

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2004**

#### **CUMNOCK OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL – WOODROAD PARK, CUMNOCK**

##### **Report by Director of Community Services**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the permanent closure of the Cumnock Outdoor Swimming Pool.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Each year the Council is obliged to carry out significant maintenance and refurbishment work at the outdoor pool to ensure that it is in adequate condition to open to the public. Whilst this work is largely superficial more significant structural and plant related issues have been identified at the pool, and it is the advice of the Council's Structural Engineer and Property Officers that these problems should be addressed if the pool is to open for the 2004 season.
- 2.2 The Cumnock and District Leisure Group have been successful in raising the necessary funding to build a new indoor swimming pool at Broomfield, Cumnock and this facility is now under construction and due to open in late summer/early autumn 2004.

### **3. CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 Property Officers have identified that work is required to address problems with boilers, filters, circulating pumps, chemical injection system as well as the regular repainting and general repairs. The cost of this work has been estimated at £70,000.
- 3.2 The key structural issues identified by the Council's Structural Engineer are as follows:-
- Corrosion to the steel re-enforcement in concrete slabs
  - Corrosion of steel joists supporting the structural floor slab
  - Cracks on walls and concrete floor slabs
  - Failed pool walls and slabs
  - Water seepage

The problems have become progressively worse over time. No costs have been estimated for these works, however these costs will be considerable and of questionable value as the new pool will be opening this year.

- 3.4 If the pool is to close, the buildings would need to be demolished and the site reinstated to maintain safe conditions for visitors to the park. Consideration should also be given to the provision of alternative facilities within the park in due course.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The closure of the pool would save both repair and maintenance costs and the revenue cost of operating the pool (£45,000 in 2003).

#### **5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Nil

#### **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Promotion of the new swimming pool in Cumnock is an identified action in the Improving Opportunities Action Plan section of the Community Plan. This action would be supported by the closure of the existing outdoor pool.

#### **7. CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 The deteriorating condition of the outdoor pool requires that considerable remedial work is needed if the pool is to open again.
- 7.2 The imminent opening of the new indoor pool and the Council's commitment to support the new facility ensure that swimming facilities will be available for Cumnock and the surrounding area if the outdoor pool is closed.
- 7.3 The closure and subsequent demolition of the outdoor pool will require a significant capital funding allocation in 2004/05. Development of new facilities in the area will require further consideration and consultation once demolition work is complete.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) approve the closure of the outdoor pool in Woodroad Park, Cumnock; and
- ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

William Stafford  
**Director of Community Services**

WS/JAG/KH

16<sup>th</sup> January 2004

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Memo from Senior Structural Engineer dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 2003
2. E-mail from Operations Manager (Homes) dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2003

Anyone wishing to inspect the background papers should contact John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services on 01563 576264.

**Implementation Officer:-** [john.griffiths@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.griffiths@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)