

## Appendix 4

The Caerphilly Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2019-29 was the subject of a ten week consultation exercise from 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 until 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018. Of the 711 responses to the consultation survey:

- 86 indicated that the Leisure Centre closest to their home is Pontllanfraith
- 75 indicated that the Leisure Centre they use most often is Pontllanfraith
- Of these, 48 indicated that Pontllanfraith was both closest to their home and the leisure centre they use most often.

The responses of the 75 respondents who indicated in the consultation on the Caerphilly Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2019-29 that the Leisure Centre they use most often is Pontllanfraith are presented below.

### Interest in consultation (75 respondents but option to tick more than one response)

As a resident of Caerphilly county borough	72
As a local elected member	1
Representing a local sport club / organisation, please give details	8
As someone who works in Caerphilly county borough	14
As a local business person	3

### Are you a Leisure Lifestyle member? (71 respondents)

Yes	45	63%
No	26	37%

### In the last year, what kind of sport and active recreation activities have you taken part in? (75 respondents but option to tick more than one response)

Aqua fit	7	Swimming	51
Basketball	2	Team sports e.g. football, rugby	33
Climbing	1	Walking	29
Cycling	16	Water Sports e.g. canoeing	0
Fitness classes	31	Yoga	14
Gym	41	None	0
Racquet sport	27	Other, please specify	2
Running	14		

For questions below n=75

- 67% agree with Vision to encourage healthy lifestyles and support our residents to be more active, more often.
- 97% agree with outcome of Better Health
- 86% agree with outcome of Healthier and Prosperous Communities
- 46% agree with outcome of Securing a more efficient and financially sustainable future provision
- 44% agree with adopting the Welsh Government and Sport Wales Facilities Blueprint for Sport and Active Recreation
- 29% agree with adopting a decision making matrix for determining the provision of strategic Leisure facilities that are directly managed by the Sport and Leisure Service
- 46% agree with seeking clarity on the future swimming entitlement along with supporting the rationale for a sustainable programme of aquatic delivery also informing the need for future aquatic facilities
- 73% agree with developing a plan to enhance and maximise the impact of outdoor spaces, playing fields, parks and informal recreational spaces
- 69% agree with maximising the use of 3G facilities for school, community and weekend competitive use alongside the grass pitch network

**If you have disagreed with any of the statements relating to Facilities, please suggest an alternative way forward in the box below.**

A matrix approach doesn't consider the multiple benefits. Look at a WEll being goals and sustainable management principles approach instead
Again just fancy words. Please get the picture! Pontllanfraith needs to stay open.
again none of above can happen is leisure centers are closed
Although I appreciate the need to cut costs within Caerphilly, I feel that there has been a disregard to the community in and around the leisure centres in order to do this. After attending all of the consultation meetings, where many suggestions were put forward, none of them were listened to or considered. Perhaps call another meeting to listen to views.
Closing one of two swimming pools in the area will mean that Newbridge, which is already difficult to book a slot there will be even busier. Why not increase the prices slightly or increase Council Tax to cover any shortfall, with the amount raised through the increases to be ring-fenced so it can only be used to support the Leisure facilities in the borough
Cutting the management structure down will save far more money than closing leisure centers.
Further information needed to be able to comment on the above questions. The Welsh Assembly government is another non effective organisation. It is basically a "talking shop" with very poor quality AMs. Therefore it is unlikely to have a coherent, well thought out strategy while wasting money e.g. (M4 relief road and the impact on the coastal wetlands).

I can't play badminton in a community centre, health centre, library or church! Many people, like me, enjoy hobbies that require particular sporting facilities and equipment. Current leisure centres can't cope with the demand for racket sports and field sports... what shall we all do, take up yoga and hiking??

Keep ALL of the sport and recreation facilities that we have right now as it is working look elsewhere for your budget cuts. As for trying to shut any leisure facilities i think that it is outrageous. Family live next to pontllanfraith and its always busy daily should update the parking there as it manic there are people parking in the streets and walking over. And for Cefn forrest i have friends and their kids have swimming lessons there and is also a well used leisure centre so these two are a no brainer to keep them OPEN!!!

Keep Pontllanfraith LC open

Massive new housing development should mean leisure services should be protected not just in the Caerphilly area. But also Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest areas, especially the scale of new development!

Matrix adoption is corporate speak for getting things to fit in with the planned desired required outcome. Knowing the community you serve is paramount, all wards and districts. for example Pontllanfraith. Keeping the Leisure Centre open. Developing a plan is not sufficient, this ought to be in place already after listening to the whole community needs. Either the existing plan is not robust or the department heads efficiency and vision need to re-evaluated with those who have a vision of provision of services to all in the community.

