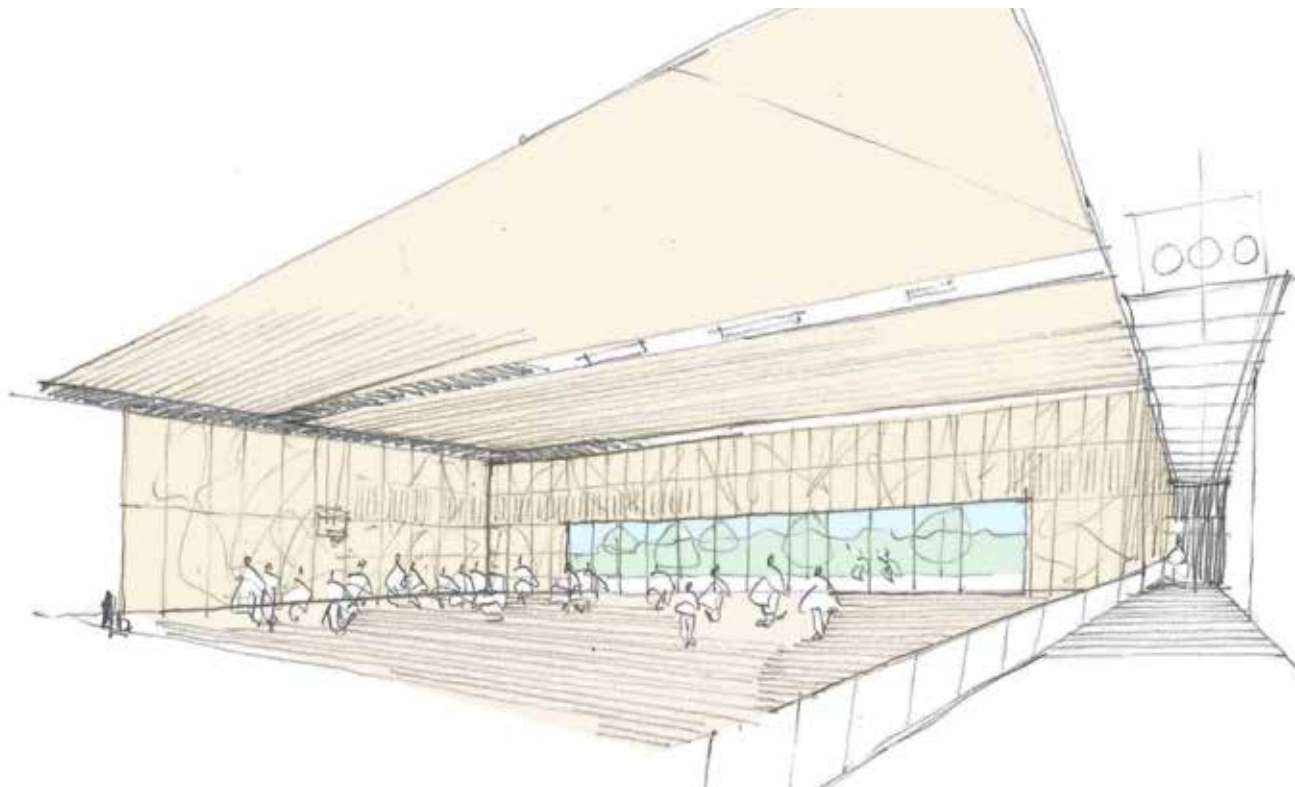


Our vision for sport & leisure



The good health and well-being of Winchester residents is a priority for Winchester City Council. In particular, we are committed to providing state-of-the-art sport and leisure facilities to meet the needs of the residents we serve. No matter what your age, ability or background – we would like to encourage an active lifestyle for all.

Part of our council strategy for sport and leisure includes replacing River Park Leisure Centre, now 40 years old, with a new sport and leisure facility. Plans are well underway and we are making significant progress on the development at Bar End.

We have listened carefully to local people, including those who currently use sport and leisure facilities, and taken into

account the needs of communities across the district and its growing population.

Stride Treglown, in conjunction with LA architects and The Sports Consultancy, have worked with the various communities to develop an outline vision for a modern sporting venue that will serve the district for many years.



