

5 LEISURE AND ARTS FACILITIES - CONCESSION ADMISSION FOR CARERS (AN347-2003)

Following a long running pilot scheme carried out at Swim Centres, the Committee are asked to consider formalising the proposal of allowing carers free admission to facilities while accompanying a disabled person.

Persons with a disability may need to be accompanied by a carer to use Leisure and Arts facilities safely to their full potential. It is recognised that such carers will be better placed than Leisure and Arts staff to commit the necessary time and be with the disabled customer throughout their visit, while also being totally familiar with the disability needs of the person in their care. A carer may be a friend, a relative or a professional. Persons with a disability will not necessarily be in possession of a Leisure Concession Card. It is accepted that, in some particular circumstances, there may even be a requirement for two carers to be in attendance.

It is therefore recommended that in an effort to encourage attendance by carers in the interests of promoting maximum enjoyment and well-being of persons with disabilities, accompanying carers will be admitted without charge.