

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 23 August 2004

REPORT ON: Aquatics Strategy - 2004-2008

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 562-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek committee approval of the Dundee Aquatics Strategy for 2004 till 2008.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of the Report and the Dundee Aquatics Strategy and approves the strategy for implementation.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no additional financial implications to the Leisure and Arts Department through the implementation of this strategy.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Opportunities for Culture, Leisure and Recreation are readily available to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This strategy will help to increase opportunities to make Dundee a more family friendly and barrier free city.

The strategy also provides action to improve access to services for target groups.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 A review of the effectiveness of the Swimming Development Plan 1999 – 2002 has been undertaken and a new vision for the development of Aquatics in Dundee has been formulated and a strategy produced with an implementation action plan. A copy of the Strategy is available in the councillors' lounges.

6.2 The Dundee Aquatics Strategy sets a vision for the development of Aquatics in Dundee over the next four years as an activity for life long participation. It encourages the promotion of seamless pathways, reflecting the Long Term Athlete Development model as adopted by British Swimming. It is for all aspiring swimmers from Learn to Swim, through Aquatic clubs to, performance and excellence squads as well as for those who are seeking a healthier lifestyle.

6.3 The Strategy has a key Vision:

To ensure opportunities exist for regular, life-long participation in Aquatics, for every person

in Dundee, whilst ensuring opportunities exist for every individual to reach their highest potential within their chosen Aquatic activity, limited only by their ambition, drive and ability.

6.4 The Aquatics Strategy for 2004 – 2008 will seek to fulfill the following aims:

1: Recreation and Participation:

To develop links with all key partners to provide localised provision of a wide range of Aquatic programmes and ensure that opportunities exist for regular lifelong participation for every person in Dundee.

2: Club Development:

To develop and support effective club structures, to encourage stability and growth.

3: Performance and Excellence:

To ensure that opportunities and support exist to enable individuals to reach their highest potential in their chosen Aquatic Activity.

4: Coach and Teacher Education and Development:

Continue to improve the quantity and quality of all teachers and coaches of Aquatics in Dundee

5: Aquatic Facilities:

To ensure adequate facilities are provided and utilised to their maximum potential, in order to incorporate participation, recreation and performance and excellence.

6.5 The strategy has been created by the Leisure & Arts Department through the development of partnerships with key agencies including, **sportscotland**, Scottish Swimming, Tayside and Fife Institute of Sport, Sport Tayside, the Education Department, the Communities Department, the Universities of Dundee and Abertay and all local Aquatic Clubs. This will ensure pathways are created to allow every individual the opportunity to reach his/her highest potential within his/her chosen Aquatic activity.

The National Governing body has been fully consulted throughout the process of the writing of the Dundee Aquatics Strategy 2004 – 2008 and has fully endorsed it.

6.6 The Aquatics Strategy compliments a number of key local and national strategies including:

- Sport 21 2003 – 2007: *The National Strategy for Sport*:
- The National Physical Activity Strategy: *Let's Make Scotland More Active*
- The Dundee City Council Plan 2003 – 2007
- A Vision for Swimming - *The Next Ten Years* (British Swimming)

6.7 To ensure the aims of the strategy are met, an annual review of the action plan will be undertaken through comprehensive monitoring and evaluation.

The findings from the evaluation process will be incorporated into the annual action plan, with any gaps, needs or areas of improvement being identified and communicated to all potential partners.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, the Deputy Chief Executive (Finance), the Deputy Chief Executive (Support Services), Director of Education and Head of Communities have all been consulted on the contents of this report and are in agreement.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following Background Papers were relied upon in the preparation of this Report:
Dundee's Aquatic Strategy 2004 – 2008.

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
2 AUGUST 2004**