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 Committee has requested that usage figures be reported on a regular basis. The period covered by this report is the financial year April 2004 to March 2005.

2 USER DETAILS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arbroath Sports Centre</td>
<td>270,750</td>
<td>301,269</td>
<td>11.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brechin Leisure Centre</td>
<td>55,659</td>
<td>56,619</td>
<td>1.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnoustie Leisure Centre</td>
<td>134,562</td>
<td>128,481</td>
<td>-4.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forfar Swimming Pool</td>
<td>78,690</td>
<td>85,123</td>
<td>8.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lochside Leisure Centre, Forfar</td>
<td>135,990</td>
<td>135,794</td>
<td>-0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montrose Sports Centre</td>
<td>139,080</td>
<td>137,871</td>
<td>-0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montrose Swimming Pool</td>
<td>103,193</td>
<td>99,474</td>
<td>-3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltire Leisure Centre, Arbroath</td>
<td>101,779</td>
<td>117,379</td>
<td>15.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webster's Sports Centre, Kirriemuir</td>
<td>169,953</td>
<td>182,036</td>
<td>7.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brechin High School Pool</td>
<td>8,252</td>
<td>8,549</td>
<td>3.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carnoustie High School Pool</td>
<td>4,925</td>
<td>6,878</td>
<td>39.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monifieth High School Pool</td>
<td>6,451</td>
<td>5,375</td>
<td>-16.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Recreations</td>
<td>94,737</td>
<td>82,536</td>
<td>-12.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football Pitches</td>
<td>27,009</td>
<td>29,837</td>
<td>10.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,331,030</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,377,221</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.47</strong></td>
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</table>

- **Arbroath Sports Centre**
  - Main areas of improved attendance were coached adults up 45%. (Due to Body Training Systems (BTS))
  - Club use up 7%
  - Fitness suite use up 18%
  - Spectator numbers up 43%
  - Outdoor pitch/athletics use up 44%
  - A minor increases in football use, birthday parties, private aerobics, swimming lessons and public swimming.
Unfortunately, a large part of the increase appears to be down to an error in the school admissions. This was due to an input error in May 2004.

- **Brechin Leisure Centre**
  - Main areas of improved attendance were coached adults up 16.6%. (Due to BTS systems)
  - Fitness Suite up 5%
  - Football up 4%
  - Clubs were down 17%
  - All weather use down 19% (mainly due to poor summer compared to previous year)

- **Carnoustie Leisure Centre**
  - Usage down 4% (Private Nursery and Private Dance School no longer use Carnoustie Leisure).

- **Forfar Swimming Pool**
  - General swimming attendance up due to slight increase in public sessions
  - Fitness suite user figures up due to increase customer awareness due to promotions and marketing
  - Attendance to holiday clubs picking up due to more effective marketing
  - Introduced new water aerobics teacher reintroduction of classes.

- **Lochside Leisure Centre**
  - Tennis Courts down due to bad weather throughout season
  - Birthday parties admissions down partly due to less parties being booked but also party numbers are lower due to user restriction on inflatables
  - Adult coaching down trend in daytime classes, however, we have had an upsurge with new Body Training Systems (BTS). Longer summer/Christmas recess affected numbers
  - Club admissions down inline hockey clubs numbers declining rapidly kids have grown out of sport. Longer summer/Christmas recess by gymnastic clubs

- **Montrose Sports Centre**
  - Badminton down by 10%
  - Football down by 10%
    - This is due to more space in the games hall being utilised for centre run classes e.g. trampoline, BODYATTACK (BTS), Phase 4 & NOF funded classes
  - Private Aerobics down 4.5% due to an instructor giving up classes
  - Coached Adult (centre run classes) up 86%. This is due to launch of Body Training systems (BTS) Yogafit & Phase 4.
  - Coached Junior (centre run classes) up by 11%
  - Clubs up 12% due to increased usage by MAGIC (gymnastic club)
  - Fitness suite remaining almost identical to last year. This is good bearing in mind the increased school usage of this area during the day.
  - Schools down 3.5%
  - Squash down 7%. There is a general downward trend nationally in his sport
  - All other down 13%. This is a general catch all group which covers attendances for events, meetings etc. Also includes other main hall activities which again will be down due to more time being used by centre run classes

- **Montrose Swimming pool**
  - Birthday parties down 15%
  - Parent and child lessons down 22%
  - Clubs down 16%
  - Swim school down by 8%
  - Fitness suite down by 23%
  - Solarium down by 20%
  - Gen swim down by 2%
  - All others down by 38%
  - Over the past year the pool has been closed for periods due to staff shortages, major maintenance issues and an ongoing problem with the fitness suite air handling unit has resulted in lower user figures also there has been a drop in attendance in the vintage club.
- **Saltire Leisure Centre**
  - Fitness Suite increased by 11.11%
  - Health Suite increased by 21.02%
  - Club Usage increased by 16.68%, despite fewer clubs
  - Exercise Referral increased by 70.89%
  - Schools/College increased by 18.13%
  - Adult Aerobics up due to Body Training Systems (BTS).
  - Introduction of Phase IV Cardiac classes
  - Increased attendance at Midnight Football Sessions
  - Holiday Club/Party Bookings attendances increased
  - High Direct Debit sales/usage has contributed to the increase in attendances