GETTING ACTIVE: WHAT WORKS FOR YOU?

The Council has recently completed a sport facilities needs assessment. You can read the full report (which was part of a report taken to the Council's Cabinet on 13 November 2017) on our website.

To show our commitment to offering sustainable, state-of-the-art amenities, the new centre will feature:

- A 50-metre eight-lane swimming pool. A boom will allow the pool to be split into two 25-metre pools and a moveable floor over half of the pool will provide flexibility in the depth of the water. This means there can be lane-swimming in one half and aqua aerobics in the other. The full 50-metre pool will also be ideal for competitions and training.
- A 20-metre by 10-metre learner pool
- Splash pad and water confidence area
- A sports hall which can be divided into multi-use courts
- A Clip 'n' Climb / softplay facility
- Four squash courts with moveable walls to enable flexible usage
- Hydrotherapy suite part funded by The Pinder Trust
- Treatment or personal therapy rooms
- A fitness suite with 200 workout stations
- Two large studios

- A spin studio
- 250 spectator seats overlooking the main pool
- A café

Councillor Lisa Griffiths, Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-being, and Cabinet (Leisure Centre) Committee Chair said: "We are thrilled to be able to put forward the latest thinking for this important and exciting project. We're offering the people of Winchester district a state-of-the-art sport and leisure centre with a high specification

and excellent range of facilities, including a 50-metre pool. The centre's attractive park setting will provide a lovely vista for people to enjoy while swimming, exercising or engaging in sports at all levels and abilities.

"Our thanks to the many local people who are sharing their views with us, helping us to shape the new centre. We are looking forward to delivering a new facility which will represent a considerable boost to the enjoyment and well-being of local people."



THE POOL

We are especially pleased that the new centre will feature a 50-metre swimming pool. There was strong demand for this throughout our community engagement exercise, as swimming is a popular activity locally and can be enjoyed by all generations and abilities.

Our vision is to provide a first-class, flexible water sports venue for everyone to enjoy, and we see this as central to supporting happy and healthy communities.



