

Agenda Item No: 9.5 **Report No:** 120/15
Report Title: Wave Leisure Annual Review
Report To: Cabinet **Date:** 24 September 2015
Lead Councillor: Cllr Maskell
Ward(s) Affected: All
Report By: Gillian Marston, Director of Service Delivery
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Purpose of Report:

To seek Cabinet approval of the objectives stated within the Annual Service Delivery Plan.

Officers Recommendation(s):

- 1 To approve the objectives identified for the Annual Service Delivery Plan so that Wave Leisure and Lewes District Council jointly produce the plan in line with Council objectives.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 1 The agreement between the Council and Wave Leisure requires Cabinet to approve a Service Statement on an annual basis and to receive a report on the performance of the Trust. Additionally, Cabinet is required to approve the joint objectives proposed for the forthcoming financial year.

Information

2 Background

Nine successful years of operation

- 2.1 Wave Leisure has now completed nine successful years of operation. The partnership between the Council and Wave Leisure has matured

over this period and the arrangements in place are considered to be successful in bringing about positive outcomes for the local community.

2.2 Since Wave took over management of the Leisure Service for LDC, they have:

- (a)** Reduced the Service Fee by £330,000 since 2010-2011
- (b)** Working towards reducing the Service Fee to zero by contract end
- (c)** Increasing visitor numbers at just over 1 million per year
- (d)** Increased turnover to £4.6 million per year
- (e)** Increased income by 2%.
- (f)** Reduced CO2 emissions by 5.6% across the four main sites whilst increasing visitor numbers.

2.3 Specifically in 2014-15, Wave have carried out a number of improvements to the facilities including:

- (a)** Taking over the management of Newhaven Fort from 1st May 2015.
- (b)** Replacement flooring and equipment in the soft play area at Downs Leisure Centre.
- (c)** Replaced filters and refurbishment of showers at Seaford Head swimming pool.
- (d)** Upgraded alarm system, installed poolside panic alarms and replaced water flow meters at Lewes Leisure Centre.
- (e)** Replacement trampoline and pool inflatable at Lewes Leisure Centre.
- (f)** Decorations and replacement equipment at Peacehaven Leisure Centre and Seahaven Swim and Fitness Centre.

2.4 Wave has managed to maintain and improve upon projected income levels. Through careful control of costs, Wave have ended 2014-2015 with a surplus of £181,043 and uncommitted reserves of £990,099.

Annual Service Statement

2.5 The arrangements between the Council and Wave Leisure require the Council to prepare and approve an Annual Service Statement each year and to indicate the level of Service Fee to be paid for provision of services. In return, Wave Leisure is required to produce an Annual

Service Delivery Plan and submit this to the Council for approval.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan sets out how Wave intends to meet the Council's objectives based on the requirements of the Annual Statement which relates to services that are intended to be delivered in the next financial year.

The Leisure Annual Service Plan for the financial year 2016-2017 will align with objectives of the Council as set out in the Council Plan. The specific objectives for this are set out at Appendix A. In addition, Appendix A sets out the objectives for Newhaven Fort.

Performance Monitoring

- 2.6** Wave Leisure is required to report on its performance against a series of performance indicators set by the Client Officer responsible for monitoring the Trust. Performance targets are set taking account of the aims and objectives of the Council and are a means for encouraging the Trust to help meet the Council's overall priorities.

Site specific performance targets are reported by the Trust on a quarterly basis and annually for targets relating to corporate indicators. Performance monitoring is undertaken by the Client Officer throughout the year.

Highlights of service performance results:

- Dry side participation increased by 6,195.
- Wet side participation reduced by 4,243 visits (1.3%).
- Total children and young person's participation increased by 12,339 (3.21%).
- Quality. Quest is a tool for continuous improvement, designed primarily for the management of leisure facilities. Quest defines industry standards and good practice and encourages ongoing development and delivery within a customer focussed management framework.

Sites no longer receive a percentage rating, instead they are banded a score; unsatisfactory, good, excellent or outstanding (which can only be awarded to sites participating in "Quest Stretch").