- **Webster’s Sport Centre**
  - Adult Lessons up due to more use/awareness by customers as they use other activities especially parents bringing their children to the Learn to Swim programme
  - General use through Inflatables, gym use, aquafit classes, holiday activities small meeting room new Weight Management Classes. All showing increase use
  - Badminton up due to increase in customers trying new activities possibly through Direct Debit
  - Coached Adult up- Body Training Systems (BTS) classes introduced Body Pump/Body Attack
  - Clubs up- new Volleyball Club booking
  - Football (indoor) up as bad weather does help increase indoor football use
  - GP Referrals up consistent developing of new referrals
  - Outdoor Areas up as more public use of the outdoor playing fields
  - School Use up due to increase in School Roll 2004/05
  - Swimming up, new SASA Courses x2, adults swims up, pool parties up
  - Direct Debit Option new Sales up, general increase in use
  - Introduction of Phase IV Cardiac classes
  - Increased attendance at Midnight Football Sessions
  - Holiday Club/Party Bookings attendances increased
  - High Direct Debit sales/usage has contributed to the increase in attendances

- **Brechin High School Pool**
  - Lessons up by 6.6% (one extra class added on a Tuesday and Thursday evening)
  - BHS sports hall up by 63% (being used for football more regularly at weekends and holidays)
  - Swims down by 4.5%

- **West Links Outdoor Recreations**
  - Attendances down mainly due to wet weather which means facilities are waterlogged and unable to operate
  - Road Train was off the road for approximately 3 weeks during peak season due to maintenance issues
  - There were approximately 5 days throughout the 2004 season when the facilities could not open at all due to inclement weather

- **Montrose Outdoor Recreation**
  - Down by 13% due to poor weather conditions over season
  - Pavilion closed January to March 2005 for renovations

- **Lochside Outdoor Recreations**
  - Outdoor Recreations were not opened properly at Forfar until peak hours (end of June) as there was a major hold up with Staffing Disclosure checks.
  - Very bad summer weather also accounted for drop in admissions
  - Pitch and Putt course also requires some reinvestment to bring course up to standard, which will in turn encourage public to make use of course

- **Lochside Football Pitches**:
  - Teams still using pitches without appearing or paying for permits, there is no supervision of football pitches in this area.
- **Brechin Pitches**
  - Up by 20%
- **Montrose Football pitches**
  - Down 68% due to teams not playing on pitches due to rabbit holes
  - Pitches now taken out of use
  - Some teams use pitches without buying permits

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crombie Country Park</td>
<td>96,870</td>
<td>95,743</td>
<td>-1.16</td>
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<td>Forfar Loch Country Park</td>
<td>160,954</td>
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<td>Monikie Country Park</td>
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<td>166,554</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angus Glens Ranger Service</td>
<td>69,325</td>
<td>76,964*</td>
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<td>Montrose Basin Local Nature Reserve Visitor Centre</td>
<td>8,880</td>
<td>6,955</td>
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<td>-21.23</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>496,327</td>
<td>513,736</td>
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* Angus Glens figure is for five months is 38,482 and an annual figure has been estimated at double this figure. A new counter has been installed and figures have yet to be downloaded for the last seven months. The variation in the figures for the Glens is due to a 4-month closure for renovation works.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caravans</th>
<th>April 2003 - March 2004</th>
<th>April 2004 - March 2005</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Pitches)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodlands Caravan Park, Carnoustie</td>
<td>9,063</td>
<td>13,561</td>
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<td>49.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lochside Caravan Park, Forfar</td>
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<td>9,293</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Links Caravan Park, Montrose</td>
<td>7,111</td>
<td>8,001</td>
<td>12.52</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>25,660</td>
<td>30,855</td>
<td>20.25</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caravans</th>
<th>April 2003 - March 2004</th>
<th>April 2004 - March 2005</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(People)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodlands Caravan Park, Carnoustie</td>
<td>18,420</td>
<td>16,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lochside Caravan Park, Forfar</td>
<td>21,828</td>
<td>23,915</td>
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<td>South Links Caravan Park, Montrose</td>
<td>22,100</td>
<td>24,372</td>
<td>10.28</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>62,348</td>
<td>64,363</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Woodlands Caravan Park**
  - Usage down from down 12%
  - Pitches up by 49%.
  - We had more seasonal and residential caravans on site in 04/05 than we had in ¾. The vans are counted each night and the pitch usage recorded accordingly, however these there are times, especially in inclement weather where there is little or no attendance for these vans. This accounts for the downturn in attendance figures for 04/05.
- **Lochside Caravan Park**
Pitches:
  o Seasonal Pitch figures lower due to bad weather, fewer bookings, lack of hard standings
  o Tent’s figures lower due to bad weather and restrictions on how many tents allowed on site
  o We also have increased competition from Forester Seat Caravan Park—offering special deals to encourage our seasonal lets and casual business to try their site.
  o Disruptive behaviour of some local young people gathering around the area at night, involved in anti-social activities has discouraged some customers. Police have been involved, but still an ongoing problem

Users:
  • Up by 9% due to better recording of user figures and more families in caravans

**South Links Caravan Park**

Pitches:
  o Caravan up 5.5%
  o Seasonal up 43%
  o Tent’s down 16%

Users
  o Caravan up 1.5%
  o Seasonal up 53%
  o Tents down 18%

Increase in caravan & seasonal pitches due to new hook-up points being installed for 2004 season.

### 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.

JOHN ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE 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 any material extent in preparing this report.