunity to provide comments on the more technical elements of implementing an emissions surcharge and the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ).
- 7.4 Concerns were raised over public awareness and education on the standards being and the need for effective communications on advertising the charge. There were also requests for further discussion on discounts proposed and the sunset period for residents as well as the specific changes that will come in through the ULEZ.

- 7.5 The response went out as a joint letter from Councillor Heather Acton as the Cabinet Member for Sustainability and Parking and Councillor Ian Adams as the Chairman of the Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee and the Chairman of the Air Quality task group.

Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN)

- 7.6 As part of the “environment” brief I will be leading the Council’s work on the Marylebone LEN. Thank you to Councillor Acton, Ward Councillors and members of the LEN Steering Group for the great work that has taken place and for laying down the foundations to develop this innovative proposal.
- 7.7 I will be meeting with the LEN Steering Group at the end of February as well as meeting each stakeholder separately to understand each work stream, current progress on initiatives and timelines.