	2008	2010	2012	2014
DLC	83%	85%	Satisfactory	Good
LLC	85%	85%	87%	Good
PLC	78%	86%	Satisfactory	Good
SSFC	79%	84%	Satisfactory	Good

- 2.7** Wave have successfully built on the work they have undertaken on a Seniors Programme. The programme provides exercise activities with varying intensities and impact levels to appeal to a wide band of senior users and includes instructor led and game play sessions. Activities are designed to improve muscle tone, strength and balance with the aim of preventing falls. All levels of ability are provided for including activities such as chair-based exercise, walking football, Tai Chi and GP referral/Cardiac Rehab. Overall, 35% of clients completed a programme, with 47% still taking part.
- 2.8** In 2014-2015, Wave introduced their new Schools Sports Programme. In partnership with 5 primary schools and Seaford Head Secondary School, Wave developed a service delivery model and appointed a School Sports Co-ordinator to enable schools to benefit from a cohesive approach to funding and service delivery. The programme delivered a total of 39 after school and lunch clubs against a target of 16. A total of 481 children regularly participated in the extracurricular activities offered by Wave between January and March 2015.
- 2.9** Wave began offering a weight management service comprising of a 12 week course for people with a BMI of over 30. They received 694 referrals with 36% completing 9 weeks or more. However, 172 people started the course, but left early. The ratio of female to male referrals was in excess of 2:1 and Wave will be offering some male only courses in the future in an attempt to encourage more male participation and retention.
- 2.10** Outdoor sessions using the green gyms were trialled during summer last year. Participation levels were low initially, but the feedback was excellent. The sessions have been re-launched this year with high levels of interest.
- 2.11** Wave's performance against the objectives for 2014-2015 is set out in more detail in their Annual Service Delivery Plan report and was the subject of a presentation to the Lead Member by Wave's Chief Executive in July 2015. There are no concerns about the performance of the Trust.

Financial Appraisal

3 Resource Allocation (Service Fees)

- 3.1** In return for Wave providing services and undertaking activities that meet the Council's stated objectives, the Council provides the Trust with an Annual Service Fee. In September 2014, Cabinet approved the service fee for 2016-17. The two elements are:-

Leisure Management Contract	£418,000
Newhaven Fort Contract	<u>£104,000</u>
	£522,000

The Service Fee for the leisure management contract will reduce by £104,000 compared with 2015-16. The fee will continue to reduce each year so that by 2020-2021, the Council will provide no annual funding for this element of the service. The service fee for Newhaven Fort will remain fixed through to 2024-25. This represents an overall saving to the Council of £2.3m over the 10 year period 2015-16 to 2024-25.

Legal Implications

- 4 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

Risk Management Implications

5. There are no Risk Management implications arising as a result of this report.

Equality Implications

- 5 I have completed an Equality Screening and the service has only a positive impact upon equalities. An equalities impact assessment has been carried out on the service within the last 12 months and is attached as an appendix to the report.

Background Papers

None

Appendices

Appendix A: Annual Service Delivery Objectives 2016-2017

Appendix B: Wave Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix A

Annual Service Delivery Objectives Leisure 2016-2017

Lewes District Council is required to furnish the Trust with an Annual Service Statement that will provide the Trust with a framework to produce an Annual Service Delivery Plan.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan that Wave produce should complement and support the Council's objective to promote healthy lifestyles by developing a district wide leisure strategy. The Council recognises that reducing hazards like cold houses and falls in homes could save the NHS over £1 million in treatment costs.

The Council will budget to improve the condition of both private and council homes to prevent accidents and ill health. We will continue to work with the NHS and other partners in the county to improve the health and wellbeing of Lewes District residents.

Besides the major contributions to ill-health prevention from our housing programme, we will work with local communities and companies to provide sport and recreation facilities where people need them. As a result, the Council wishes to set the following objectives for Wave in relation to the Leisure contract.

