

Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Encouraging Women in Sport Review – response to recommendations

Date of Commission meeting: October 2023

Lead Director: Miranda Cannon



Useful Information:

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Vicky Ball
- Author contacts details: Victoria.ball@leicester.gov.uk
- Date of Exec meeting: n/a

1. Summary

- 1.1 A review commissioned by the Heritage, Culture, Leisure, and Tourism Scrutiny commission in to 'encouraging women to participate in sport and physical activity in Leicester was completed in late 2022, with a report presented to the commission in February 2023.
- 1.2 The report sets out a range of findings, following a period of community and industry consultation. It also, provides several recommendations to support the industry to engage, and encourage more women to participate in sport and physical activity.
- 1.3 This paper provides a response to those recommendations. Responses have been facilitated by Active Leicester, which in the main are from internal city council departments.
- 1.4 The responses and review findings align well with the new Active Leicester Strategy, where women and girls are identified as a key target group. Subsequently, Active Leicester in partnership with Public Health are developing an action plan that will consider how the recommendations from the scrutiny review can be reflected. A further report will follow on this.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny

- 2.1 The scrutiny commission are asked to note the content of the responses to the recommendations, and to provide comment.

3. Supporting Information

- 3.1 A summary of recommendations and responses are shared on pages 6-16 of the full report, which is shared as an addendum.

4. Financial, legal and other implications

4.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report at this stage. Initiatives outlined in the report will need to be funded from existing budgets.

Martin Judson, Head of Finance

4.2 Legal implications

The report does not give any specific details about grant funding, but if there is to be any funding awarded to external organisations it will be necessary to consult Legal Services to ensure that a subsidy control assessment has been carried out and to ensure that appropriate grant funding terms and conditions are put into place.

Additionally, if any of the work with external organisations requires any joint working arrangement, then please consult Legal Services to seek advice on whether formal joint working arrangements will be required.

Tracey Wakelam
Principal Lawyer
Commercial, Property and Planning

4.3. Climate Change implications

There are no significant climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. More widely, however, work to promote participation in sport and healthy lifestyles may help to encourage and enable active travel by participants, which could have a positive impact on travel-related carbon emissions within the city.

Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, Ext 37 2284

4.4 Equality Implications

All public bodies must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (Equality Act 2010) by paying due regard, when carrying out their functions, to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. In doing so, they must consider the possible impact on those who are likely to be affected by the recommendation and their protected characteristics.

Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

The report provides recommendations to support the industry to engage, and encourage more women to participate in sport and physical activity.

There are inequalities in health between women, which are related to socio-economic

status, ethnicity and geographic region. Across different stages of women's lives there are different social and economic factors which drive health and associated health inequalities. The recommendations in the report may lead to positive outcomes for women and people of all protected characteristics if proposals are developed. There does need to be greater consideration given to the impacts on women that might share some of the other protected characteristics and how they may need to be engaged with differently, for example, women with a disability may not be able to partake in 'conventional' physical exercise and engagement for women of different races and religions may also need to be different to encourage participation.

Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148

4.5 Other Implications

(You will have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate any which apply?)

None.

5. Background information and other papers:

Addendum: A Report of the Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Tourism Scrutiny Commission: **Encouraging Women to Participate in Sports and Physical Activities in Leicester**

6. Summary of appendices:

7. Is this a private report ?

(If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)