

#### THE MORAY COUNCIL

# REVIEW OF SPORT, LEISURE AND RECREATION PROVISION IN MORAY

**BRIEFING SESSIONS** 

**DECEMBER 2013** 

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#### Introduction

This document provides a summary of each of the community briefing sessions held in December in relation to the Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision in Moray.

The purpose of this document is to provide information on the comments and issues raised, which will be included in the analysis stage of the review. It provides the participants that attended the sessions with a record of the key points which can be disseminated to members of their groups / clubs for information.

It further enables interested parties with the opportunity to see the comments / discussions that were raised at all community briefing sessions.

The document does not include every comment that was made at these meetings but rather a summary of all the main points expressed in relation to the process of the review.

#### Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Lossiemouth High School (Dining Hall) Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	9
Total Number of Groups Represented	9
Total Number of Groups Registered	9
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	3
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	3

In Attendance		
Nick Goodchild	The Moray Council, Educational Resources Manager	
Cllr Aaron McLean	Elected Member / Steering Group	
lan Todd	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit	
Cllr Chris Tuke	Elected Member	

Main Group Representing	
<ul> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Lossiemouth Boys Brigade</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lossiemouth Community Council</li> </ul>
Ice Theatre of GB	<ul> <li>Lossiemouth United</li> </ul>
Lossiemouth High School Under 14s	Elgin Amateur Swimming Club
<ul> <li>Lossiemouth Pool and Leisure</li> </ul>	
Centre	<ul> <li>Quarriers Carers</li> </ul>
Elite Black Belt Academy	

Cllr A McLean	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Nick Goodchild	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1st Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2nd Stage of Review – Information gathering 3rd Stage of Review – Analysis 4th Stage of Review – Reporting
	Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February 2014.

Q '	s from the Question & Answer Session What is the aim of the report published in March?
	To put options before Elected Members, for example can we provide the same
	level of service for less money, do we need to reduce services to save money,
	and do we need to reduce the number of facilities.
	Members will then consider and if an option is selected which involves major
	change there will be further consultation.
	It may be reviewing the different opening times if there appears to be an issue.
	Are you planning to roll out consultations in different areas or will it be online?
	People will be encouraged to respond online as it is easier for statistical
	analysis; however there will be hard copies available for people if they choose.
	The one month timescale in January is too tight if Elected Members are making decisions in March.
	If the time scale proves to be too tight it can be extended. It is better to get it done right rather than to just get it done.
	Not a big turnout tonight, where are the school representation?
	The schools will be targeted separately. There were over 500 emails / letters
	sent out inviting groups to the meetings that are taking place over Moray.
Q I	Presumably the Council will be putting in additional all weather pitches?
Α	If it is felt that additional all weather pitches are required then people need to
į	identify this as a priority.
Q '	Why did the Council put in Second Generation (2G) pitches?
	Concerns were raised that the discussion was moving away from the reason for the Review.
Q ·	The High School sports hall has been out of commission for some time, will that
	be taken into consideration in terms of its usage figures for this year?
	Yes.
Q	I run a private sports business with 150 students. Where does the private
	sector fit in, presumably cost benefit has been done.
	Keen to point out that Moray Council is not the only provider available. If you
	think that there are any changes that may impact on your groups please give us
	the benefit of your experience and views.
	Are private sport businesses part of the planning group?
	No, but we will welcome input as part of the process. The Council does not
	have a monopoly on sports and would welcome input from the private sector to
	avoid duplication.
	Clubs use both Council and private facilities; will Moray Leisure Centre be part
	of the Review?
	Yes, the Council grant aids Moray Leisure to enable it to provide a range of services. They are involved and will be part of the process.
	Why is Moray Leisure Centre not passing on the benefits to users? The costs
	of using the facilities are high.
	Moray Leisure Centre is a non profit distributing organisation. Its Board
	members are volunteers. The company sets it own charges with a view to
	balancing its income and expenditure.

Sun	nmary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	Ice clubs who use Moray Leisure Centre need investment in equipment. From
	an ice user groups' point of view the Trust has not served the ice clubs well.
Α	Any comments about changing the programmes or suggestions on
	improvements would be welcomed.
	The Marcy Council are aware that the refrigeration plant needs to be replaced
	The Moray Council are aware that the refrigeration plant needs to be replaced.
	However the Review needs to be completed before any decision is taken.
Q	Why has the Moray Leisure Centre not gone to oil or power companies to
	invest?
Α	Point noted.
Q	The turnout tonight could have been better. Is there a backup plan to reach
	those people who didn't turn up to the meeting?
Α	We will continue to publicise the Review and encourage people to engage. We
	hope that the people attending tonight will also help get this information out.
Q	When you go out for consultation in March, how will you publicise the options?
Α	Once Elected Members have considered the report and should they decide to
	progress an option which involves major change then this will be heavily
	publicised using the media, Council databases and briefing sessions like this.

## Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Forres Academy (Canteen) Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	33
Total Number of Groups Represented	33
Total Number of Groups Registered	36
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	10
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	11

In Attendance		
Kim Paterson	The Moray Council, Sports Development Officer	
Cllr Douglas Ross	Elected Member / Steering Group	
Ann Griffin	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit	
Cllr Lorna Creswell	Elected Member	
Cllr George Alexander	Elected Member	
Ken Brown	The Moray Council, Sports Facilities Manager	

Main Group Representing	
Film Forres	<ul> <li>NHS Physiotherapy Department</li> </ul>
Rafford WRI	<ul> <li>Forres Soccer 7s</li> </ul>
Moray Province Curling Development Group	Forres Bluefins Swimming Club
Forres Camera Club	<ul> <li>Forres House Self Help Art Group</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Forres &amp; Nairn District Welfare Football Association</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sanquhar Estate Residents Association (SERA)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Moray Hydrotherapy Pool</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Corefitness Studio Limited</li> </ul>
Quilters Club (Forres)	<ul> <li>Free Style Swimming Club</li> </ul>
Moray Group Advanced Motorists	<ul> <li>Badminton Group (Forres House Community Centre)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>ICE4ALL (Moray Leisure Ice Rink User Group)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dava Way Association</li> </ul>
Needle Art North	<ul> <li>Forres Community Activity         Association     </li> </ul>
Cricket Scotland	<ul> <li>The Boys Brigade</li> </ul>
Happy Mondays (Badminton)	<ul> <li>Forres Lace Group</li> </ul>
MacMillan Cancer Support	<ul> <li>Carers</li> </ul>
Forres Indoor Bowling	<ul> <li>SportMoray</li> </ul>
Wednesday Wifies Badminton Group	Forres Flower Show
Forres Flounders (Swimming)	<ul> <li>Forres Harriers / Forres Cycle Club / Forres House Community Centre</li> </ul>
MS Nurse Moray	

Cllr D Ross	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and
	that this Review is a blank canvas.
Kim Paterson	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.
	1 <sup>st</sup> Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage of Review – Information gathering 3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage of Review – Analysis 4 <sup>th</sup> Stage of Review – Reporting
	Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February 2014.

Sun	nmary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	Time is short / the process finishing in February is too tight as groups may not
	meet before February to be able to discuss this Review further.
Α	If we need more time and this comment is repeated at the other events then
	we will listen and adapt.
Q	We need this consultation to go through quickly as we need a decision from
	the Council to help us with the problems with the ice and costs for gas.
	Without a prompt decision, it may mean we have to close the ice.
Α	Point noted and this timeline issue will be highlighted.
Q	If the Moray Council announces their budget on 11 <sup>th</sup> February – how can this
	Review influence the budget in the tight timescale?
Α	Suggest: the meeting in February will set the budget for next year. Any
	changes arising from this Review would not be implemented until later.
Q	NHS want to develop services to help patients in the local area and it is
	difficult to signpost patients to use community facilities as we don't know what
	is where – if you cut resources then there will be fewer facilities to use.
Α	Point noted. We are mapping the services across Moray.
Q	You are reducing Moray Council budgets by 11% over 4 years – is this
	exercise all about cutting budgets?
Α	Not simply looking at cutting budgets, but can we do things differently, more
	efficiently and make savings.
Q	Hydrotherapy pool costs are expensive and difficulties getting referrals
	through NHS / Moray Council. Why would patients be referred to the Moray
	Leisure Centre instead of Forres facilities? There are further costs incurred for
	travel.
Α	GP referral scheme is currently only in the Moray Leisure Centre. The
	hydrotherapy pool is not Council owned. We are hopeful that there will be a
	GP referral service soon.
Q	With regard to Community Asset Transfer, will we be able to take over
	facilities?
Α	Yes, it is a long process and support is available; but this is an option.

Sum	mary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	Flood alleviation – will football facilities come back into use after flood
	alleviation process?
Α	Yes, after the flood alleviation work is complete (e.g. additional pitches at
	Deanshaugh).
Q	What is the difference between Capital / Operational (Revenue) budgets and
	which is affected?
Α	The 11% savings are from the Revenue budget.
Q	What is the process of our comments this evening?
A Q	They will be recorded and used in the analysis.
Q	Badminton – can you tell us anything about your plans for the community centre or other facilities?
Α	No, this is a blank canvas; there are no 'hit lists'. Tonight is about the process
	of consultation, not specifics about Badminton or any other community group.
Q	Will you be looking at the usage, listening to user groups? Show who is using and when? There could be improvements around how we book the facilities.
Α	Yes – that is exactly what we are doing.
Q	We use the Town Hall, is it under threat?
Α	There is no 'hit list'.
Q	Grants for facilities – we get a Moray Council grant to run our facilities, will you be cutting these grants?
Α	We can't answer specific questions this evening but there is an email address specifically for this consultation, so please redirect your question there.
Q	We have older members who can't travel to facilities – we have a great room
	(e.g. GP Room) and it is fantastic for the embroidery club.
Α	We need to hear about what works well too, so please use the consultation
	processes to feed this in.
Q	What staff consultations will take place?
Α	Encouraged to complete surveys.
Q	Will the school facilities be affected for our community groups?
Α	Yes they will be included in this consultation process.
Q	Do you want single comments from all members of the facilities?
Α	An agreed opinion from a group is good. No campaigns are required, a letter from the group would do just as well as letters from all members.
Q	Timing of usage can be an issue; will the times of use of facilities be included?
A	Yes, critical hours; groups want to use facilities between 7-9pm. This consultation can help with coordination and flexibility. The development of usage would be helpful.
Q	Could community leisure facilities be recorded and available on this site so we know what is where?
A	It is important that people know about what groups are out there. Morinfo is available, and is run by the libraries service. There are 200 groups in Forres area alone.
Q	11 <sup>th</sup> February budget setting – the curling group needs decisions quickly and cannot wait for this Review.
Α	As mentioned earlier this decision delay will be highlighted, however decision on ice was deferred until completion of the Review.

