

FULL COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2016

Written question from Councillor Bob Seeley to Councillor Shirley Smart, Executive Member for Public Transport, Tourism, Recreation and Heritage

- (i) The Council has recently announced an investment of £880,000 into Medina Leisure Centre Gym and Cafe.
- (ii) What metrics will be used to measure the success of the investment?
- (iii) Will you make the business case and initial analysis conducted by the Leisure Database Company available for review so that the West Wight Sports and Community Centre can learn from it?
- (iv) Will the Council be making available, to community assets such as the West Wight Sports and Community Centre, similar funding to help strength and increase their own revenue streams?

Response

- (i) The investment was approved by the Full Council in February 2005 as an invest to save bid. The scheme is expected to generate income of £85,000 a year as a contribution towards the council's financial challenges. The proposal was to extend the fitness facility and provide a new spin fit studio in the old café area. A full business case was prepared to pay back the investment and makes a positive financial contribution in the future. The demand is currently exceeding original estimates.
- (ii) IWC would happy to share the business case with the trust if a meeting can be arranged. The metrics are a simple case of the payback on the existing loan from new income streams identified from increased One Card membership.
- (iii) We would be happy to meet the relevant people from the trust to discuss the process we went through. The information looks at the catchments of facilities and whether there is the population demographics to support any investment opportunities.
- (iv) I am not sure whether we are yet in a position to answer this, if like the council owned facilities a business case can be produced that demonstrates a payback on the investment then I am sure many organisations could consider an investment loan to the trust. The trust was recently provided with a one off grant of £100,000 from the Isle of Wight Council in order to support its own invest to save schemes.