AGENDA ITEM NO 19
REPORT NO 513/11

ANGUS COUNCIL
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE – 18 AUGUST 2011
PLEDGE – 2 – SWIM INITIATIVE
REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

ABSTRACT: This report recommends that the Committee agrees to the ‘Pledge-2-Swim’ initiative being introduced in Angus.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

1.1 It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Services Committee:-
   (i) agrees to the work being carried out to introduce the ‘Pledge-2-Swim’ Initiative;
   (ii) notes that a further report will be prepared to fully inform Members of progress and
        the final operational requirements to establish the initiative across Angus.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Swimming is one of the basic fundamental skills for physical activity and it is also a
    fundamental ‘life’ skill.

2.2 Some of the Angus pools could be programmed differently to maximise utilisation and could
    provide the opportunities to consider the introduction of this new initiative.

2.3 It is proposed that this initiative is introduced which will ensure that all children completing
    primary education within Angus have the ability to swim 2 lengths of their local pool.

2.4 It has been considered by the Leisure profession as a potential new Statutory Performance
    Indicator.

3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Early discussions have taken place with Education to consider issues and logistics and these
    discussions will continue to include the involvement of Scottish Swimming.

3.2 The Angus Swimming Development Group and the Regional Sports Partnership will also be
    consulted on the proposals to ensure that the potential for wider rollout can be explored

3.3 The initiative would be targeted to the young weak and non-swimmers allowing resources to
    be concentrated to this area of specific need

3.4 An integral part of the initiative would be the introduction of a ‘Certificate of Competency’
    which could be issued by our staff or the swimming clubs in Angus to young swimmers who
    have already achieved the minimum standard of 2 lengths

3.5 The initiative would be delivered as part of the curriculum and supplemented by evening and
    weekend access to the High School Pools

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no Financial Implications arising from this report as only staff time will be involved
    at this stage and, therefore, this will be contained within existing resources.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.
6. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The issues dealt with within this report have been the subject of consideration from the equalities perspective (as required by the legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7. **ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN AND SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

7.1 The introduction of this initiative would link to the following Local Outcomes within the Angus Single Outcome Agreement:-

- Achieving: Children and young people in Angus will have access to positive learning environments and opportunities to develop their skills, confidence and self-esteem to the fullest potential;

- The health of the Angus population is improved;

- Healthy: Children and young people in Angus will enjoy the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, with access to suitable healthcare and support for safe and healthy lifestyle choices;

- Active: Children and young people in Angus will be active with opportunities and encouragement to participate in play and recreation, including sport.

8. **CONSULTATION**

8.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report

_RON ASHTON_  
DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.