Sum	nmary notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	Training for national status for our potential national sports representatives; is	
	there a priority booking system?	
Α	First come first served – there is no preferential treatment.	
Q	We need to encourage priority use for our future talent.	
Α	We have a gold card scheme currently in place to work with individuals.	
Q		
	many are working during the day, so there will always be a greater demand for	
	evening usage. We need to respect that the facilities need volunteers and	
	value this role.	
Α	Point noted	
Q	When will the Review be complete and when will the cuts be made?	
Α	There may be a special meeting in June or July 2014, it will not be in February	
	budget as this is a tight timescale.	
Q Is there the opportunity for the Council to increase revenue from the		
	facilities?	
Α	The Council could increase revenue by increasing charges, but this would not	
	be popular. We encourage ideas from everyone and to increase the demand	
	for usage of these facilities would help. The Sports Facilities and	
	Development sections have reduced budgets for marketing but promotion	
	could be achieved by both the Council and community groups through promotion.	
Q	Each club could carry out a marketing campaign and up the ante for	
Q	community awareness of their groups' profile. This would let people know	
	what groups are in their area. The Council should encourage 70+ year old	
	people (for example) to use facilities.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	Disabled facilities / access – what facilities have got access and support, and	
	why is this information not readily available? Invest in staff training to enable	
	them to support usage of community facilities.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	BALL groups are a good example of older people and groups being supported	
	to run independently.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	The Council supersaver swim card – every month Moray Council send a letter	
	telling me that the Direct Debit is coming out of my bank; this is a waste of	
	money.	
Α	Point noted.	

#### Cllr Ross – Summary and close.

You are very passionate about your individual groups; this is an opportunity to improve efficiencies and to work better together. Encourage all groups to think about how we can share resources. Staff could play a key role here, they have great ideas of how these facilities can be shared; there is a need for realism.

## Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Elgin Academy (Assembly Hall) Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	27
Total Number of Groups Represented	27
Total Number of Groups Registered	29
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	7
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	5

In Attendance		
Nick Goodchild	The Moray Council, Educational Resources Manager	
Kim Paterson	The Moray Council, Sports Development Officer	
Cllr Anne Skene	Elected Member / Steering Group	
Ian Todd	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit	
Ken Brown	The Moray Council, Sports Facilities Manager	
Cllr John Divers	Elected Member	

Main Group Representing	
Moray Skating Academy	Elgin Community Council
Elgin City Football Club Ltd	<ul> <li>New Elgin Junior Football Club</li> </ul>
Mandian Swimming School	<ul> <li>Elgin South Area Forum</li> </ul>
Moray Field Club	<ul> <li>Bank of Scotland (Highland) Curling Club</li> </ul>
Sewing Group	<ul> <li>Royal Scottish Dance Society (Forres)</li> </ul>
Connect Inform Support Project	<ul> <li>Moray Province Curling</li> </ul>
(Elgin Blind Club)	Development Group
<ul> <li>Moray Junior Curling Club</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Jehovah's Witnesses</li></ul>
Riverside Knitting Group	<ul> <li>Carpet Bowling Group</li> </ul>
Darby & Jones	<ul> <li>Forres Curling Group</li> </ul>
Moray Firth Ladies Curling	Elgin Boys Club
VIP Childcare	<ul> <li>Moray Skating Club</li> </ul>
Elgin Baptist Church	<ul> <li>Moray Woman's Aid</li> </ul>
North East Sensory Service (NESS)	Elgin Community Centre
Moray Typhoons	

Cllr A Skene	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Nick Goodchild	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1 <sup>st</sup> Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage of Review – Information gathering 3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage of Review – Analysis 4 <sup>th</sup> Stage of Review – Reporting
	Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February 2014.

Summary	notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	Is this a savings exercise?
A	Yes, the Council needs to ascertain the most appropriate level of service provision and this may include rationalisation. Any options that are developed will not cost extra.
Q	When does the budget have to be set?
A	February 2014. The Review process is planned to be completed by March 2014.
Q	Do you anticipate additional cuts if the Review identifies additional cuts?
Α	Point noted.
Q	With regards to the Moray Leisure Centre ice rink – legislation requires a new plant by January 2015. If this is to be in place in time a decision needs to be taken quickly.
А	The clash of timings is unfortunate but the Council will not be able to make a decision regarding the ice plant before the Review is complete.
Q	Moray Leisure Centre has been aware of the need (10 years) for new plant and has done nothing about it.
А	The Council will work with Moray Leisure to explore all opportunities to avoid the ice rink having to close due to the new legislation.
Q	What are the parameters of the Review? Will you be taking into account village halls, school halls etc? Also opening times as these can restrict some peoples access.
A	As far as possible all facilities (village hall, MOD, private sector) facilities will be included in the mapping exercise. The Moray Council cannot determine what happens in facilities provided by other organisations.
Q	Many facilities in Moray are in poor condition so there is no room for cut backs. There needs to be investment.
A	We acknowledge some facilities are in need of investment. That is why this Review is so important, so the money can be spent where it is needed. The Moray Council need to understand where the greatest need is, so investment can be targeted there.

