

Update on leisure centres transferring to Wiltshire Council Briefing Note No. 21-19

Service: Communities and Neighbourhood
Further Enquiries to: Louise Cary
Date Prepared: 28 September 2021
Contact: louise.cary@wiltshire.gov.uk

Following on from briefing note No. 21-07, we wanted to update you on the leisure insourcing project, which will see the 10 leisure centres currently managed by Places Leisure move over to Wiltshire Council.

The main part of the project is reaching its conclusion, with the transfer formally due to take place on Friday 1 October. This will mean that from this date the council will manage 20 leisure centres in total.

The majority of Places Leisure staff working at the 10 centres, around 420, will become Wiltshire Council employees from this date.

Given the last 18 months or so, and the challenges this will have placed on people's physical and mental health, leisure services are needed now more than ever.

We want to provide a consistent service across the county, which will help to support and improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our communities. When the transfer is complete there will be many benefits coming to customers in the future, including a broader range of memberships and more concessionary rates on offer.

We are aiming to keep the offer to customers as close as possible to the service they have been receiving from Places Leisure. Some changes are necessary, and we are writing to all current Places Leisure members personally to update them on their membership arrangements, and ensure they are transferred to the equivalent council scheme wherever possible. This is a complex process, and good progress has been made.

We have a dedicated webpage full of useful information and detailed FAQs, so should you receive any queries from residents directly, we would appreciate you sharing the link with them as any questions they may have should be answered on there. The webpage can be found at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/leisure-centre-insourcing>.

A reminder that the leisure centres be transferring from Places Leisure to Wiltshire Council management are:

- Bradford on Avon Swimming Pool
- Castle Place Leisure Centre, Trowbridge
- Lime Kiln Leisure Centre, Royal Wootton Bassett
- Leighton Recreation Centre, Westbury
- Melksham Blue Pool

- The Activity Zone, Malmesbury
- The Olympiad, Chippenham
- Trowbridge Sports Centre
- Warminster Sports Centre
- Westbury Swimming Pool

Although the formal transfer takes place on 1 October, there will still be work ahead of us beyond that date, so we'll ensure to keep you updated on any key developments as and when required.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing the Programme Lead at louise.cary@wiltshire.gov.uk.