

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 15 November 2004

REPORT ON: Olympia Improvements

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 751-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for ultra-violet water treatment unit, aqua-gym fitness equipment and emergency radios for the Olympia.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the quotes from specialist contractor Aqua Systems, Denmark for £10,989 for ultra-violet water treatment units is accepted.

2.2 It is recommended that the offer from Aqua-Gym (Suffolk) and installation of the specialist aqua-gym fitness equipment for £27,500 is accepted.

2.3 It is recommended that the quotation from specialist contractor Ascom (West Midlands) for the provision and installation of emergency radios for £22,625 is accepted.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The total cost of the three items is £61,114. This can be met from the Leisure and Arts Department's Capital Budget for 2004/05.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The proposals in the report will make a substantial contribution to ensure that opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are available to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 As part of the programme of improvements to sustain and take forward the service delivery at the Olympia Leisure Centre quotations were invited from specialist contractors for ultra-violet water treatment units, aqua-gym fitness equipment and emergency radios.

6.2 Ultra-violet water treatment Units

One of the major contributing factors to corrosion in swimming pools is the aggressive atmosphere that results from high level of chemical use. Water treatment, using a U-V unit significantly reduces the need for chemical dosing, with associated improvements in air water quality. Following a successful 6 month site trial, it is proposed that an initial unit is purchased, pending continued monitoring and potential later additions. The cost for the initial unit is £10,989 from a specialist contractor Aqua-System (Denmark). Any potential savings in the annual chemical requirement are not likely to be significant. Any that are

achieved will be reinvested in the service.

It is recommended that the offer of £10,989 from specialist contractor Aqua-System of Denmark is accepted.

6.3 Aqua-Gym Fitness Equipment

This health improvement initiative offers a different dimension to the standard exercise to weights approach. The 8 units will be mounted on the pool edge and will hang into the water against the poolside. Aqua-Gym offers a range of activities that operate with reduced stress on joints and muscles, including stepper, strider, cycle and rowing units. The customer can operate in a comfortable environment that is particularly user friendly for less active individuals. The service will be offered as an addition to the existing facility mix but will be included within the current admission charges. The units will be available at the Training Pool during weekday mornings and the Dive Pool during remaining opening times. Flexibility of location enhances opportunity for the widest range of customers, while at the same time accommodating existing programme demands.

It is recommended that the quote of £27,500 from specialist contractor Aqua-Gym (Suffolk) is accepted.

6.4 Emergency Radios

Olympia is a large building with four distinct levels and requires a significant number of staff during operation. It is vitally important that, in emergency circumstances, response times are as quick as possible. First Aid cases and pool rescues occur almost every day and staff need to be ready to deal with emergencies as they arise. Staff rely heavily on the co-ordinating function fulfilled by existing radios that have been in use since 1990. Long term wear and tear has resulted in recurring reliability issues and ever increasing repair costs. Consequently it is proposed to replace the current system with upgraded state-of-the-art units that will ensure continuing high standards of emergency response capability.

It is recommended that the offer for the cost of delivery and installation of £22,625 from specialist contractor Ascom (West Midlands) is accepted.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
22 OCTOBER 2004**