

GLL Meeting with Cornwall ASA and Cornwall Clubs

28th May 2019 at Victoria Inn, Roche.

Summary: Question and Answers from Clubs - Updated 9th July after meeting with GLL, Swim England and Cornwall ASA.

1. Do Councils still give out subsidies to support pool providers?

Council opted for a £0 subsidy contract when the contract last went out for tender and GLL won the contract. There is no flexibility from Cornwall Council on future subsidies.

2. What is the GLL contract in Cornwall worth to GLL?

Not at liberty to disclose figures as this is sensitive financial information not in the public domain, but the GLL contract is currently running at a £2 million loss.

3. Could GLL afford to lose income from Cornwall clubs?

GLL value the local clubs using the GLL pools in Cornwall and want to work in partnership to ensure the clubs and the pools are sustainable in the long term.

4. Will September 2019 increase be followed by subsequent increases?

Yes - Planned for April 2020 and April 2021 but GLL/Swim England and Cornwall ASA working together on measures to make the GLL pools more financially sustainable so any future price increases are minimised. James Curry agreed to push back next price increase after September 2019 to September 2020 to allow a greater lead time for clubs. Yes. First price increase due in September 2019 (pushed back from April 2019) and second planned for Sept 2020. Second price increase open for negotiation subject to outcome of partnership measures prior to that date.

5. Did GLL's tender include the £2 million pound deficit from previous contractor, Tempest?

Assumptions were made by GLL in order to submit their bid. GLL not given all the financial information from previous contractor.

6. Could GLL and local clubs work together to offer a clear pathway for swimmers from Learn to Swim to club environment.

Yes, potentially GLL and the Clubs could work together to ensure Learn to Swim programmes benefit both GLL and the local clubs. Both GLL and Swim England have Talent Lane projects aimed at establishing more formal links between Learn to Swim programmes and local clubs.

7. What other initiatives can GLL offer to resolve price increase?

Swim England, Cornwall ASA and GLL have discussed opportunities to work in partnership to ensure the long term sustainability of swimming in Cornwall. See Opportunities Summary for more details.

8. Do other areas in the country pay proportional fees?

GLL has lots of different contracts across the country, including many in other areas of social and economic deprivation. Austerity effects all of these contracts though. GLL pointed out that Cornwall clubs had not had a price increase for 5 years. **Each GLL contract is different and unique in relation to each area. No two areas or contracts are the same as each has its own unique circumstances.**

9. Is the price increase planned for September 2019 definitely going ahead?

Yes. Prices will increase from £10.50 per hour per lane to £13.50 per hour per lane (peak times). Future price increases in 2020 and 2021 are open for discussion based on outcomes of future partnership work.

10. Are you putting up public prices for use of GLL centres?

Yes. Fees for swimming clubs were protected for 18 months as part of the GLL contract agreement. Public swimming and gym memberships have already increased year on year for members.

11. Is there a chance for more pool time for clubs?

Potentially yes, but will differ centre to centre. GLL happy to look at pool reprogramming with each club/centre to see where current pool programmes can be amended. **GLL agreed they are happy for each club to meet with the each Centre Manager to discuss local needs. GLL will provide a framework for these discussions so there is some consistency across all sites.**

12. Are GLL General Managers at each centre empowered to make local financial decisions?

Yes to some extent they manage the day to day running of the centres but there needs to be a strategic approach across the county, region and nationally to ensure the overall needs of the business are met. S

13. Can pool fees be related to percentage of pool hired?

James Curry said GLL can look at the feasibility of this fee structure. **Pool fees are already changed per lane.**