1. Increasing Participation & Reducing Health Inequality:

- Provision of activities to meet the needs of the ageing population of the District, inclusive of outreach work to provide opportunities of increasing participation and wellbeing, particularly in the rural communities, where people need them.
- Seek to develop new partners as well as enhancing existing relationships with the Council and other key partners, to increase the availability and take up of positive activities for children and young people with the aim of encouraging greater participation by young children and families on a low income.
- Provide a varied programme of activities including taster sessions that positively encourage and promote physical activity, particularly amongst those who are not currently active.
- Provision of a range of holiday activities for children and young people of all age ranges.
- Give due regard to the Equality Act 2010, particularly when there is a change to policy; project development or where new services are being provided or where existing services are discontinued.

- Provide opportunities and activities for Council tenants, which are either outreach or centre-based and which include tenants in rural communities.
- Provide opportunities to engage the rural population, increasing access to activities.

2. Improving Accessibility & Social Inclusion:

- Ensuring activities are accessible by the whole community, but working particularly with people and families on a low income, ensuring that activities are provided in such a way to meet the needs of specific groups within the community.
- Working with partners to identify appropriate funding to support sessions and activities that could be offered free to users at the point of delivery as a means of overcoming lack of income as a barrier to participation.
- Promote opportunities for workforce development to encourage training and skills development for individual staff.
- Explore opportunities to increase non centre-based activity to further reduce access barriers and to encourage participation from current non-users.
- To assist Lewes District Council with undertaking ongoing equalities assessments and monitoring.

3. Reducing Environmental Impact:

- Continue to look for opportunities to increase recycling for customers and staff wherever possible.
- When planning future investment with the Council, identify opportunities to reduce energy usage and help to reduce CO2 emissions. When replacing plant and equipment, cleaner and energy efficient technology should be considered that will help to generate future efficiency savings.

The Trust is required to provide an Annual Service Plan by November 2014 that takes account of the above Council priorities. This plan will then be considered by Cabinet in January 2015, for implementation from April 2015.

Annual Service Delivery Objectives Newhaven Fort 2016-2017

Lewes District Council is required to furnish the Trust with an Annual Service Statement that will provide the Trust with a framework to produce an Annual Service Delivery Plan.

On 1st May 2015 Wave was granted operational management responsibility for the Newhaven Fort. The following sets out the key actions that Wave will focus on for the 2016/17 financial year.

The Fort procurement exercise focused on four core outcomes, namely:

1. Enhance the regeneration opportunities in Newhaven by increasing the number of visitors to Newhaven Fort and generating local job opportunities.
2. Maintain and grow the heritage and educational potential of Newhaven Fort in a way which is accessible to the general public.
3. Improve the current facilities on offer.
4. Minimise the ongoing liabilities of the Council and potentially produce a revenue stream for the Council.

In order to achieve the four LDC outcomes, Wave has identified three separate but interlinked areas for the Fort Management and Operational Team to focus on, namely:

1. Experience.
2. Education.
3. Events.

Appendix B: Equalities Assessment

Directorate: Service Delivery

Date: Sept 2015

Service: Leisure Management Contract – Indoor Leisure Facilities

The contract was awarded to Wave Leisure (April 2006 to March 2021). Bee Lewis, Head of Property and Facilities, manages the contract and submits reports to Cabinet twice a year in relation to the performance of the Trust.

1. Service Aims

a) *Scope of the service*

The Leisure Management Contract was awarded in 2006 to Wave Leisure to manage the following facilities:

Lewes Leisure Centre: A wet and dry facility opened in 1991. The facility is in generally good condition and is dual-use with Priory School. The school and tertiary college have exclusive use of the main hall and gymnasium during term-time weekdays. Facilities include a free-form leisure pool and training pool; a gym; soft play area and outdoor athletics track.

Seahaven Pool and Gym: Seahaven is a purpose-built gym and swim facility in the heart of Newhaven. It was built in 1984 and has a 5 lane 25m tank pool and teaching pool as well as a small gym which has been extended to capacity.

Meridian Leisure Centre: This is a purpose-built dry facility located on the edge of Peacehaven. The two phases of the centre were opened in 1996 and 1997 respectively. The centre is the subject of a dual-use agreement with the adjacent Peacehaven Secondary School, whereby the school is granted exclusive use of the sports hall during term-time weekdays. Facilities include a four-court sports hall, gym, soft play area, squash courts and a function suite.