Summary	notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	Your job has to be completed with your eyes blind folded and your	
~	hands tied behind your back. Where is the money coming from?	
A	There is currently a budget for leisure and the Council sets its budgets	
	annually to meet its priorities.	
Q	But the budgets available do not meet the needs.	
A There are difficult decisions to be made and that is why the		
	needs to prioritise.	
Q	Why carry out a survey when everyone knows which facilities are	
	underutilised.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	There will be tensions with fewer facilities, do you have any idea how	
	this will be looked at or achieved?	
Α	This part of the Review process will take a broad look at the area as a	
	whole. If there are proposals for changes to individual facilities then	
	those types of issues will be looked at in detail at that time and there will	
	be further consultation.	
Q	All 'special' clubs for disabled people have extensive waiting lists; I	
	cannot see how this would not have an adverse effect if you close	
	facilities.	
A	The Moray Council empathises with that situation.	
Response	People won't or can't travel. It is the only form of exercise disabled	
	people get (e.g. swimming).	
Q	If the Town Hall and Community Centre are past their best, why not	
	knock them down and open up one big centre that meets every ones	
۸	needs? Point noted.	
A Q		
Q	Older people that have sensory issues do not use Elgin facilities because they are not suitable.	
A	Point noted.	
Q	What principles are the Moray Council using for the survey?	
A	The survey has been designed to help highlight priorities. The	
^	questions will cover issues such as travel distance, quality of facilities,	
	range of activities catered for, accessibility, cost etc. The conclusions	
	from this will help inform the options that will be reported to Council.	
	Once options have been considered Elected Members will decide what	
	action to take.	
Q	Is the online survey skewed towards what the Moray Council want?	
Α	There is no hidden agenda.	
Q	Is there any statutory obligation to provide leisure services?	
Α	Yes, but it is not defined. It is described as 'adequate'. This Review is	
	critical to determine what is adequate.	
Q	So those who shout the loudest will be the winner?	
Α	If we are to provide leisure services to cover the next 10 years we need	
	to have a balanced Review.	
Q	Are the schools included in the Review?	
Α	Yes, the Sustainable Education Review and this Review are happening	
	concurrently in order that both can be informed by each other.	

Summarv	notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	What about the groups who are not present tonight, who will represent	
_	them?	
Α	The Council is coordinating the process. Over 500 invites went out to	
	Community Councils, Area Forums and user groups.	
O	So the Community Councils need to carry out surveys?	
Q A	No, we are asking people to spread the word to ensure they are	
	engaged.	
Q	You are relying on the generosity of people to respond.	
A	We would hope people will respond. Once the options are put back to	
	the communities they will have a further opportunity to respond.	
Q You said Sportscotland have a sophisticated tool kit for analysi		
	provision and that they are running it for Moray. Where do you think we	
	are?	
Α	We are above the national average for swimming pool capacity and	
	more than adequate for indoor sports hall space. Unlike many other	
	authorities much of our provision is linked to schools.	
Q	Will the Review take into account the disgraceful situation at	
	Deanshaugh? Someone needs to be accountable.	
Α	The point of this Review is future provision of leisure. If the issue is	
	about the condition / number of football pitches in Elgin then that needs	
	to be highlighted.	
Q	There is no shortage of money in the Moray area. Before any facilities	
	are closed an approach should be made to the private sector to invest.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	Are there any incentives to encourage companies to invest such as rat	
	reductions? Why invest in the Western Link road instead of investing in	
	services. You need to think outside of the box.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	What has been the response to the 500 invites sent out to groups?	
Α	Not a large response so far.	
Q	So will you follow up with the non attendees?	
Α	We will continue to publicise the Review and once the options start to	
_	emerge we will follow up. This is the start of the process.	
Q	With such a low response it just shows how interested some clubs are.	
Α	We will still follow up. It is important for key individuals such as	
D	yourselves to encourage people to engage.	
Response	I am a Community Councillor and we do not get feedback from	
Decrees	communities.	
Response	The ice rink is a national standard facility. We cannot let it close.	
Q	Moray Leisure Centre – there is concern at how the Centre is being run.	
	Other ice facilities do not receive subsidies but still manage to	
A	successfully run at a profit.	
A	Point noted	
Response	You need to look at the numbers of who use the ice rink; this is a high	
	quality service. The standard of performance, particularly amongst	
	young people is extremely high.	
Q	There is a lot to be proud of in Moray across a range of different sports.	
Α	Point noted.	

## Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Milne's High School (Social Area) Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	10
Total Number of Groups Represented	9
Total Number of Groups Registered	7
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	2
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	4

In Attendance		
Kim Paterson	The Moray Council, Sports Development Officer	
Cllr Aaron McLean	Elected Member / Steering Group	
Ian Todd	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit	
Cllr Douglas Ross	Elected Member	
Cllr Margo Howe	Elected Member	

Main Group Representing	
Innes Community Council	Milne's Primary School Football Club
<ul> <li>Fochabers Curling Club</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fochabers Cricket Club</li> </ul>
Lennox Community Council	Action for Children
Moray Skating Club	Lhanbryde Community Challenge
Garmouth Amenities Association	

Cllr A McLean	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Kim Paterson	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1st Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2nd Stage of Review – Information gathering 3rd Stage of Review – Analysis 4th Stage of Review – Reporting  Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February 2014.

Sumn	nary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	What is the annual Council budget?
A	The £30 million savings expected over the next 4 years equates to 11% of the total budget.
Q	Are you taking into account the private sector?
A	Yes, representatives involved with the private sector have been attending the other events and will be encouraged to engage with this Review throughout. We are aware that a number of sport, leisure and recreation facilities in Moray are not owned / governed by Moray Council and we will encourage engagement with these groups / organisations also.
Q	How much savings do you expect to achieve through this process?
Α	No specific savings figure has been identified.
Q	My concern is with the ice rink, it needs investment.
A	If that is a priority for the Council it will be addressed by the Elected Members.  A Stage 1 grant application (up to 50% of costs) has been submitted in relation to the new plant to Sportscotland.
Q	Will the Sportscotland Facilities Planning model report include the private sector (such as RAF base, Army Barracks, Gordonstoun)?
A	Private organisations will not be part of the Sportscotland model as it specifically relates to Moray Council facilities (or part funded Council facilities). The Moray Council do not have any jurisdiction over these private organisations.
Q	If you use the Sportscotland model and the private sector provision that will give you a truer account of what is on the ground. The Moray Council would need to negotiate with the private sector.
Α	As stated, the Moray Council will engage with the private sector.
Q	Also need to be aware of community owned facilities.
Α	The Moray Council will engage with them also throughout this process.
Q	What is the sport and leisure budget?
A	The budget is difficult to quantify as many sports and leisure facilities are connected to schools etc and the requirements for leisure are spread across varying departments of the Council including Education and Social Care, Environmental etc.
Q	If you don't know what you are spending how can you make a saving? In the absence of being clear on how much you spend, how can you make the process clear if we don't have anything to benchmark against? How can you determine the cost benefit if you don't know what you want to save against? We cannot go back to our communities without knowing what the figures are.
A	Point noted. The cost information on how much it will cost to maintain the current facilities has been placed on the Council website.

