

Investing in Leisure Programme Camberwell Leisure Centre – Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the status update on the Camberwell Leisure Centre?

To ensure that we meet with the very tight deadlines we are working to, it was necessary to close the pool slightly earlier than initially anticipated on August 17 until June 2010. Camberwell Leisure Centre is a beautiful, but very old building, and as a consequence there is a great deal of preliminary work to complete before the construction programme can begin in earnest.

It is our intention that all other areas of the facility (Gym, Sports Hall and dry-changing rooms) will remain operational throughout the entire renovation programme.

2. What is the background regarding funding for the Centre?

In March 2009 Southwark Council submitted a funding application for improvements to Camberwell Leisure Centre through the *Department of Culture, Media, and Sports* Free Swimming Capital Modernisation Programme. As the process was very competitive, with only limited funding available nationally, we were delighted that on March 31 **Southwark Council was awarded funding of £1.45m** to go towards improving Camberwell Leisure Centre. To put this into context, 56 projects were funded nationally totalling £19m, with our award being the highest in the country. The funding, together with £1.5m from Southwark's Investing in Leisure programme, will be used to renovate the pool to support the delivery of the free swimming programme designed to increase participation in swimming amongst under 16s and over 60s.

In May 2009 the Youth Capital Fund allocated £579,000 to the project which is to be used to create a first floor music area consisting of a sound-proofed music suite and two flexible studios, along with a ground floor social area with self-service café.

Additional funding is currently being sourced to enable Phases 3 and 4 can be met.

3. What is included in the renovation?

There are a number of fundamental renovation works to be carried out including refurbishment of changing room facilities, structural, electrical and mechanical upgrades, redecoration and installation of equipment to meet with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) guidelines. These will help secure the longer term future of Camberwell Leisure Centre and ensure that the facility meets current standards.

4. What difference will the renovations make to the Centre customers?

- **Changing rooms:** Male and female changing rooms will be refurbished to Sport England standards. In addition, a new family changing area and two disabled changing rooms with toilets will be included to encourage greater participation by disabled users and families with young children.
- **Reception Upgrade:** The reception area and entrance foyer will be renovated to ensure compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act guidelines and in addition the Centre will introduce a hearing induction loop and visual impairment amendments.
- **Structural and plant upgrades:** The pool hall, corridor, windows and roof will be refurbished ensuring the surrounding areas of the pool-side remain energy efficient. Upgrades to the pool plant (the machines that control the swimming pool environment) will be undertaken to ensure the long term future of the baths.
- **Mechanical and electrical upgrades:** A new electricity supply with energy-saving lighting will be installed to help improve energy efficiency. Air Handling and heat recovery units which will make using the facility a more pleasurable experience for customers.
- **Modifications to the pool:** A new boom will be built to separate the main and teaching pools. The boom will incorporate an entrance system which will improve access to the pools for the elderly, young children and disabled users. A brand new facility of a pool-side hoist will be installed to assist people with disabilities in and out of the water.

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5. Is that all that is planned?

Actually no, there are more renovation works planned (subject to further funding) which include:

- **refurbished dry-side changing rooms**
- **expanded inclusive gym**
- **Heritage Displays**
- **upgrade of Warwick Hall facilities and**
- **the overall restoration of the Grade II listed façades**

6. How long is the renovation work to the pool likely to last?

The renovation to the pool is expected to be completed in **summer 2010**.

7. How will the closure affect my membership?

Those customers with membership for use of the pool can use their card at any of the Southwark Council's other leisure centres. The closest centre with a swimming pool to Camberwell is:

- **Peckham Pulse** – 10 Melon Road, Peckham, London SE15 5QN - Telephone: 020 7525 4999

Please visit the Fusion web site www.fusion-lifestyle.com where you will see more information about the above centres as well as Camberwell's activities on:

- Facilities and activities
- Pool and class timetables
- Map and transport links
- Opening times

8. Are graphical displays of the refurbishment available in the centre?

The exciting new plans for the centre, explaining the four phases of the renovation programme, will be on display at Camberwell Library on **Saturday September 12 and will transfer to the centre after that weekend**.

If you would like to be kept informed of the refurbishment developments at Camberwell Leisure Centre please use the online registration form at – www.southwark.gov.uk – on the left hand side click on 'Sports and Leisure' – select the option 'Investing in Leisure' - from there you will see the link to the Camberwell Leisure Centre page and there you will see the online form.

Or write to Investing in Leisure Programme, Southwark Council, 3rd Floor E & H, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TZ with your name and address and we will keep you directly informed of all progress at the centre.

Useful links:

- **Free Swimming for under 16s and over 60s:**
http://www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/sport/5809.aspx
- **Southwark Leisure Centres – Managed by Fusion (For opening times and directions)**
<http://www.southwark-leisure.com>
- **Surrey Docks Watersports Centre – Art Competition (artwork and photography) open to all that live and work in Southwark aged between five to 25 years old (closes September 18 2009)**
www.southwark.gov.uk/sdwcartcompetition

Camberwell Leisure Centre – Artichoke Place, off Camberwell Church Street, London SE5 8TS
Telephone: 020 7703 3024