Downs Leisure Centre: A large dry leisure centre, opened in 1987. It has a combination of purpose-built areas and but also utilises an existing de-commissioned (school) building. The facilities include a four court sports hall, refurbished soft play area with café, gym, fitness and dance studios, a central café in the reception area and outdoor facilities including a floodlit all weather sports pitch and a grass pitch.

The contract between LDC and Wave aims to ensure that the indoor facilities offer an accessible and quality, yet cost effective, service which meets the diverse needs of our local community. Parks, play areas, green open space and pitches are outside of the scope of this contract.

The contract was awarded in April 2006 for a period of 10 years. However, the contract was extended by a further five years and is due to end in March 2021. LDC pay a service fee to Wave Leisure which has reduced over time, making a significant

saving for the Council. LDC also pay for certain aspects of maintenance on the buildings and Wave Leisure also invest up to £250,000 each year in the facilities.

b) Who is the service provided for?

The service is aimed at all local residents (and visitors) regardless of age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. Each centre offers a programme of activities which aim to engage local people.

Wave have developed a value statement to define their aims:

By engaging with partners Wave Leisure, an established charitable trust, will agree a shared programme of activities to deliver to the community. We aspire to achieve excellence in the delivery of our services which will provide our customers with choice and inspire active lifestyles. Our ultimate aim is to create a sustainable business contributing towards the long term health and wellbeing of our community.

This statement aligns with and amplifies the outcomes that the Council are also seeking to achieve:

1. Unswerving commitment to excellent services
2. Uncompromising commitment to quality
3. Unlocking the talents of staff to improve services

The Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP or Annual Plan) uses the stated aims of each organisation to underpin the service priorities and is developed in partnership with LDC Officers to demonstrate the depth of true partnership working to achieve improvements in the quality of life for residents within the Lewes District area.

Engaging residents in physical activity and sport has many benefits which impact on local priorities such as improving health and well being. Furthermore, through the Annual Plan, Wave Leisure continues to support the Council's priorities to engage the least active population to achieve the greatest reduction in health inequalities.

c) Catchment Area, Demographics and Barriers to Participation

The catchment area loosely follows the profile of Lewes District, from East Dean to Saltdean along the coastal strip and to the villages north of Lewes. There are considerable variances between groups with one or more characteristics which are protected under the Equalities Act, 2010.

- Wave Leisure facilities receive an average of 995,000 visits per year. That translates to each and every person in the district visiting the facilities on average just under 10 times per year

- 10,185 people are cardholders of Wave Leisure, meaning that approximately 10% of the district holds a Wave Leisure card.

97% of the adult population feel as though regular activity is important. This is a rise of 1% since the last survey in 2010. However only 44% of people think they are taking enough exercise, with 14% stating that they definitely aren't undertaking enough activity. This is on par with the national average, although the statistics show that less than half of those feel as though they are actually undertaking enough activity.

Age

The wider catchment is in general terms, older than the national average, being below the UK index for all age groups up to and including 40-49 years. Accordingly, the area is relatively high in terms of the proportion of older residents.

It is recognised that the so-called 'silver-pound' holds increasing significance within the leisure industry and it is the case that the 50+ age group are becoming increasingly active within leisure facilities. The specific nature of the local catchment means that any management policies (including pricing and programming) need to particularly reflect the needs of this age group.

Health problems typically increase with age and research suggests this is a big barrier to participation for those aged 60+.

Programme includes activities for older residents, which are heavily promoted with sensitive marketing.

Gender

The main catchment is broadly in line with national averages in terms of male/female gender percentages, with a light bias in favour of females.

National and local data indicates that there is a trend of under representation in sport participation from females. The Non-User Survey illustrates local barriers including, cost, time pressures (for example practical session times), child care, perception of 'older facilities', lack of confidence and transport.

The Wave Leisure programme offers a diverse range of activities which includes opportunities for women.