Summa	Summary notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	If the Education Review is being carried out at the same time, does this mean the community will get greater access to the school facilities? The	
	community currently do not get access at certain times.	
А	This is the type of information / suggestions we want to hear from communities.	
Q	In half term the kids are not at school but the community is still denied access, also during Christmas period and on Public Holidays.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	Has there been consideration on how best volunteers can be used to run the leisure and sports activities.	
А	This is key information / feedback we are looking for. Part of the information gathering process is to identify peak periods and waiting lists for activities.	
Response	A number of spinning groups in Milne's don't operate a waiting list but are very popular so this may not be recorded.	
Q	Will the Council allow community groups to take over the running and management of facilities through the Council Community Asset Transfer process? If yes, that has to be addressed now as lengthy process.	
А	If groups were interested in a Community Asset Transfer they could apply now.	
	As noted at the Elgin meeting, there were suggestions to involve the business sector.	

#### Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Keith Grammar (Assembly Hall) Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	15
Total Number of Groups Represented	13
Total Number of Groups Registered	9
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	0
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	3

In Attendance	
Nick Goodchild	The Moray Council, Educational Resources Manager
Cllr Barry Jarvis	Elected Member / Steering Group
Denise Gormley	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit
Cllr Gary Coull	Elected Member
Cllr Stewart Cree	Elected Member
Ken Brown	Sports Facilities Manager

Main Group Representing	
The Keith Country Show	Total Reballing
Buckie Choral Union	Keith Horticultural Show
Keith & District Youth League /	
Junior Athletics	Keith Sports & Community Centre
Strathisla Community Council	Keith Primary School PTA
Keith Community Council	Community Bowling
Kestrel House (Elgin High School)	Moray Figure Skating

Cllr B Jarvis	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Nick Goodchild	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1 <sup>st</sup> Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage of Review – Information gathering 3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage of Review – Analysis 4 <sup>th</sup> Stage of Review – Reporting  Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February
	2014.

Nick Goodchild explained that there was no list of closures. The Moray Council would like attendees to feedback to the members of their groups and organisations to ensure they engage in the consultation process on an ongoing basis.

This briefing meeting is the start of the process - the very first stage.

It was explained that people should not feel concerned that a facility they feel is important to them is necessarily under threat. This is a transparent, objective Review and everything is treated as equal. These are the principles that will underpin this Review.

Over 500 letters / emails were sent out across Moray inviting people to come along to these briefing meetings; however it is recognised that it does take a while for people to engage.

The Review of the School Estate and the Review of Leisure are currently taking place and it is acknowledged that these are closely linked.

The Moray Council has engaged with Sportscotland to assist with the information gathering and they will be using a sophisticated tool called the Facilities Planning Model. They will produce reports around swimming pools and sports halls. When the Moray Council interprets this information, a Moray perspective will be incorporated so that it is not just national averages.

By engaging with communities and community representative groups it is felt that a comprehensive picture can be built around usage and demand.

At stage 3 of the process communities will again have the opportunity to feedback on any options.

It is accepted that rationalising will mean change but rationalisation will focus on providing an appropriate service for the future. Options could include, (for example) looking at closing some service areas or looking at how they are managed or reviewing their operating times. Options that come forward will be shared with the public for further consultation

All comments, views and suggestions can be fed back using the dedicated email address, however if people do not have access to a computer they can write to the Moray Council.

Some of the important factors that will be considered within the survey include the performance of a facility, accessibility issues, disabled access, opening times and provisions for the youth or other age ranges.

In terms of the time frame there is a target date for a report of options to be produced by March 2014; however this is not set in stone. We have discovered with the Education Review that if there is a need for further consultation, time scales may have to be amended.

<ul> <li>Summary notes from the Question &amp; Answer Session</li> <li>Q Three months to sort this out, this does not appear to be a long enough to frame to work through what you have described.         What type of message are we passing on to our children?</li> <li>A Point noted.         Three months is not a long time, this is a target time frame. We need to keep reviewing timescales.</li> <li>Q Why is the timescale so short, how can you take into account of all this information in such a short space of time?</li> <li>A It must be remembered that this is the first stage of the Review and what being undertaken is a strategic overview that will identify areas for more detailed investigation. As has been stated earlier if there is a need to extend the time frame it will be done.</li> <li>Q It is less than 3 months really, the time it takes to pass on the information our committees, you won't get the information back to you until at least February 2014; this only gives you one month to look at all of this information.</li> </ul>
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A I would encourage you and your members to participate using the email
address and the online survey.
Q All fine and well, but I work with an age group who don't access compute
A Hard copies will be made available. The Review wants to retrieve as mu
information as possible for an accurate and rounded picture of sports and
leisure provision in Moray.
Q So you are extending the timescale if needed?
A If the time frame needs to be extended it will be.
Q How will you decide if you have enough information?
A Initial stage is a desktop exercise where we will be gathering information
from our facilities and imperial data from Sportscotland. We are
encouraging public views / opinions throughout the process.
When there are key points in the process we will put out information for
comment.
Q Is the process primarily about sports? Some of us represent non sport
groups that use the facilities. There are many health benefits, for examp
using health and leisure services helps to keep me out of the health
services. You could argue that by maintaining leisure services there is lo
term financial benefit overall. The difficulty is that these benefits are hard
measure as it is not just about the numbers. The demand for these servi
is linked to the amount of publicity that is put out about the facilities. We
should be ensuring that we encourage people to think not only about the
numbers of people coming in and out of the doors.
A Point noted.
Q Will the collated facts and figures and the impact of the assessments bot
be considered? How do you work this out and assess the impact?
A This is a very good point. Leisure services cover a wide breadth of facilit
including town halls. We recognise the benefits of participation to physic
health and mental health and that we have difficult decisions to be made.
Impact assessments won't be undertaken at this stage but at the next sta
if changes are required.

