PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Southampton City Council Civic Centre Southampton, SO14 7LP









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Dear Residents and Users of the Sports Centre

Sports Centre Residents Consultation

Thank you so much for coming along to the drop in consultation events that were held in a variety of venues around the Outdoor Sports Centre during November. This was a partnership initiative between the Friends of Southampton Sports Centre, Active Nation and Southampton City Council.

The purpose of the sessions was to invite local residents' views about the Sports Centre and any suggestions for how to improve the venue in the future.

We were very pleased with the response, the number of local people who came and the quality and breadth of discussion that took place. Those who attended were invited to say what they liked and disliked about the Outdoor Sports Centre and over 150 ideas for improvement were recorded on post it notes. We have written up the results and you will find these attached.

The suggestions have been divided into those supported by a high number of people, medium and low.

The plan is to collate all the information that was gathered at these sessions with that from a parallel session held with the sports groups that book Sports Centre facilities and to use all this information to inform an improvement plan for the Sports Centre. This will again be published for further consultation, we will also seek to engage the widest range of potential partners with an interest in sport and physical activity. We will ensure that you are made aware of when this is available for viewing and comment.

Whilst some of the ideas may be possible to take forward using existing resources and maintenance budgets, most of the improvements require additional funding. As you are aware, currently there is no large pot of money identified for taking forward the suggestions. However, our next step is to work with our partners to investigate the potential funding options that may be available (i.e. grants that could be applied for). Improvements will only be possible where there is a potential external funding source and where there is a clear and justifiable need for improvement. The aim will be for improvements to sustain or increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity on the site. Given the current position with finances in local government the aim will be for improvements to lead to an overall increase in financial efficiencies as there is no additional council income to meet these costs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are aware of any potential sources of grant funding or sponsorship that may be relevant.

Yours faithfully

Tina Dyer-Slade

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http://www.fossc.info/contact.html

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