

Motion by Councillor E Drysdale

Seconded by Councillor R Watters

This Council fully recognises the autonomy of the Trustees of Live Active Leisure (LAL) to operationally manage the provision of sports and leisure services to the communities of Perth & Kinross, crucially that this is in accordance with its Service Level Agreement with this local authority and in accordance with LAL's own business imperatives. Further, this Council is well aware of the challenges associated with so doing, which have been exacerbated both by the effects of the Covid pandemic and the limitations of financial support which the Council, Scottish Government and UK Government have been able to provide. The Council places significant emphasis on the importance of the services currently offered by LAL, especially right now as we begin to emerge from 2 years of a pandemic that has taken its toll on the physical and mental health of many of us.

However from information provided by officers as part of the recent budget process, it has come to my attention that the proposed termination of gym facilities at Rodney Centre, Perth, within my ward, in a few weeks' time – with the consequential removal of the highly regarded sprung floor in the coaching hall at Bell's Sports Centre (also within my ward) to accommodate transfer of these facilities – appears to directly contravene the terms of the Service Level Agreement between LAL and the Council, at Clause 2.3 which states:-

The Service Provider shall be under an obligation to supply the PSO Services from the Service Provider Properties, the Properties and the Outdoor Centres and the Service Provider shall not be entitled to terminate the supply of PSO Services from any such venues without the prior written consent of the Authority (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed).

Council is therefore asked to agree to instruct officers to remind LAL Trustees of this legal requirement. Council is further asked to instruct officers to obtain assurance from LAL that PSO services will continue to be provided at the Rodney Centre in accordance with the Service Level Agreement, unless and until agreed otherwise by this Council at a future meeting.