

LEISURE MATTERS

Latest team update on the transformation of leisure services in Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon

Issue 4 // 11 October 2019

Site visits

During July and August 2019, the Health and Recreation team was given the opportunity to visit the new South Lake Leisure Centre site. Those who took up the offer gained an understanding of the layout and configuration of the building and can now appreciate what this new centre will offer to both customers and staff. During these visits, a number of questions were raised regarding the building. These will be addressed at the staff engagement sessions in November.

More site visits will be organised in the new year and the dates will be announced through the usual channels.

Leisure champions

In the last edition of *Leisure Matters*, we asked if any of you would be interested in becoming a leisure champion to:

- Ensure colleagues see and understand communication updates
- Share colleague feedback, thoughts or ideas
- Be a champion for change, providing feedback and helping implement successful change
- Support a range of communication initiatives (e.g. periodic photo or video updates on SLIC progress)

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to become a leisure champion. The new champions are:

Site name	Leisure champions
Banbridge Leisure Centre	Alison Boal
Cascades Leisure Centre	Paul McKenna, Kieran Headley, Cherie Rutherford
Craigavon Leisure Centre	Christine Scott
Dromore Community Centre & Gilford Community Centre	Liz Doak
Keady Recreation Area	Adam Cooper
Orchard Leisure Centre	Karen Cunningham
Rathfriland Community Centre	Wendy McKibbin
Richhill Recreation Area	Nicky Crowe
Tandragee Recreation Centre	Paul Holmes, David Crawford
Watersports Centre	Tony Hamill, Stephanie Toman
Waves Leisure Centre	Lisa Hilland, Jacque Collins

*Briefings are being organised for the leisure champions; if you have a query or an issue that you would like addressed, please contact one of the leisure champions and they will raise this matter on your behalf.



Members of the Health & Recreation team visiting the South Lake Leisure Centre site



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South Lake Leisure Centre construction progress

Construction of the new facility is advancing swiftly and the focus is now on the internal works including:

- Installation of pool equipment
- Screeding works (laying of floors)
- Installation of HV cables
- Tiling of 50m pool (due to be completed in December 2019)
- Installation of main services: sub-station, gas mains and telephone services

To view a video fly through of the build progress, visit: <https://youtu.be/mhJ9ufxsjxQ> or search 'South Lake Leisure Centre - September 2019' on YouTube.



Recent image of 50m pool, currently being tiled

Wet side progress

You'll be updated periodically as construction progresses, and Leisure Matters will focus on one particular area in each edition within the building to give you a feel for each aspect. This issue will focus on the wet side, including the 50m pool, teaching/training pool and the leisure water.



Recent image of Leisure Water area

Teaching / Training pool:

- 13m x 7m
- Depth constant at 1.2m
- The viewing area will seat 20 people with space poolside for 18 people

Leisure water:

- Pool depth 0-400mm
- Suitable for children 0-8 years old

Pool changing area:

- Five family/team changing rooms
- Changing capacity of 119
- Underfloor heating installed



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50m pool:

- The main swimming pool is 50m long x 21m wide
- There are two booms, one that traverses from the right hand side to the left and the other rises from the pool deck
- The traversing boom effectively forms the right hand side pool wall so when it moves to the left there is no reduction to the 50m pool length
- When the rising boom is deployed, it reduces pool length by the width of the boom (circa 600mm/800mm)
- Maximum water depth is 2.0m
- Staff can stand on the booms
- An electronic timing system is being installed for competitions
- A first aid room and timing room is on poolside
- A changing places room is on poolside with access to the pool deck
- A pool pod will be available for our less able customers to access the water
- Tiered seating for 280 people

What do you want to hear about next?

In the upcoming editions of Leisure Matters we will focus on the following areas of the new SLLC: health suite, gym, reception/café, sports hall. Let us know what you'd like to hear about next! If you have any burning questions or if you want to see something in the next issue please contact joanne.grattan@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk.

Key contacts

As always, you can contact any of the following:

- Mike Dix // **Interim Programme Director** M: 07708 319191
- Stephen Tully // **Indoor Leisure Manager** // ext: 4507 // M: 07917 432023
- Dwyer Henderson // **Area Operations Manager** // ext: 1567 // M: 07801 292864
- Joanne Grattan // **Customer Services Manager** // T: 02838 311681 // M: 07885 284602
- Declan Brown // **Watersports Centre Manager** // M: 07778 980555

Staff engagement sessions

As part of the ongoing leisure transformation programme, a series of staff engagement workshops have been organised since June 2018 allowing staff, trade unions and management to consider what excellent customer service looks like moving forward in the Health and Recreation department.

Over 150 staff and trade union representatives have attended already, contributing to the design of a new and improved service offering throughout the council's leisure estate. The next engagement sessions will be in November 2019 (dates and times to follow via your line management). Any questions raised at these sessions will be addressed on a regular basis moving forward.

The next internal staff survey will be issued in November 2019 – keep your eyes peeled.



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