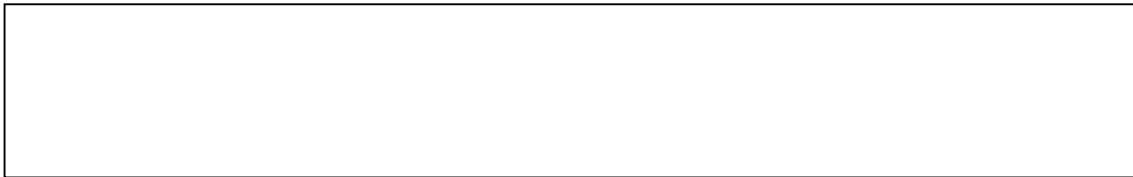


ANGUS COUNCIL

**RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – 16 November 2000
CONTRACT SERVICES COMMITTEE - 14 November 2000**

LEISURE FACILITIES' USER FIGURES APRIL 2000 - SEPTEMBER 2000

**JOINT REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION SERVICES AND
CONTRACT SERVICES MANAGER**



1. BACKGROUND

The Recreation and Cultural Services and Contract Services Committees have requested that usage figures be reported on a regular basis. The period covered by this report is for the first six months period, April 2000 to September 2000.

2. USER DETAILS

The numbers using the facilities are detailed in Appendix 1 along with comparative figures for the previous 2 years.

From December 1999 attendance for the leisure facilities was recorded through the new Leisure Management Information System. This has led to difficulties over the transitional period in comparing on a like for like basis the usage patterns over previous years. However, now that a standard system is in place across all leisure facilities, our ability to accurately monitor usage and trends will now be considerably enhanced. The system now in place will be used for production of Performance Indicators and Benchmarking purposes. This will allow us to closely monitor continuous improvement in our move towards achieving Best Value.

Individual variations at individual facilities can be attributed to:-

- Carnoustie Leisure Centre and Carnoustie High School Pool usage is down on previous years. It is felt that this is due to the additional competition in the area both from the private sector and from the limited opening of Monifieth High School Pool. The decline at Carnoustie Leisure Centre is being addressed, and we are seeking additional investment to improve and update the facilities. This will allow us to compete with the other local providers and hopefully secure our place in the leisure market.
- Lochside Leisure Centre usage decline is mainly due to the relocation of aerobics and roller blading groups to other venues.

- Variations at Brechin Leisure Centre and Saltire Leisure Centre are due to increased use from the operation of the outdoor multi purpose courts.
- The increases at Forfar Swimming Pool, Arbroath Sports Centre and Brechin High School Pool can be attributed in part to the additional promotion of swimming lessons through the new national “Learn to Swim” syllabus and increased educational use.
- The overall increased use at the Caravan Parks can be attributed, in part, to increased advertising to a wider audience as well as the knock on effect from the successes of our marketing campaign on the back of the Open Golf Championship.
- The overall figure for the use of the High School Pool in Carnoustie has declined, although some displacement of users from Carnoustie to the Monifieth operation for this year was expected.
- Outdoor recreation areas across Angus were once again subject to the variations in weather. Construction works primarily by NoSWA at West Links, Arbroath also limited the use. There are no figures contained here for the Montrose Seafront Splash area, this is a free play area and has proven to be extremely popular. Usage patterns for 2001 will be closely monitored and reported at a future date.

3. CONSULTATION

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

J R ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF RECREATION SERVICES

M P GRAHAM
CONTRACT SERVICES MANAGER

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.

APPENDIX 1

	1998/99 (Period 1-6) (26 weeks) adjusted	1999/00 (26 weeks)	2000/01 (26 weeks)
Lochside Leisure Centre	49882	70245	57518
Carnoustie Leisure Centre	58077	55617	53258
Brechin Leisure Centre	16400	17403	21023
Saltire Leisure Centre	38316	37736	40603
Forfar Swimming Pool	36304	36027	44034
Montrose Swimming Pool	55289	52995	54152
Arbroath Sports Centre	137682	130200	174569
Montrose Sports Centre	43135	44595	47207
Websters Sports Centre	73368	85141	86481
Brechin High School Pool	7623	5195	5831
Carnoustie High School Pool	6110	5314	3240
Monifieth High School Pool	0	3837	2687
Outdoor Recreations	67989	73404	65607
Lochside Caravan Park	6975	7814	8166
South Links Caravan Park	2760	4044	3735
Woodlands Caravan Park	3952	4703	5132
TOTAL	603860	634270	673243