More needed. Not enough at present

PLEASE PROVIDE THE REPORT IF YOU ARE GOING TO QUOTE IT!

Pontllanfraith 3G is well used and the removal of this would be detrimental to local clubs and residents health and well being

Pontllanfraith is always and already fully booked!!

Ref Swimming facilities we have an aged pool at Risca and Newbridge closing one at Cefn Fforest?

Significant housing growth is not just confined to the south west of the borough. The measurement factors as set out in the report are purely arbitrary and ignore the tens of thousands that use the other centres notably Cefn Fforest and Pontllanfraith.

Stop selling off any "surplus" land for development in certain areas and invest in education, communities and leisure instead. What's the point and basis of building thousands of more homes when the County Borough no longer has the infrastructure, schools, hospitals, GP surgeries and provisions to deal with the increase in population???!?

This questionnaire has been deliberately worded to ?? the Council's own already decided outcome!

We already have swimming and 3G facilities available locally - keep them!

Why hasn't the plan been developed?

Your form is getting to complicated by the second .. a disgrace in fact .. I do not want the centres closed so whichever answers that might make this happen I chose

**What do you feel would be the impact on you of rationalising facilities so that the Council's Sport and Leisure service directly manages 4 strategic leisure centres located in Risca, Caerphilly, and Newbridge and one in the Bargoed/Aberbargoed areas with other leisure centres either transferring to school management (if they are joint use facilities located on a school site, subject to governing body approval) or closing completely.**

- 99% negative impact

**Please outline what you feel the impact would be on you of rationalising facilities so that the Council's Sport and Leisure service directly manages 4 strategic leisure centres located in Risca, Caerphilly, and Newbridge and one in the Bargoed/Aberbargoed areas with other leisure centres either transferring to school management (if they are joint use facilities located on a school site, subject to governing body approval) or closing completely.**

- Facilities need to be high quality and available year-round. - As a family we are involved in 3 sports clubs that would be directly affected and would likely have to close due to reduced and unavailable facilities, impacting on mental and physical wellbeing. - Travelling time to new strategic centre will directly impact the amount of time that I can spend there, making it not a viable option. Also will increase traffic and pollution in the county - not a good, healthy outcome for anyone!

As a non driver I would find it hard to visit any of the proposed centres.

Be horrendous. More obesity . More anti social behaviour with youths not having clubs, facilities in their area to go and enjoy outdoor , indoor activities and realise the benefits of sport , exercise. People already playing sport will give up due to travel problems , unable to get there thus teams folding due to numbers . There are not enough facilities now to go round . If more close will have a massive detrimental effect on whole communities.

Caerphilly and Newbridge are already busy and over subscribed therefore I avoid using these facilities. They're not user friendly and can be intimidating. Not everybody has the access to public transport - for example to get to Newbridge I would either have to catch 2 trains on way, one to Cardiff Queen Street then change to go to Newbridge. If I caught a bus it would mean 3 bus journeys one way!! Risca - it would take half a day and half a months wages the cost of public transport (which is also extremely unreliable (bus service)).

Closing Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest would have a massive negative impact. Closing Pontllanfraith in particular will see the loss of a leisure centre 3G pitch and outdoor playing pitches. Local schools do not have the capacity or facilities and if this strategy is adopted I will be denied access to sport.

Closing Pontllanfraith leisure centre will have a negative impact on my life, the community and the village as it is used on a regular basis. Losing this leisure centre will have a negative impact on the identity of the village/community on the whole.

Closing pontllanfraith leisure centre would be a poor move with the 3G facilities being used by lots and lots of young children on a daily basis. Removing this facility will increase demand on other 3G facilities and will reduce availability. Doing this will force some children away from sports due to lack of opportunities. Having sports centres based in these locations will mean that local families will have to travel to use leisure centre facilities and this will clearly result in families choosing not to take part in active lifestyles due to a lack of facilities in their immediate area!

Closure of pint would impact me massively. I wouldn't be able to work out and play sports daily as I do now. I'm in a position to travel and can not afford extortionate public transport. Myself and my family would have no where to train and will likely suffer health conveniences. My elderly parents would have no where to go to keep them physically and mentally healthy. If a school we're to take over then this would hugely impact the availability of the facilities which is not fair. Adults and children do not want to use school facilities and often it is not fair for them to be asked to do so (mental health issues etc.). Facilities would not be available all day as they are now, space is more restricted than pint in terms of racket sport courts and throughout examination periods the facilities would be unavailable. It is not an appropriate solution.

