

## **Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Leisure**

**13 April 2021**

### **Leisure Centres Reopening**

As of yesterday, there has been a partial re-opening of our leisure centres in line with Government guidance to include gyms, swimming pools and the Toning Suite – all with restricted numbers. Further activities will come online as per the Governments roadmap. The centres will continue to operate Covid secure practices to keep customers and staff safe.

### **Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund**

Planning and preparations are taking place to implement the decarbonisation works at our leisure centres. As you will recall we were successful in obtaining a £4.72 million grant from the Government that will reduce our carbon emissions by 57%. It is planned for works to be completed by the end of this year.

### **Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre Developments**

As you know the works started at the beginning of February and the programme is progressing well and on time. Steel has been erected for the extensions, with some of the blockwork put in place. The works will take 30 weeks, reopening in September.

### **Take That Step – Adult Weight Management Scheme**

Helping people control and reduce their body weight continues to be important, maybe even more so, during the Pandemic. Our service has been significantly adapted to work around the obstacles presented by Covid-19, with remote support including virtual exercise and activity sessions, one to one telephone contact and remote group workshops, all in place. Over 60% of our clients have lost at least 5% of their bodyweight over the most recent 12-week period.

### **Hambleton Heroes**

We have had a very positive response to the Hambleton Heroes initiative with over 60 individuals or organisations being nominated for amazing acts of kindness and community support that have made such a difference to our residents during 2020. Letters of commendation from the Leader and Hambleton Heroes pin badges will be provided to all nominations for their fantastic contributions.

**Councillor Mrs Bridget Fortune**  
**Portfolio Holder for Leisure**