Ethnic Origin, Religion and Belief

The ethnicity of the main catchment is overwhelmingly white. Just [check %] of the population are members of an ethnic minority. In terms of leisure provision, management policies should meet the needs of the majority of the local population, but should be regularly challenged to ensure that opportunities to encourage ethnic minorities to participate in activity are not missed.

National and local research does demonstrate that some BME and religious groups are generally under represented at leisure centres. Research also shows that the majority of professionals within the leisure industry are keen to improve their own multi-cultural awareness; encourage involvement of local communities; and improve understanding of religions and associated barriers to leisure.

The programme includes special women only sessions. Programme aims to be sensitive to religious festivals and periods of fasting. Changing rooms offer private environments. Wave operate a positive approach to recruitment and use positive imagery which is reflective of the local demographic. Staff welcome all users and are keen to foster inclusivity.

Participation may be hindered by:

- Dress code e.g. some Muslim women choose to wear the jibab (longer outer garment) which covers the whole of the body other women may dress modestly
- Second language barriers
- Women following the Muslim faith cannot engage in mixed gender sports and for many, apprehension about taking part stems from a fear of discrimination or of facing negative attitudes from service providers in relation to their religious and cultural needs.
- Risk that the dates of community events may clash with festivals and periods of fasting.

Social or Financial Deprivation

Levels of mobility are significantly higher than at the national level. Car ownership levels are greater, from families owning between one to three cars and below the average for families without access to a car. However, car parking data suggests that people are using their vehicles less frequently, which could be for financial or environmental reasons (or a mixture of both).

Proposed changes to the bus services from rural areas means that some people will find it more difficult to access centrally located services. Future leisure policies must take into account the needs of the rural communities.

The catchment area differs quite dramatically from the national average on the question of social class. Specifically, the population contains significantly higher proportions of A, B and C1 social groups than the average nationwide. This grouping would suggest that the demand for high quality leisure services is likely to be high, given the greater levels of disposable income and greater participation levels associated with these groups. Disengaged families are at risk of being hard to reach (including transient communities).

To understand the catchment area in more detail, an analysis of the sub-catchment areas (up to 8 minutes travel distance by car) relative to each leisure centre was carried out.

- *Lewes:* The Lewes catchment area appears to be the most affluent of the 4 areas mapped. Lewes shows household income levels in excess of the national index for all ranges above £30,000 per annum and is particularly high in

terms of residents earning over £60,000 per annum. Lewes is primarily composed of ABC1 social groups and is below the index for social groups D and E. The population is significantly older than the national average, particularly those above 60.

- *Seaford:* The eight minute catchment around Downs LC is more complex. The income levels across the catchment area covers a wide range and is illustrative of major financial differences within a geographically similar area. This range is likely to impact any strategic sports and leisure facilities planning. It is important that the pricing structure reflects the varying abilities to fund leisure activities through disposable income. Seaford shows no distinct characteristics in terms of age, more closely following the national profile than in the remainder of the district.
- *Peacehaven:* This area also displays a diverse range of household incomes and disparate social groupings. Car ownership remains higher than average, but households are more likely to have one vehicle. Peacehaven has an ageing population, with all ages under 49 being under-represented, but particularly in terms of those aged 16-29.
- *Newhaven:* The resident population with the Newhaven catchment area is representative of the wider catchment in its age profile. The population is, in broad terms, older than the national average. The largest discrepancies in household incomes occur in Newhaven ranging from very high to very low with little discernable trend. The social class in the area follows the same grouping.

National data demonstrates that lower income households are less likely to be physically active. Wave Leisure operate a tiered fee structure to assist those on a low income.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment

There remains a general lack of local data in relation to sexual orientation and/or gender re-assignment. The data is difficult to collect, but there may also be an unwillingness to disclose the information.

Marriage

There are no barriers to engagement on grounds of marriage. Memberships are available to people regardless of marital status and participation is available to all. Couples memberships are available to same sex couples, although this information is not widely promoted either in the brochures or on the website.

Pregnancy

Activities are available for women who are pregnant and there are instructors who are both pre-natal and post-natally trained. Participation when pregnant should be agreed with a doctor or midwife, but it is recognised that for many women, gentle exercise when pregnant can be beneficial.

