

The Friends of Southampton Sports Centre (FoSSC) welcome publication of this report which unites extensive public consultation (both sporting and recreational users) with the results of discussions with sport governing bodies. It identifies the major improvements that have both city-wide public support and a realistic potential to attract the necessary funding.

Whilst the report lacks specific detail, everyone now knows what is aspired to and hopefully all interested groups will work together to help deliver these improvements at the earliest possible opportunity. It was never going to be possible to "please all of the people all of the time". However, as stated in your feature, 93% of respondents agreed that significant improvement to the range and quality of facilities was required, 85% agreed that the site should provide facilities of at least regional standard and there is nothing in the report to which any reasonable person could object. The report blueprint does not preclude additional facilities and provisions being sought once the footprint of the major proposed projects is finalised. Improvements are desperately needed and those proposed will benefit all users of the Outdoor Sports Centre. FoSSC sincerely hopes that City Councillors of all parties will endorse the report as the way forward; preserving and updating Sidney Kimber's vision for the site to provide sporting and recreational facilities for future generations of City residents.