

Sustainability/Biodiversity Implications

Active Torridge in partnership with the Council would seek to be as energy efficient and decarbonise operations as much as possible during the lifespan of the contract, in line with the Council's net zero ambition.

Equality/Diversity

Any contract extension would be mindful of the council's commitment to embrace diversity, promote inclusion and ensure equality.

Risk Management

Risk would be managed by the agreement of an enforceable contract and regular monitoring and reporting.

Compliance with Policies and Strategies

- Compliance with the Council's Strategic Plan.
- The One Northern Devon, 10 Year Quality of Life Strategy – 2020-2030
- Devon Integrated Care Strategy 2023

Data Protection (GDPR) Implications

No personal data is being collated / collected. Data sharing arrangements are in place between Active Torridge and Torridge District Council.

Climate Change

Torridge District Council's Climate Emergency declaration and the government's Net Zero agenda will be at the forefront of plans and considerations. Active Torridge have identified carbon efficiency and adaptation to climate change as a priority with the business plan .

Lead Member Views

Cllr Piper to present at Committee

Council Leader Views

Cllr James to present at Committee

4. CONCLUSIONS

Active Torridge has outperformed the ambitions set in its original business plan.

Membership levels and financial performance have been such that the company has not required the anticipated management fee from the Council. With commitment to a longer term relationship and investment in the leisure estate there is every reason that the trend of positive performance can be sustained or enhanced.

The terms of the existing leisure contract have allowed the company to flourish and provided the Council with the appropriate levels of control over activity funded through management fee. No major changes are expected in any future contract although it is recognised that reporting arrangements can be enhanced and that the contract should specify a range of key performance indicators to be reported to the Council.

The Governance arrangements in place have provided additional comfort that the company will deliver in line with the aspiration of the Council.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members:

Note the contents of the Active Torridge Business Plan

Note that Active Torridge has triggered the 2 year extension to the original leisure contract and are committed to delivering leisure services for the Council until March 2027.

Approve the management fee for the two year contract extension identified in the business plan.

Approve the principal of a further 5 year contract extension to run from April 2027 until March 2032 and delegate responsibility for the agreement of that contract and any associated reporting requirements, to the Head of Legal and Governance.

For budgeting purposes, agree the management fee requirement in line with the amounts identified in the business plan presentation (although exact final amounts for inclusion within a revised contract may vary from these) and amend the Council's medium term financial strategy to reflect the ongoing commitment.