Disability

Wave Leisure aim to have an inclusive programme, in other words, a range of sessions where all abilities (disabled or non disabled) are welcome to participate with staff who endeavour to aid access and inclusiveness. The programme also includes some disability specific sessions/bookings.

Changing rooms offer a range of changing facilities for individual choice, including private cubicles if preferred by the individual. However, there are no facilities that meet the Changing Places standard.

2. Service Priorities

Lewes District Council is required to furnish the Trust with an Annual Service Statement that provides Wave with a framework to produce an Annual Service Delivery Plan.

The Council is keen to see the take up of activities by specified groups through the Annual Service Fee. These activities are reflected in the Council Plan; the Sustainable Community Strategy; the Crime Reduction Strategy; and outputs from the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. Examples are:

- Provision of activities to meet the needs of the ageing population of the District, inclusive of outreach work to provide opportunities of increasing participation and wellbeing.
- Seek to develop new partners as well as enhancing existing relationships with the Council and other key partners, to increase the availability and take up of positive activities for young people, particularly those in the 13 to 19 age group, with the aim of encouraging greater participation amongst those individuals who currently do not engage in such activities.
- Activities that positively encourage and promote physical activity, particularly amongst those who are not currently active.
- Provision of a range of holiday activities for children and young people of all age ranges.
- Give due regard to the Equality Act 2010, particularly when there is a change to policy; project development or where new services are being provided or where existing services are discontinued.
- Ensuring activities are accessible by the whole community including minority groups and are provided in such a way to meet the needs of

specific groups and communities of interest, such as those who are disabled, or elderly.

- Working with partners to identify appropriate funding to support sessions and activities that could be offered free to users at the point of delivery as a means of overcoming lack of income as a barrier to participation.
- Provide activities that respond to customer needs and concerns and provide continuous service improvement as a result of such customer feedback.
- Promote opportunities for workforce development to encourage training and skills development for individual staff.
- Explore opportunities to increase non centre-based activity to further reduce access barriers and to encourage participation from current non-users.
- To assist Lewes District Council with undertaking ongoing equalities assessments and monitoring.
- Continue to look for opportunities to increase recycling for customers and staff wherever possible.
- When planning future investment with the Council, identify opportunities to reduce energy usage and help to reduce CO2 emissions. When replacing plant and equipment, cleaner and energy efficient technology should be considered that will help to generate future efficiency savings.

3. Stakeholder engagement and participation

This Equality Assessment aims to ensure that the service identifies and defines gaps and needs and is delivering real, sustainable improvements across all areas of the leisure contract.

Data is not captured for 'casual walk-up' participants, however Wave aim to gain a better understanding of these clients.

In 2013, Wave commissioned community survey focusing on the four main towns of Lewes, Seaford, Newhaven and Peacehaven. The survey also included some villages in the surrounding area.

The non-user survey gives a great insight into the district, its demographic, the behavioural habits and thinking of local people. Although the economic climate is less than stable, leisure provisions should be accessible, targeted and marketed to groups who will most benefit from improved health outcomes.

It is clear from the evidence in the non-user survey that 50-60% of the district is in the right frame of mind for a change or increase in physical activity.

It is also clear that Wave must overcome some of the barriers and objections that non-users have identified as concerns, such as cost and improved facilities. It is likely that as non-users they are unaware of the investment over the last 6 years in the refurbishment and the prices and Wave must focus on making this messaging as clear as possible.

Wave will continue to work with partners such as ESCC, LDC, Active Sussex and the Town Councils through the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Frameworks needs to continue to be targeted. Continued efforts need to be made in joining up public health promotion with mechanisms to motivate individuals to take up physical activity.

By using visitor frequency monitoring data, Wave can identify key target postcode areas where funded activity and initiatives can take place.

- **More people say they are exercising for 30 minutes or more 5 times a week**

45% of the adult population (39,452) say they are exercising for the recommended 30 minutes or more, 5 times a week. This is 9% higher than the national average of 36%.

