

Case Study: Hart Leisure Centre

Location: Fleet, Hampshire

Client: Hart District Council

Build Cost: £24m including fit out

Construction Completion: 31 March 2017

Main Contractor: Artelia (Project Management)

Architects: GT3 Architects

Build Contractors: Willmott Dixon

Structural & Civil Engineers: Engenuiti

MEP Services: Hampson JPA

Hart District Council's decision to design and build a new large scale leisure was based on:

- the existing centre being towards the end of its useful life; too expensive to maintain and operate
- the existing facility was too small to accommodate the increasing number of participants
- expected population growth over the next 20 years
- lack of car parking at the existing centre, and
- the existing site could not be extended as it was surrounded by land owned by others.

The new build project was funded by a combination of S106 monies, borrowing against future housing growth and SLM's annual Contract management fee payments.

SLM were chosen as preferred operator in July 2015 with the 10 year Contract to operate the facilities across the District starting in January 2016 (15 months before the opening of the new Hart Leisure Centre).

Everyone Active worked closely with the key project partners Hart District Council, Willmott Dixon and architects GT3 through the delivery of regular project updates and steering group meetings.

These meetings were integral in developing a transparent and successful partnership leading to achieving a positive outcome, post construction.

Since its completion the project has been commended as demonstrating best practice and highlighted as an exemplar project by Sport England based on the layout and latest technologies promoted within the centre.

Facilities

- 25m 8 lane competition pool
- 25m 4 lane training pool / movable floor
- teaching pool with water confidence area
- spectator seating for over 200 people
- 130 station fitness suite
- sauna and steam rooms in changing areas
- 8 court sports hall
- climbing wall
- 3x studios
- virtual group cycle studio
- café
- 4x 5-a-side 3G pitches
- 1x full size FA artificial 3G pitch
- 2x junior grass pitches
- crèche
- approx. 350 car park spaces



Key Outcomes

Since the start of the contract Everyone Active has delivered the following performance improvements:

- the old Hart LC averaged approx. 30,000 visits per month. Footfall at the new centre is over 60,000 per month (100% increase)
- 745,845 visits in total in 2017/18 an increase of 204,000 from the previous year
- 17,960 visits from people with disabilities in 2017/18 – as a target groups in Hart this highlights the inclusivity of the new leisure centre
- Health and Fitness membership has grown from 2,647 (December 16) to 4,418 (August 18) – 66% increase.
- Swimming lessons have grown from 1,863 to 2,089 since the centre opened (12% increase)
- 288 clients now access the District's GP referral scheme delivered at Hart Leisure Centre
- SLM launched a new recreational gymnastics programme on the centre's open day, which now has over 175 children enrolled; ranging from 4 year olds up until early teens
- SLM launched a new walking football programme in 2017/18 – this has grown from 1 session per week to 3, and now also includes a Women's walking football club. Over 50 people attend per week
- Hart FC are now based at the centre with SLM providing sponsorship for their junior teams
- Hart Swim Swimming Club delivered 2 open galas in the first 15 months of opening - their first in over 15 years. This would not been to be achieved at the old centre, and
- In 2017/18 Hart District Council received over 390 hours a year of free usage to deliver Physical Activity and Sports Development sessions. Delivered in partnership with SLM these include:
 - Time to refresh – afternoon sessions for over 50's
 - Dementia sessions – weekly gym sessions for patients and their carers
 - Inclusive dance sessions – dance classes for all abilities
 - Senior gym & swim sessions, and
 - a range of over 60's activities/group exercise classes.





A video of the Hart Leisure Centre Open Day can be viewed at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4htdaPOtH8>.

More than 5,000 people joined double Olympic champion, Rebecca Adlington and Rio gold medallist Alex Danson in opening the new facility.

Contact Reference Details:

Client Officer – Paul Weavers
Paul.weavers@Hart.gov.uk