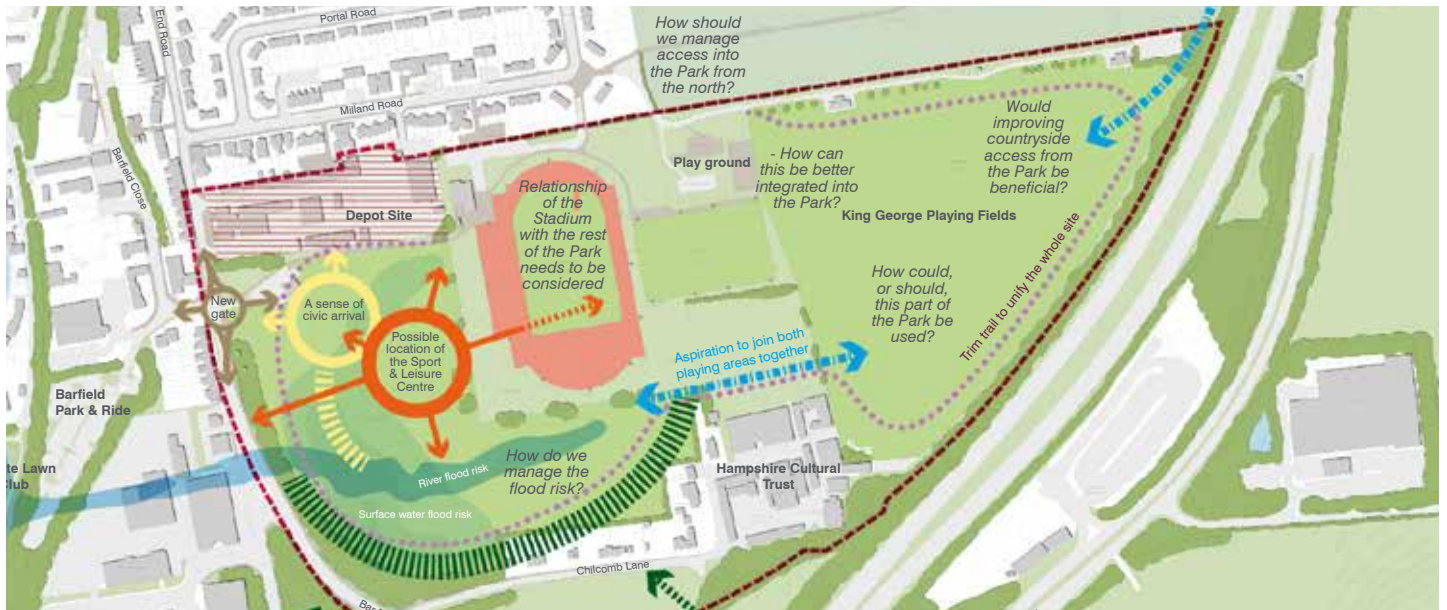
MULTI-USE SPORTS HALL

The new centre will include a multi-use indoor sports hall. Courts will be competition sized – meaning that they are designed to host many levels of play as well as being bookable by the general public for a wide range of events, supplemented by two additional multi-purpose studios.

Many sports can be accommodated including basketball, netball, handball, badminton, five-a-side football, korfbal, and gymnastics. Club-level as well as premier-level matches can be hosted due to the greater floor space allowance – where referees, judges and spectators can gather, and where players benefit from a buffer zone outside the actual play area.

Winchester has a good provision of sports courts across a number of local venues and so it was considered important that this new facility should be able to host official competitions. All courts will also be available for individuals to book timeslots to play their preferred indoor sport.

PARK LAND SETTING — A SAFE AND GREEN ENVIRONMENT



We also looked at the long-term vision of the entire site at Bar End, the centre itself, associated outdoor space and development areas.

Although we are prioritising the build of the new sport and leisure centre, we will also continue to seek views on our long-term vision for the park and surrounding landscape. We will be finding out what residents would like to see and trying to balance the development of the area to reflect the main themes arising from this feedback. Grass playing fields, artificial

grass pitches, children's play area, outside gym, nature trail, gardens, access to South Downs footpaths, and links to King George V and Garrison Ground have all been suggested as potential features. Final plans will be developed according to affordability and will need to complement the landscape.

It has become clear that people would like the new building to take full advantage of its park setting – with views over open green spaces that are sympathetically landscaped.

Strong opinions have been expressed that any new development should not increase the risk of flooding. This is therefore a key consideration in the design of the building.

The building design will be a leading example of energy efficiency. It will make optimum use of natural light, and building materials will keep the centre warm in winter and cool in summer. Also, special UV cleansing technology will be used to ensure the quality of the swimming pool water.

INVOLVING COMMUNITY AND SPORTS GROUPS

During summer 2017 over 500 people attended drop-in sessions where they were able to view story boards, speak with the architects and share their wish-lists for the centre and park. Over 900 survey responses were received from residents and users.

It was clear from our discussions that people are passionate about having great local sports amenities. Overall support for the development was clearly voiced, along with three main messages:

- Accessibility for all – both in terms of physical access, parking and affordability.
- Environmental issues were also frequently raised, particularly with regard to flood risks.
- Transport – public transport links need to be frequent and ensure the safety of other users who come on foot or by bike.

We are addressing these issues. For example, geo-technical and hydrological surveys are underway to help us understand the below-ground conditions at the site. This will help determine the civil engineering design and take into consideration flood risks when designing the main building.

We have spoken directly with over 200 sports clubs as it was crucial to gain an understanding of their views and preferences. They have been updated with plans for the new building, and a briefing meeting at the end of September enabled clubs to feed into the process.

We are extremely grateful to the disability access group which is advising us on meeting the needs of people with accessibility challenges. This exercise is being facilitated by an accessibility specialist from LA architects, who has first-hand experience of the importance of overcoming barriers to ensure everyone can access sporting opportunities.

Our evidence base demonstrated a level of demand across the district which could be met by an eight-court facility at Bar End.

Having presented a proposal based on an eight-court model, feedback indicated a strong desire among some interest groups for a higher number of courts.

As a result, we are currently reviewing options for the provision of further courts.

More opportunities to discuss our plans will be available over the coming weeks. Details can be found on the back page.



MOVEMENT AND TRANSPORT LINKS

How will people get to, from, and around the new centre? These are important considerations that have been raised during our engagement activities. We are working hard to ensure that our designs feature safe and easy transport links, whether people are travelling on foot, by bike, public transport or car.