Summa	ry notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	You need to understand that there may be repercussions further down the
	line.
Α	Point noted.
Q	Statistics of demand – it is more cost effective to consider how facilities are
	publicised. Access is an issue, for example bus services are not what they
	could be around this area. Just because usage numbers are not high does
	not mean people don't want to use the facilities. Please be aware of this as
	this is very important.
Α	Point noted.
Comment from	This Review can't just be about closures it needs to be about the delivery of
Elected	services. We need ideas on how facilities can increase their usage
Member	numbers – if we can increase the number of users this can generate income
	for the Moray Council and will mean that the Moray Council will spend less.
Q	Are there seasonal variations with the facts and figures?
A	Yes, there are substantial variations due to seasonal factors.
Q	Will this Review require an impact assessment before any changes are
	made especially in terms of the different impacts on groups?
A	This will be done.
Q	If the price at the door is too high this is going to turn people away.
A	Point noted.
Q	I still feel that 3 months is not long enough to work through all this
	information for example working out pricing structures or how to increase
Δ.	the usage of the facilities.
Α	This is only stage 1 of the process. We will look in-depth at individual
	facilities if significant changes are proposed once options have been
	considered. We are not setting out with the view that the only option is
	closure of facilities. A variety of alternatives will be considered including different ways of operating facilities.
Q	Will the information you are basing this on be made available?
A	There will be regular updates on the website at key points of the process.
Q	Sporting promotion and the Commonwealth Games – We should piggy back
<b>⋖</b>	on the publicity around the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. This will
	encourage people to use the facilities and would help increase the numbers
	using the facilities – once they are in we can keep them in. There are
	economic benefits to this.
Α	We are already working with the Glasgow Commonwealth Games team to
	benefit from the increased profile. In terms of participation, Moray already
	does well. For swimming attendances per head of population we are in the
	top quartile of local authorities.
Q	We want to continue doing as well as we are currently.
Α	Point noted.
Q	About 4 years ago it was mentioned that the management of sports and
	leisure could move to being Trust facilities – is this still on the cards? I feel
	this is where this is going.
Α	This is something people should think about and comment on. Every option
	needs to be considered. For instance would it make a difference to you
	who ran a facility? The question is not just about trusts but possibly
	community management as well.

Summary notes from the Question & Answer Session		
Q	Access to provision for the disabled is patchy across Moray.	
Α	Point noted.	
Q	You say that the Moray Council has to find £30 million in savings, and will need to look at cutting services but is not looking to earn or increase money. You are putting services all into pieces such as libraries, sports – these are small conversations. You need to look at the bigger picture and encourage more business activity to bring in money, should be about economic development.	
Α	It is about working with manageable chunks.	
	Cllr Cree explained the background of the Area Based Review and that there is a finite timescale to set the budget with the Scottish Government. There is a rising demand from the elderly population with costs increasing and declining resources. If the Council got more private businesses the business rates would in fact go to the Scottish Government and not the Moray Council.	
	The future vision from the Moray Council is economic development and this will be the principle around everything we do – we need to find ways to provide services and do things differently, it is not about shutting services.	
	The savings target has now been revised to £23 million. If we cut 1000 jobs we still wouldn't find the savings we needed and we would not be able to deliver the services.	
	There are no private providers in the Keith area, there are some in Elgin but they are expensive. Entry fees locally cost £2.25 / £1.65 for OAPs and the Council pays £5.00 for every admission — with the private sector you would pay the full amount.	
	I remember the history of Keith getting a swimming pool and the community coming together to raise the funds for a pool – I still believe in the need for kids to learn to swim. That was an example of a great community effort to raise funds for the building of a swimming pool.	
	I agree that there was hope of a legacy from the Olympic Games but there does not seem to be any evidence of this impact.	

Summa	ary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	But the Commonwealth Games are closer to home and will have a greater
	impact.
Cllr	I remember the last Commonwealth Games and am not convinced of any
Cree	lasting impact from that.
	I think it is important to remember that it is not just about numbers with this
	Review; other things need to be considered for example the distance you
	have to travel.
Q	I believe that the investment needs to be behind the scenes with the
	buildings. The continuous maintenance costs, gas prices and plant costs
	are where the money needs to be – I am continually putting in maintenance
	requests.
Α	Point noted.
Q	How can you make sure people know to complete the survey?
Α	Word of mouth is invaluable. We will continue to utilise the local press and
	social media. At local facilities, staff members also need to ensure that
0"	users are provided with the information and are aware of this Review.
Cllr	Think it would be a good idea for the local press here to run an article on the
Cree	Review.
Q	Will there be something at the facilities other than a poster?
Α	We are continuing to add to our database of user groups and community
	groups all the time and they will be contacted at key points of the process.
	Some facilities might have a poster but primarily word of mouth is the best method. We will also make use of the local press and social media.
Q	Will there be hard copies available at reception desks of the facilities to
Q	encourage people to give their views?
Α	Yes.
Q	I have been making bookings right into 2015 for Longmore Hall and was not
Q	made aware of this.
Α	There is no immediate concern for any facility but the point is noted
Q	I'm concerned that people are living a more sedentary lifestyle but this is not
	a reason to cut leisure services it is actually a reason to keep services going
	as it is going to store up problems for the future.
Α	Point noted.
Q	But you can't drag people off the streets to use the facilities.
Q	Need to think and consider accessibility as well.
Α	Points noted.
Q	This process is 3 months but you say it is flexible, where do you think you
	will be in 3 months' time?
Α	It is anticipated that there will be a report submitted to the Area Based
	Review group.

