

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

1 February 2021

TITLE:	Call-in of the Delegated Decision - Proposal for use of Discretionary Disabled Facilities funding for a Community Project at the South Moorlands Leisure Centre, Cheadle
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Mike Bowen - Portfolio Holder for Communities
CONTACT OFFICER:	Sally Hampton - Member and Community Services Officer
WARDS INVOLVED:	Cheadle South East

Appendix A – Delegated Decision Report 23rd December 2020

Appendix B – Call-in Procedure

1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 To consider the Call-in request of the Delegated Decision in relation to the proposal for use of discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant funding for a community project at the South Moorlands Leisure Centre in Cheadle.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Call-in request be considered in accordance with the Council's Call-in Procedure (Appendix B).

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Portfolio Holder has considered a report which sought approval for the use of discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) funding for a community project at the South Moorlands Leisure Centre, Allen Street, Cheadle. The report determined the scope of the eligible works and the commensurate level of funding to be approved.
- 3.2 **The decision made was:** -That approval is granted for the use of DFG funding to the community project at South Moorlands Leisure Centre on the terms set out in the report.
- 3.3 Following this decision, call-in requests have been received from Councillors: - C. Atkins, L. Swindlehurst, K. Hoptroff, M. Gledhill, N. Yates and B. Cawley.

3.4 The call-in request confirmed the following principles of decision making which they believed had not been adhered to:

- taking due regard of all relevant considerations and disregarding irrelevant considerations;
- respect for human rights and equalities;
- a presumption in favour of openness; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

3.5 Councillors have detailed their concerns below: -

- 1) Although we fully support the use of Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grants to provide much needed Changing Places Facilities within Staffordshire Moorlands, the lack of consultation, clear aims and openness over the plans for the development of Cheadle town centre raise doubts over whether it is appropriate to allocate such funding to South Moorlands Leisure Centre as its future is now uncertain.
- 2) The cost of providing the Changing Places Facility at over £29,000 needs to be properly scrutinised before such payments are sanctioned to demonstrate that this is 'excellent value for money' as stated.
- 3) If equalities are to be properly respected, all relevant sites within Staffordshire Moorlands should be assessed for the provision of such vital Changing Places Facilities to ensure their maximum use and accessibility. This requires a strategic assessment taking on board all relevant considerations rather than just accepting a single bid.

3.6 The Panel is asked to consider the call-in request, in accordance with the Council's call-in procedure (Appendix B).

Mark Trillo

Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

**Web Links and
Background Papers**

Delegated Decision report attached

Contact details

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