

ANGUS COUNCIL

CONTRACT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 29 MAY 2001
RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – 31 MAY 2001

LEISURE FACILITIES' USER FIGURES APRIL 2000 - MARCH 2001

JOINT REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION SERVICES &
CONTRACT SERVICES MANAGER

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the current usage levels within the various leisure facilities operated by Angus Council.

1 BACKGROUND

The respective Committees have requested that usage figures be reported on a regular basis. The period covered by this report is the financial year April 2000 to March 2001.

2 USER DETAILS

The numbers using the facilities are detailed below along with comparative figures for the previous year.

Leisure Centres	April 1999 - March 2000	April 2000 - March 2001	Variance %
Lochside Leisure Centre, Forfar	126,835	115,496	-8.94%
Carnoustie Leisure Centre	118,386	110,496	-6.66%
Brechin Leisure Centre	45,758	47,426	3.65%
Saltire Leisure Centre, Arbroath	88,531	91,663	3.54%
Forfar Swimming Pool	74,485	80,261	7.75%
Montrose Swimming Pool	106,998	106,146	-0.80%
Brechin High School Pool	11,579	11,666	0.75%
Carnoustie High School Pool	8,621	6,103	-29.21%
Monifieth High School Pool	4,644	3,414	-26.49%
Montrose Sports Centre	111,856	112,484	0.56%
Arbroath Sports Centre	264,545	300,131	13.45%
Webster's Sports Centre, Kirriemuir	192,894	182,575	-5.35%
Arbroath Sports & Community Centre	44,278 <u>77,487</u>	42,180 <u>81,211</u>	-4.74% <u>4.81%</u>
Outdoor Recreations	<i>1,276,897</i>	<i>1,291,252</i>	<i>1.12%</i>
TOTAL			

Members are advised that the new Leisure Management Information System is operational at the nine major leisure facilities and the recording of use is now standardised across all facilities. In some instances this has meant reported increase in use due to the recording of attendances where an individual can be recorded as more than one attendance depending on the duration of the visit, i.e. someone attending for two hours is now recorded as two separate attendances. This is to align with the requirement to report on the Statutory Performance Indicator of average attendance per opening hour.

The main variances over the period are at Lochside Leisure Centre due to reductions in club use, all weather court use and a drop in aerobic use. Webster Sport Centre experienced difficulties in the areas of swimming and swimming lessons, they also had an extended closure in January 2001 for work on the expansion joints in the pool. All the above areas are now being addressed.

Usage of recreational facilities was also affected by adverse weather conditions in the early part of 2001.

Country Parks	April 1999 - March 2000	April 2000 - March 2001	Variance %
Crombie Country Park	111,760	76,387	-31.65%
Forfar Loch Country Park	163,660	171,743	4.94%
Monikie Country Park	191,911	137,469	-28.37%
Angus Glens Ranger Service	75,808	56,749	-25.14%
Montrose Basin Local Nature Reserve- Visitor Centre	<u>11,434</u>	<u>10,316</u>	<u>-9.78%</u>
TOTAL	554,573	452,664	-18.38%

The Countryside operation was severely affected by the foot and mouth crisis with Crombie & Monikie both being completely closed for a number of weeks to the public. Forfar Loch is accessible all around the loch and was therefore unable to be closed to the public

The Angus Glens and Montrose Basin operations had restrictions placed on them due to foot and mouth, which again resulted in reductions of visitors to these areas.

Caravan Parks	April 1999 - March 2000 (Pitch Nights)	April 2000 - March 2001 (Pitch Nights)	Variance %	April 2000 - March 2001 (People)
Lochside Caravan Park, Forfar	9,455	9,579	+ 13%	24,124
Woodlands Caravan Park, Carnoustie	4,869	5,312	+ 9%	9,503
South Links Caravan Park, Montrose	<u>4,112</u>	<u>3735</u>	- 9%	<u>9,708</u>
TOTAL	18,436	18,626		43,335

The figures April 2000 – March 2001 for the caravan parks now record the number of people attending the sites as well as the number of caravans and tents on site.

This change was to be more consistent with the overall report, which records visitor numbers (people) in all the other areas.

However, the number of pitch nights at the 3 sites (18,626) showed an increase over the previous year's figure (18,436).

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

5. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and the Director of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

M P GRAHAM
CONTRACT SERVICES MANAGER
SERVICES

J R ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF RECREATION

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 any material extent in preparing this report.