



Capital and Asset Development

Overview

As a provider of public services we prioritise the importance of safe, efficient, appropriate facilities for our clients to enjoy. Maintaining our ageing facility stock requires significant investment between ourselves and the Council.

Collectively, over the course of 2017/18, we have invested capital in excess of £184,000 in maintaining the quality provision our community demands.

This spend is primarily on replacing defunct plant and machinery, which finds itself beyond general repair. The spend includes the Council's contribution through the National Non-Domestic Rate (NNDR budget) of £100,000, with the additional £84,000 being found internally through Active Tameside's essential and reactive maintenance budget of £415,000.

All avenues to maintain services are explored and, in periods of significant risk, finances have been captured through the Council's capital programme.

If these activities were not to take place, the facilities would in effect be delivering a reduced standard service or be closed.

Recent investments 2017/18

The significant capital investments during 2017/18 included the replacement of the pool filtration plant at Active Copley, replacing the hot water systems at Active Oxford Park and also at the Etherow Bowling Centre, right through to replacement of the cold water storage tank at Active Hyde.

The items are highlighted through our asset management plan and prioritised for replacement based on risk to the business, through general deterioration. It is critical that our investment is planned and monitored, as failure would lead to unscheduled closures. During the course of this financial year, the Trust suffered a 4 day unscheduled closure due to the high winds experienced in February, which ultimately ripped roofing panels from the building at Active Hyde rendering it unsafe for occupancy - factors which were beyond scheduling.

Future investments 2018/19

During the course of 2018/19 and beyond, we will continue to utilise and update our Asset Management Plan, to strategically capture and prioritise our necessary investment in maintaining the services delivered through our estate.

We will continue to liaise with the Council and their support team, to critique and maximise the benefits of the construction of a conventional swimming pool and determine the associated non-funded works which will be required to enhance the functionality and create maximum benefit to the existing facilities and services at Hyde Leisure Pool, with an expected completion date of April 2019.

Given the pressures for additional community service spaces, needed for the expansion of our inclusive services, we have taken the lead to design a community extension suite, which includes a sensory room, learning kitchen, media suite and classrooms at Active Oxford Park. This will enhance the site, equipping us to meet growing community demands. The scheme will be funded through the Council and is expected to be completed by April 2019.

We have also assisted the Council and their developers in designing the concept and service mix for the new Denton Wellness Centre - circa £15 million, working with their key stakeholders and NGBs to validate and maximise the opportunities.

We are delighted to confirm that in July 2018, our capital funding bid from Sport England was successful and we have managed to attain £1.495 million towards the development through our business case and community-based programme. Our plan is to decommission the existing Active Denton site a week prior to the Wellness Centre opening, in spring 2020.

We will also assist the Council in their production of an 'Options Appraisal', to refurbish, redevelop or relocate Active Ashton, in order for us to effectively manage the capital risks that the site presents due to its age and original design quality, by January 2019.

We have identified several internal minor capital investment opportunities using business intelligence and continual analysis of market opportunities from within our current estate.

We have produced the appropriate business cases to validate the potential benefit of each growth opportunity and have committed £75,000 of Trust finances to bring these schemes to fruition over this coming year.

These investments include developments at Active Ken Ward - converting the centre's underutilised boxing suite and adapting it into an additional gymnastics zone - enabling us to meet our communities' sporting demands.

We are also converting two external changing zones into a multifunctional classroom/meeting space which will enable us to deliver our ever increasing service demands, whilst equipping us effectively to offer courses by governing bodies.

This investment will also impact Active Medlock; a party room will be modified to be used as an additional classroom space during unused hours and half of our mezzanine is being subdivided to create two functional spaces for sessions and meetings, whilst increasing our ability to deliver extra birthday parties at the weekends.

Concurrently we will seek out external commercially profitable business opportunities to develop and operate facilities and services which extend the reach and scope of Active Tameside's business, enabling us to become non-reliant on subsidies and funding.