Closure of Pont would likely result in casual football stopping due to reduction in facilities

closure of pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest are my local leisure centres, cannot get to those further away, depriving poor areas of the borough

currently the demand for leisure use is very high, by eliminating some of the leisure centers you create a higher demand so people will lose interest and less people will be bothered to travel extra miles to use leisure facility's. Please remember that not everybody drives therefore to some this will now include bus journeys at that persons extra cost.

Cutting down to only four leisure centres is a complete joke. This would completely reduce my use of leisure centres to 0. It would be impossible to book any of the facilities. It also means it takes me beyond walking distance to any leisure centre and in my opinion completely neglects any resident of Blackwood or its surrounding villages especially if you believe there is not sufficient funding to upgrade the existing facilities. I cannot express enough how much of a poor idea this is, Caerphilly Council Borough Council needs to stop viewing the leisure centres as money making schemes and start realising they are a community service.

Further to travel to nearest leisure centre. School sites - use by general public is subservient to school demands and ideas often at short notice or arbitrarily. The public are not equal partners.

Having only 1 in each area wouldn't work in all cases. Pontllanfraith is regularly used by my daughters girls football team and if closed would leave us no where else to go. Islwyn High is shut during school holidays because it's not council run. Shutting during holidays is ridiculous because that's precisely when children need a place to exercise and play.

I am currently part of a badminton club in Pontllanfraith, this would unfortunately have to end with the closure as facilities elsewhere are impractical or unavailable (Newbridge and local schools - I have looked into both and can expand in upcoming meetings - hopefully). Having visited Newbridge leisure centre on occasions it is evident that issues such as car parking, lack of facilities (squash courts), inappropriate facilities (badminton courts) and already full classes such as spin would result in my not exercising and deterioration in health.

I don't think some leisure centres should be closed the ones I don't think should be closed are Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre as even though it is not connected to a school anymore it still provides a good service to the community and a service the community relies on heavily as if you closed this Leisure Centre it could result in a massive problem for people who want to use the 3g pitches for example. I don't think you should close Cefn Fforest Leisure Centre as a lot of people rely on this centre and a lot of children from that particular area learn how to swim at the Leisure centre if you close Cefn Fforest it could result in children having to go to other far away Leisure centres to learn how to swim.

I play badminton at our local Leisure Centre with my sisters, mum and dad at least three times per week. This activity not only helps us to keep fit, both physically and mentally, but offers us valuable time together for socialising as a family. For me, the impact of not being able to use this facility include: - loss of fitness as I would be forced to give up my hobby - poorer wellbeing as a result of the lack of socialising and physical activity - Depression and anxiety as this hobby has had a positive impact on my mental health - Isolation and loneliness - financial loss as a result of having to travel further I have calculated that it would cost my family and I over £1200 per annum to take public transport to our nearest alternative (Newbridge) in order to continue playing badminton 3 times per week. Alternative Centres are not feasible for me and will also significantly add to my fuel costs – not to mention increasing emissions. With air pollution in our local area proven to be some of the worst in the UK, this would lead to further negative impacts on the health of local people. On occasion, my family and I have booked courts at Newbridge Leisure Centre, however, we have not found the courts at Newbridge to be fit-for-purpose due to the low ceiling height and also the fact that my colour-blind dad is unable to distinguish the badminton court layout from others that are painted in almost identical colours. In terms of inclusivity, this is a concern.

I play squash as part of my fitness regime recommended after a Well Being health check, if Pontllanfrith Leisure Centre closes this would end my three or four days of exercise weekly as the other squash courts are not accessible when I am able to play.

I think it would be a negative move we need our leisure centres to stay open such as Pontllanfraith

I use Pontllanfraith as I use it as a GP referral is near where I live and works around my shift pattern and I also like to go swimming up Cefn Fforest as if you go to Newbridge I can't work it around my shift with the school using it always too crowded.

I will be denied access to sport and fitness if you plan to close Pontllanfraith / Cefn Fforest goes ahead. Serious detrimental impact. Not offset by your strategy.

I would not be willing to travel to Bargoed or Caerphilly for leisure activities and would wish for something more local.

I would stop using the council facilities as they are too far away and not very welcoming.

I'd be devastated if Pontllanfraith and Cefn Forest closed.