Summa	ry notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	I am worried that word on this Review will not spread fast enough to get the information back to you.
Α	There has been a press campaign to launch this Review and we will
	continue to promote this through the various means that I have mentioned
	before.
Response	The Press and Journal did run an article on this recently.
Q	Figure skating and hockey clubs were not aware of this meeting.
Α	We can confirm that ice users have been well represented at all previous briefings.
Q	I think that the Moray Leisure Centre should be split and the ice run separately.
Α	Nothing is off the table.
Q	The problems lie with the management in Moray Leisure Centre.
Α	This is not the best forum for this discussion but do feed these views into the process.
Q	After 3 months are you going back out to consultation?
Α	Once the options report has been decided then there will be engagement with affected communities.
Q	We need more notice for future meetings.
Α	Point noted.
Q	Are we going to be kept up to date stage by stage to allow us to feedback to our groups?
Α	The main updates will be made available on the website and we shall contact groups at key points of the process.
Q	My group saw the word 'Review' and that means something will go.
A	We are looking at alternative methods of running the services.
Response	Never seen a Review where something has not gone.
Response	But we cannot ignore the current economic difficulties.
Response	Nobody disputes that.
Response	The term 'Review' is as good a term as any and it has to be called something.
Q	You are saying you want as many people to be involved but then allowing only one representative per group.
Α	We wanted to ensure there was a balanced discussion for all in attendance.
	We are encouraging representatives such as yourself and others to
	feedback these discussions to your groups.
Response	It is up to us to make sure that we tell our other members about this.

#### Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Speyside High School (Community Lounge) Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	12
Total Number of Groups Represented	12
Total Number of Groups Registered	12
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	2
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	2

In Attendance	
Nick Goodchild	The Moray Council, Educational Resources Manager
Kim Paterson	The Moray Council, Sports Development Officer
Cllr Barry Jarvis	Elected Member / Steering Group
Denise Gormley	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit
Ken Brown	The Moray Council, Sports Facilities Manager

Main Group Representing	
Craigellachie Village Hall &	
Community Association	<ul> <li>Aberlour Community Association</li> </ul>
Buckie Curling Club	Aberlour Curling Club
Indoor Bowling Club	Aberlour Junior Football Group
Dufftown Rifle Club	Rothes Rovers FC
Lunch Club	Dufftown Bowling Club
Dufftown Men's BALL Group	Swim Club

Cllr B Jarvis	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Kim Paterson	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1st Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2nd Stage of Review – Information gathering 3rd Stage of Review – Analysis 4th Stage of Review – Reporting  Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February 2014.

#### **Background Briefing**

This is just the very first stage of the process and that these meetings are designed to inform groups about the process that is taking place.

The Facilities Planning model that Sportscotland is using looks at the relationships between the likely demand for sports facilities and the actual supply of facilities. It will be comparative to other Local Authorities but we will need to localise this for the Moray area.

We also need to take into account national governing bodies of sport such as Scottish Athletics who want to develop a running track in the North of Scotland. They have not identified where at this stage, but this type of information needs to be included in this Review.

We will also be looking locally at buildings / swimming pools / community centres and town halls and the cost of maintaining these. Facility management reports look at what is required over the next 5 years.

Other information that will also be incorporated is levels of usage, trends where there are peak times, waiting lists etc.

A series of options will then be made available to communities for comment. It is up to the Area Based Review group to progress any identified options.

The Review is to be undertaken to the highest standards therefore if we need to extend the timescale then this will be amended accordingly.

Further information can be found by visiting the Moray Council web page and clicking on the current consultations link on the home page.

Summ	nary notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	You talk about an Area Based Review group who is on this?	
Α	Chief Executive Roddy Burns , Cllr Pearl Paul (SNP), Cllr John Divers	
	(Labour), Cllr Gordon Mcdonald (SNP), Cllr Allan Wright (Conservative),	
	Cllr Lorna Creswell (Independent), Cllr Stewart Cree (Independent).	
Q	You talked about using the Sportscotland Facilities Planning model but you	
	need to take into account the big differences in the demographics of this	
	area, for example Speyside is a wide area with a low population.	
Α	Sportscotland use national statistics and we shall localise the information	
	from the report. We will ensure it reflects Moray. There is more information	
	on the website with regards to the planning model.	
Q	With regards to the online survey, what is in place to communicate that this is	
	available?	
Α	We will continue to publicise through local media, mail shots using the	
	growing database of user groups and community organisations and also the	
	web page. It is important that attendees at these briefings pass the	
	information on - word of mouth is really important within communities.	
	Hopefully you will spread the information as widely as possible after tonight.	

