

# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Full Council  
**Date:** 19 December 2023  
**Subject:** Contracts, Service Delivery, and Improvements  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Ray Balcombe

---

## **Recommending:**

**The report of the Contracts, Service Delivery, and Improvements.**

---

## **Leisure Management:**

### **Free Swimming**

Places Leisure are offering a 'Free December Swimming Pass' for children receiving free school meals. In addition to the free swimming, each child who receives a free-swimming pass will also receive a free pair of Zoggs goggles (subject to availability).

### **Epping Leisure Centre**

Work on Epping's new leisure centre and swimming pool is about to start. The new Epping Leisure Centre will be the newest and most energy efficient in the district. As well as air-sourced heat pumps and digital technology, the centre will incorporate the highest levels of insulation into construction, keeping future energy bills and carbon emissions as low as possible.

Facilities in the new Epping Leisure Centre include:

- A main swimming pool
- A learner pool
- Sports hall
- Health and fitness gym
- Studios
- Squash Courts

Bakers Lane car park closed at midnight on Tuesday 14 November 2023. The site has been secured and banners advertising the new leisure centre are in place. A dedicated webpage has been developed on the EFDC's website, which will be regularly updated with progress of the construction. The web page can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/leisure/sports-and-leisure-centres/new-leisure-centre-development/>

Contractors have started on site survey works in preparation for construction to start next year. The new Epping Leisure Centre is estimated to open in 2025.

## **Waste Management:**

### **Future Delivery of Waste Services**

Good progress is being made with the three workstreams of the future delivery of waste services.

In terms of the workstreams, the set-up of the new EFDC owned waste company:

Detailed project documentation is all in place and updated regularly. Scoping work is being carried out with each of the support service leads offering support to the Waste Team. Various thematic working groups are in place and making good progress to ensure everything required for

the company to function and operate is in place. Legal and Governance work is all on track for the set-up of the company.

Regarding the Environmental Operations Hub at North Weald Airfield, full planning application has been submitted and invitation to tender documents have been issued to market for a contractor to construct the environmental operations hub. Construction to commence in early 2024.

Regarding the procurement of waste fleet vehicles, this is also underway, and documents issued to market for the supply and maintenance of the waste fleet. Evaluation of the bids will take place in December and contract awarded in January.