THE BUSINESS CASE

The new development must be financially and economically viable – in other words it must be able to pay for itself.

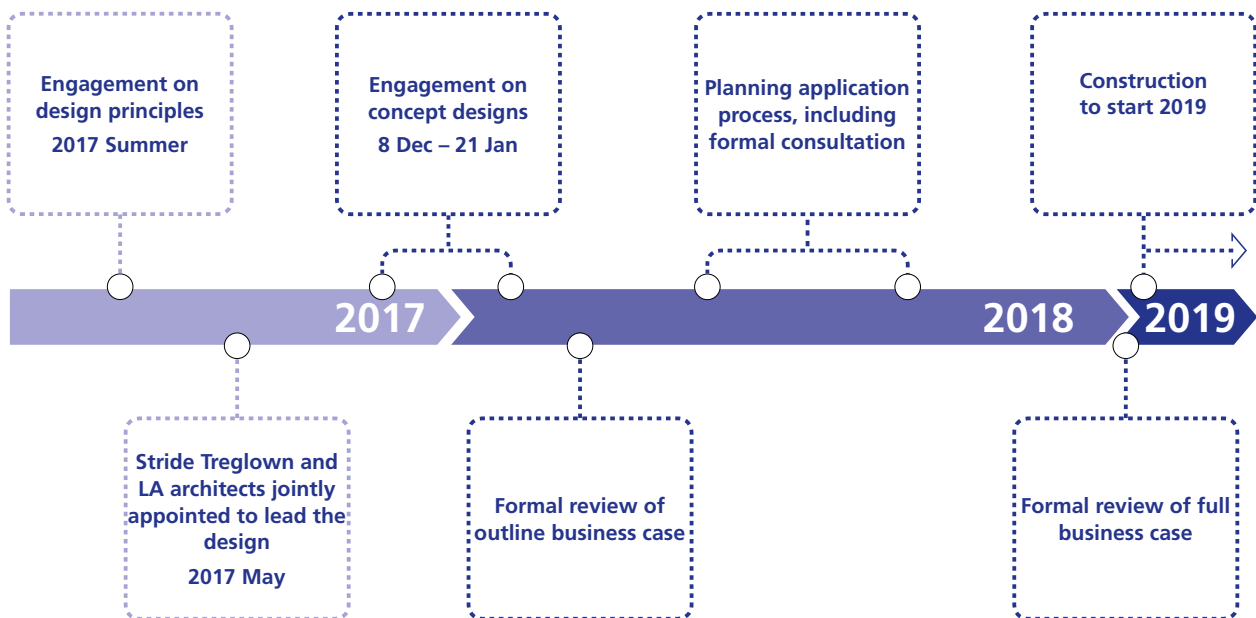
There are certain issues such as ground conditions and the mitigation of drainage risk that cannot be fully understood until work has begun.

PARTNERSHIPS

We are especially pleased to be working in collaboration with the University of Winchester and The Pinder Trust, a grant-giving charity supporting disabled people in Hampshire, which are contributing financially to the project.

Other partners are involved in the delivery of this project and we are in discussions with Hampshire County Council and the Ministry of Defence with regard to potential use of other facilities.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN?



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

During the next phase of our public engagement we will be sharing concept designs for the new sport and leisure centre building, and seeking further views regarding the development of the whole park. We will exhibit story boards and invite the public to meet the design team.

All feedback will be welcome via questionnaires which can be completed online or on paper.

Drop-in exhibitions are scheduled as follows:

- Friday 8 December at River Park Leisure Centre from 3pm to 7:30pm
- Saturday 9 December at the Guildhall from 10am to 4pm
- Tuesday 12 December at Bar End Sports Stadium from 3pm to 8pm
- Saturday 6 January at the Guildhall from 10am to 4pm
- The final date for the Winchester Sport & Leisure Park engagement is Wednesday 17 January 2018. Bishops Waltham, The Kings Church, High St, SO32 1AA 10.00am – 1.00pm
- Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley Way, Fareham PO15 7LJ 2.30pm – 5.30pm

To register your interest and receive updates or submit comments, please email: consultation@stridetreglown.com

WE WELCOME ALL FEEDBACK