Summ	nary notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	The survey for the Education Review was pretty thin, it was only 3 questions
	is this going to be similar?
Α	This survey will be similar but not exactly the same, for example we need to
	identify issues such as travelling distances, the quality of the facilities, should
	facilities be dedicated to high performance activities or be a generic multi-
	purpose facility, opening times and costs etc.
Q	You say that you want us to encourage club members to be involved but what exactly are you looking for us to do?
Α	Explain first that this Review is taking place. Explain that there is the
	opportunity to get involved through the email address / web page / online
	survey / writing in to the Council.
	We will contact groups and use press releases at key stages of the process
	as they emerge.
	There have already been suggestions on how to deliver things differently, it is
	not just about cutting or closing facilities but looking at how to do it differently.
Q	Are you planning on having more community meetings?
Α	Yes, once the information has been gathered and analysed. We will contact
	groups to let them know the dates.
Q	What was the date you mentioned at the end of December?
Α	It is anticipated that we should have the report from Sportscotland by then.
Q	Will the survey be available as of January the 6 <sup>th</sup> ?
Α	Yes, but if you think of anything before then please use the dedicated email
	address or write in to the Council.

## Educational Resources Manager, Nick Goodchild – Summary of other points raised at other community briefing sessions.

People have raised the general benefits of participating in leisure for example physical health and mental health.

There have been questions over opportunities for community ownership – everything is on the table for consideration.

People have mentioned accessibility of facilities, opening times and pricing structures.

There have been representatives from ice user groups at the other meetings who have talked about the importance of the ice provision in Moray.

There has been discussion about engaging with private companies / private sports clubs to get their views and to be aware of what is available from this sector.

Sum	Summary notes from the Question & Answer Session	
Q	Are you capturing ideas from employees as you often get the best ideas from them?	
A	We are in the process of arranging briefings with the staff. They know the customers best so we will be asking them for their ideas on how best to engage with the users.	
Q	This is a community school are you discussing this Review with the education department?	
A	Nick Goodchild explained that he is also involved with the Sustainable Education Review and that there are strong links between PE facilities and sports facilities – that relationship cannot be lost sight of.	

## Review of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Provision Buckie High School (Community Lounge) Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013

Total Number of Attendees	20
Total Number of Groups Represented	19
Total Number of Groups Registered	18
Total Number of Groups Registered but Not In Attendance	7
Total Number of Groups Attended but Not Registered	9

In Attendance	
Kim Paterson	The Moray Council, Sports Development Officer
Cllr Barry Jarvis	Elected Member / Steering Group
lan Todd	The Moray Council, Community Support Unit
Cllr Gordon McDonald	Elected Member

Main Group Representing	
Buckie Amateur Swimming Club	Buckie & District Community Council
Cullen Community Centre	Buckie OAPs Group
Cullen Voluntary Tourist Initiative (CVTI)	Moray & Nairn SWRI
1st Buckie Boys Brigade	Buckie Cricket Club
Moray Province Curling	CD&P Heritage Group
NHS Public Health Nursing	Pool Supervisor
Community Council	Cullen & Deskford Community     Council
Findochty Toddlers	Findochty Masonic Club
Cullen Golf Club	Findochty Community Council
Buckie Area Forum	

Cllr B Jarvis	Welcomed all in attendance and introduced the format for the evening.  Explained that the Moray Council does not have a 'hit list' and that this Review is a blank canvas.
Kim Paterson	Gave an outline Briefing about the Review process.  1 <sup>st</sup> Stage of Review – Community Briefing meetings 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage of Review – Information gathering 3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage of Review – Analysis 4 <sup>th</sup> Stage of Review – Reporting  Timelines / Stages – Review to be completed approx February
	2014.

Summa	ry notes from the Question & Answer Session
Q	Can we have confirmation that the results of this consultation will be
	included in this Review? As the last consultation undertaken in relation to
	the Moray Leisure Centre Service Level Agreement was not considered and
	is now lying on a shelf somewhere gathering dust.
Α	The aim of this consultation is to be open and transparent as possible and
	to encourage community engagement throughout the process. All
	consultation methods and responses from national, regional and local
	organisations / individuals will be included in the report that is fed back to
	the Area Based Review group.
Q	You said that the Council have to save millions; do you have a savings
_	target for sports and leisure?
Α	The overall savings target is for the whole Moray Council budget and will be
	over 4 years. No savings have specifically been identified at this moment in
0	relation to this Review.
Q	How would we contact a 'real' Council person to discuss this further?
Α	Please contact Nick Goodchild (Educational Resources Manager) or
0	Kim Paterson (Sports Development Officer) with any queries you may have.
Q	What factors will be considered within the survey and when are you
Α	considering your series of options?
A	Location, accessibility, cost of using the facilities, quality of facility whether it is a high performance facility or a multi use facility.
Q	Moray Leisure Centre Ice Rink caters for all age groups and has members
Q	of clubs at a national standard representing Scotland. It is the only ice rink
	between Inverness and Aberdeen and covers a wide spectrum of sports.
Α	Cllr D Ross who sits on both the Leisure Review Steering Group and the
, ,	Moray Leisure Centre Board will be keeping the Area Based Review group
	up to date on the issues relating to the ice plant in particular which has been
	raised at other briefing sessions.
Response	The Moray Council has had 3 Elected Members sitting on the Board and yet
	Moray Council has still not addressed the issues.
Q	Could we have a copy of the briefing presentation?
Α	The Council web page has a copy of the briefing presentation and will have
	summaries from each of the briefing sessions uploaded onto the webpage
	once they are complete. As stated previously, updates in relation to the
	Review will be uploaded onto the webpage throughout the Review process.
Q	Is there a definition of what the range of services that the Review is
	covering?
Α	This is something we are continually trying to highlight via our publicity. We
	are looking at how best we can communicate to ensure everyone has a
	clear understanding of all the facilities included in the Review. This has
	been a factor we have discussed whilst creating the survey for this Review.