

DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

DATE OF DECISION:	20 August 2018
DATE DECISION PUBLISHED	22 August 2018
DATE DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE and implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution 26 July 2018	31 August 2018

Cabinet Member: Councillor Craig ab Iago
Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Leisure

SUBJECT

Fees and payment for using the Leisure and Sports facilities by residents who are aged 70+ and Disabled Children.

DECISION

Approve changes to the fees and payments to use Leisure and Sports facilities for the year 2018/19, that will involve abolishing the Discounted Fitness 70+ Price and the Swimming Price for Disabled Children.

REASON WHY THE DECISION IS NEEDED

Please see attached officer report

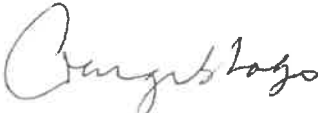
DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE

None

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Consultation with
Gwynedd Council Statutory Officers and Local Members.
The results of the consultations are reported upon in the attached report

DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL'S CABINET – OFFICER'S REPORT

Name and Title of Cabinet Member/s: **Councillor Craig ab Iago**
Name and Title of the Report's Author: **Amanda Davies, Managing Director, Cwmni Byw'n Iach.cyf**
Date of Decision: **20-08-18**
Cabinet Member/s Signature: 

Subject:

Fees and Payments for using the Leisure and Sports facilities by residents who are aged 70+ and Disabled Children

Recommendation for the Decision:

Approve changes to the fees and payments to use Leisure and Sports facilities for the year 2018/2019, that will involve abolishing the Discounted Fitness 70+ Price and the Swimming Price for Disabled Children.

The reason for the need for a Decision:

The Economy and Community Department reviews and sets fee levels for using the County's leisure and sports facilities annually in accordance with the Council's Fees and Prices Policy.

A review of the list of the Leisure Service's fees was undertaken in 2017/18. It was discovered that the structure contained hundreds of varying prices, was complicated and difficult for staff to implement and communicate, and for customers to understand.

Some simple improvements were implemented on 1 April 2018 when presenting the year's Fee Structure, e.g. amendments that did not mean a higher cost for users or pose a financial risk to the Service.

Rationale and justification for reaching the decision:

1. The Service is attempting to move to a simpler model of offering two different prices for each 'product'. The first price, namely the 'full price', will be paid unless the individual falls into one of the following categories eligible to offer the regular discounted price:
 - Children and Young People 0-24 years old
 - People over 60 years old
 - Disabled People

2. Two prices remain on the existing structure that prevents us from moving to the above simpler model, namely:
 - Fitness admission fee for people aged 70 and over, and
 - Swimming Fee for Disabled Children.

3. Due to the possible impact on groups with equality characteristics, an Equality Impact Assessment was carried out with the support of the Council's Equality Officer.

During the assessment, each individual who had taken advantage of one of the above prices during the past year was given an opportunity to note the impact the change would have on them.

4. In light of the Assessment, we recommend abolishing the 70+ Fitness Price, that would mean that all residents aged 60+ pay one regular discounted price, and abolish the Disabled Child Swimming price and offer free admission for Disabled Children to the service's swimming pools.

5. There is no substantial financial impact on the service. A small increase in income is expected as customers aged 70+ pay the new concessional price whilst a small loss of income is expected as children take advantage of the free swimming offer. Fewer than 40 children had paid the original fee in 2017/18.

6. The above changes will come into force on **1 October 2018**

Record of any personal interest by any Cabinet Member consulted and any dispensations approved by the Standards Committee:

Any consultations undertaken prior to making the Decision:

Chief Finance Officer –

"I understand that there will be no significant impact on the total relevant income, and I therefore support the proposal to simplify the fees."

Monitoring Officer –

" A logical response to revising the fee structure has been presented, which includes consideration in the form of an equality assessment. No comments in relation to propriety."