

Oxford Leisure Partnership Board Zoom meeting
Maria and Carlot Blanck Cook 44 Commission

Wednesday 31st March 2021 14:30pm			
	Initials:	Project Role	
Oxford City Council:			
Ian Brooke	IB	Head of Community Services	
Cllr Linda Smith	CLS	Board Member for Leisure & Parks	
Cllr Steve Goddard	CSG	Shadow Board Member	
Fusion Lifestyle:			
Gregg Holland	GH	Fusion Regional Business Manager	
Graham Ashby	GA	Oxford Contract Manager	
Representatives:			
Suzanne Jeffery	SJ	British Ice Skating Association	
Margaret Simpson	MS	Older Persons Representative	
Philippa Muir	PM	Hinksey User Group Representative	
Ruth James	RJ	Ferry User Group Representative	
Nicola Brown	NB	City of Oxford Swimming Club	
Jo Mundy	JM	Oxford City Stars	
Jane De Lange	JD	Oxford Ice Rink	
James Morbin	JB	Leys Pools & Leisure Centre	

**Apologies for absence:** Lucy Cherry - Leisure And Performance Manager

# **Oxford City Council update**

OCC continue to work closely with Fusion to start to reopen facilities from the 12<sup>th</sup> April in line with the changes in restrictions. A press release has been sent out detailing the plans for reopening Leisure Centres in Oxford.

Locality Resource Hubs continue to be embedding well to target local communities and help support local issues.

OCC are working hard and closely with health colleagues, on vaccination and testing and community support.

Some of Fusion's furloughed colleagues have been supporting the front line delivery work for a city based Asymptomatic Testing Centre.

### **Fusion Update**

Hinksey Pool reopened on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021, which was much appreciated by its users. Some maintenance issues were discovered which caused the water to be unheated for the opening but this has now been rectified.

PM raised issues by the Hinksey User Group and they have been noted by Fusion GA **Action: any that have not been rectified will be shortly**.

PM also wanted to express the User Group gratitude to OCC and Fusion for opening Hinksey earlier this year.

#### From the:

- 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 more Oxford leisure facilities will reopen under operational restraints
- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 indoor group exercise classes can resume
- 21st June the aim is for the Oxford offering to be back to near normal.

A recruitment drive led by GA will run in Oxford to replace employees lost during lockdown through redundancy's and furloughed staff seeking new employment.

GH stated that projections for usage across Fusion have had to be constantly rewritten to try and get an accurate projection of figures. This is being done alongside the Local Authorities Fusion is partnered with.

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## Discussion

SJ and SG asked Fusion whether it would be possible to open the Ice Rink sooner in line with the Ice Rink Managers Association guidance as other Rinks are planning to. *Action: GA and GH agreed to meet with SJ and SG to discuss how they can work towards a way to reopening earlier*.

MS fed back issues from users around changing facilities being closed at sites and concerns around indoor activities she suggested many over 50's would prefer outdoor activities instead. GA said that both OCC and Fusion are working hard to increase outdoor activities that they are able to facilitate. The outdoor gym and exercises classes are already running at Hinksey heated Outdoor Pool and the Council Go Active Outdoor programme continues to be popular.

### <u>AOB</u>

Fusion have appointed 2 new General Managers for Hinksey heated Outdoor Pool and Barton Leisure Centre and Ferry Leisure Centre.

Next meeting: TBC Action: LC

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