However, only 24% (9,468) of those use a leisure centre – again on par with national average. The most popular independent activity is walking/jogging in street/parks followed by in home based exercise activity.

- **People want to do more... but can't or won't**

56% of adults actually (45,735) want to do more physical activity because they want to maintain or improve their health (48%), improve or maintain body tone and shape (22%), and maintain or lose weight (20%).

Aged over 65 years the reasons for wanting to do more include specific health reasons (13% for 65-74 year olds and 22% for 75 years +), and to socialise and meet new friends (4% for 65-74 year olds and 22% for 75 years +).

However, that 56% said that they can't or won't increase their level of activity because of work pressure (28%), the costs involved (17%), health issues (16%) and childcare issues (15%).

- **Barriers to participation**

63% of the adult population (51,452) stated that it is unlikely that they will increase the amount of activity they undertake because they don't have enough time (76%), have no personal motivation (76%) and direct costs are too high (73%), they can't

find appropriate class & activities (71%) and accessibility and quality are an issue (71%).

- **5-10 mile catchment**

89% of the population are willing to travel up to 10 miles to participate but 76% of the population will only travel up to 5 miles.

In the villages they are more prepared to travel up to 15 miles, depending on the availability of public transport.

4. Accessibility

Access for all, regardless of age or ability is an important part of the Wave Leisure philosophy. All of the centres cater for people with disabilities and limited mobility and they've been working hard in conjunction with Lewes District Council's Access Officer to implement all the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act to make the centres fully accessible. We also offer concessionary prices for gym, swim and classes.

Outlined below are the current facilities for customers and members with disabilities or limited mobility at each centre. In addition to this, all brochures can be made available in large print, audio tape or disk on request. Information is also available on their website (www.waveleisure.co.uk) which has been designed to be accessible for people with visual, hearing or other disabilities.

Downs Leisure Centre (Seaford)

- Parking spaces for people with disabilities
- Automatic entrance door
- Induction loop at reception and café
- Lowered reception counter
- Dedicated changing area with shower and toilet
- Range of gym machines for wheelchair users
- All facilities on a single floor

Lewes Leisure Centre

- Parking spaces for people with disabilities
- Automatic entrance door
- Induction loop at reception
- Dedicated changing areas with toilet and shower for both wet and dry activities
- Chair hoist access to main pool
- Range of gym machines for wheelchair users
- Combined disabled activity session

Peacehaven Leisure Centre

- Parking spaces for people with disabilities
- Lowered reception counter
- Dedicated changing area with shower and toilet
- Range of gym machines for wheelchair users
- All facilities on a single floor

Seahaven Swim & Fitness Centre (Newhaven)

- Automatic entrance door
- Lowered reception counter
- Dedicated changing area with shower and toilet
- Chair hoist access to main pool
- Ramp access to learner pool
- Range of gym machines for wheelchair users
- Lift to upper floor for gym, sunbed & viewing area

Shakespeare Hall

- Lift to upper & lower floors

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Whilst conducting this review, it has been difficult to find things that Wave could be doing more of. By the nature of the service, they aim to improve health and wellbeing across the whole community and will therefore have an impact upon all of the protected groups under the Equalities Act 2010.

What is clear, is that Wave take their responsibility to improve health and wellbeing seriously and whilst it would be simple for them to focus on the high-earning activities such as gym and swim, they use the income from memberships, along with the service fee, to ensure that the programme of other activities is varied and meets the needs of the community.

Wave, in conjunction with LDC, have identified the need to promote activity in the rural areas, recognising the health and social inequalities that exist. Future Annual Service Delivery Plans will be more focused on delivery to rural areas.

It is not clear from information on the website whether memberships are available to same sex couples – or what constitutes a couple or family. This information should be clearer.

Wave have done everything they can to ensure that the buildings are accessible, but it would be beneficial to consider providing a Changing Places space if any of the changing rooms are to be refurbished. However, my recommendation would be not to provide the facility in Seaford as the new library has the only designated Changing Places space within the district and it may be more beneficial to provide it at Peacehaven or Lewes.