

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 6 FEBRUARY 2002

GALLEON LEISURE CENTRE – PROGRESS REPORT

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a progress report on the Galleon Leisure Centre for the current financial year, in line with Following the Public Pound guidance issued by Audit Scotland.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council provides financial support to the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust, the organisation responsible for the management of the Galleon Leisure Centre. In the current financial year this support combines revenue funding for day to day operations with capital funding for building improvements and maintenance.
- 2.2 On 7 February 2001 this committee considered a report which identified, following market testing, that the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust offers highly competitive services at the Galleon Leisure Centre that could not be improved on by private sector companies.

3. PROGRESS REPORT

- 3.1 2001/02 has been a year of significant changes at the Galleon Leisure Centre. David Carey, the acting General Manager was appointed as General Manager in July 2001. A restructuring of management and administration staffing has also taken place to improve effectiveness in marketing and financial control.
- 3.2 Kilmarnock Amateur Figure Skating Club, in conjunction with the Galleon Centre, held their Open Figure Skating Championships in January. Clubs and individuals from Scotland, England and Ireland competed in the competition with approximately 120 contestants competing over the weekend.

- 3.3 The Galleon Centre participated in the BT National Swimathon and was awarded the Gold Pool Award which resulted in £500 donated to Ayrshire Hospice courtesy of the Galleon Centre.
- 3.4 In September the Centre hosted the Kilmarnock Jets Annual Open Gala with fourteen Sports for Special Needs Clubs participating with over 120 participants and over 300 spectators visiting from all over the west of Scotland.
- 3.5 The Royal Caledonian Curling Club held the Galleon Rink Championships at the Centre during October with twenty teams of four competing. The competition run over three days with teams representing ice rinks from all over Scotland resulting in spectator visits in addition to local and national press coverage.
- 3.6 December brought two significant one-day events; the Kilmarnock Amateur Swimming Club Championships and the Curling's Cool Festival. Curling's Cool is an excellent example of partnership working between the Galleon Centre and the Community Services and Educational and Social Services Departments of East Ayrshire Council. The programme is sponsored by Bank of Scotland and the Royal Caledonian Curling Club. A total of 170 Primary 7 pupils from 4 local schools attended the event.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council's support for the Galleon Leisure Centre in 2001/02 is:-

Revenue	£200,000
Capital	£150,000

The centre will make full use of these resources in the current year.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Nil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The Galleon Leisure Centre continues to offer a wide range of sports and leisure opportunities for the community and the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust operates cost effectively and competitively in a changing market.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 The committee is asked to note this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

WS/JAG/JS

10 January 2002

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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AGENDA