If centres local to me were to close, then people on low income who may not have a car or the funds required for public transport may not be willing to travel further to engage with healthy active lifestyles. As it stands, leisure centres are often in walking distance of large towns and communities who would be affected, this would include myself.

It will restrict the use of facilities by local children's sports teams. There will be inadequate provision for the number of teams and discourage future generations from team sports. I feel the decision to reduce the number of facilities is financially motivated

It would have a negative impact. The council should be providing more leisure facilities, not less! I regularly use Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre as a member of Islwyn Running Club because it is where we meet.

Its understandable that leisure's centre will have to close going forward. However, other than Caerphilly leisure centre the other 3 mentioned to remain Newbridge/Risca/Bargoed are all in my opinion outdated and are very poor with availability of activities being offered there. Can Newbridge accommodate all the footfall from both Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest leisure centres closing? The diabolical car parking facilities will put most people off straight away. Again, I don't feel this centre offers enough facilities to cater for everyone's needs. I have a 3 year old daughter and have always taken her out of the authority to access swimming activities, as our pools are boring and from past experiences the water temp is always cold. We have 1 hydro slide in the whole authority which is closed more than open for guests. I am more than happy to travel for leisure activities if the service and resources are suitable, hence why I am often visiting other centres Merthyr Tydfil, Ebbw Vale, Cardiff Olympic Pool, Swansea LC2 as our centres are outdated and offer very little. Other authorities are earning income from residents out of their authority, what are we doing to keep residents using our centres as well as attracting interest from outside?

Lack of resources would mean limited availability. The availability is already limited so any further limitations would probably stop me using the facilities as the times required wouldn't be available

Less access and all it's implications

Less availability, further travel,

Newbridge is my nearest LC but there are so many block bookings that you are only able to book badminton courts as follows - Monday 1 at 5pm, Tuesday none at all, Wed 2 at 7pm, Thursday none at all, Friday 8-9pm.

Newbridge leisure cannot be improved and is unable to expand, it is hemmed in. Pontllanfraith has room for development not houses. Spend money on Pont and make it a sports complex, adding swimming pools, bowling green, tennis courts, and is more strategically situated than Newbridge.

Newbridge would be my nearest alternative. There is no separate dance studio for classes and very limited parking. I only use Pontllanfraith - at least 3 times a week on average, sometimes twice due to work commitments. I would probably end up cancelling my membership, so the council will lose finance - I doubt if I would be the only one.

No access to local sports facility in the Pontllanfraith area of the authority.

Not enough space/facilities to cope

Pontllanfraith is within walking distance, my group have a block booking at Pontllanfraith for indoor football, I also use the 3G facility. I suspect we will just not bother playing anymore and become couch potatoes instead

Pontllanfraith leisure center was proposed for closure. ~ The impact would have made me stop going to the gym, and more recently also classes held at the leisure center. It would have out priced me as transport to newbridge would have cost me an additional £60-£90 per month to access the gym based on going 3 times a week. I would have had to cancel my membership and pay for individual sessions as and when I could afford to.

Swimming lessons in Heolddu and Newbridge are at capacity and with the closure of Cefn FForest this would significantly impact on young children being able to get a life skill of being able to swim. The gym facilities in Newbridge and Heolddu will not meet the capacity for the people within the community. Iswlyn High school do not have adequate gym facilities and pupils are still utilising Pontllanfraith leisure centre.



The above 4 strategic leisure centres only is not necessary, councillors have stressed the close proximity to Aberbargoed and CCBC willingness to raise finance. Therefore rebuild Cefn Fforest if necessary! Having had to wade through the nonsense of your survey booklet I offer the following: Dear Sirs, I attended the presentation of CCBC case for the closure of Cefn Fforest and Pontllanfraith Leisure Centres, on 4/09/18. I listened carefully to the arguments to close these establishments and to replace them with a leisure centre near Aberbargoed. It became quickly apparent that there was no logic to CCBC arguments. The main point of this proposal as far as Cefn Fforest leisure centre is concerned is that the building is 50 years old and not fit for purpose. May I take this opportunity to remind CCBC of the huge amounts of money spent on its refurbishment recently. This argument is farcical! Other bits and pieces were thrown into the mix. Cefn Fforest people using this facility at present could easily travel to the proposed new site in Aberbargoed, because of its close proximity. By the same token Aberbargoed people can easily travel to Cefn Fforest because of its close proximity - and do at present. Point 2 - with a new building CCBC would raise millions to fund a new building and pay off the loan over a long period. Therefore they can upgrade the present sites at substantially lower costs, as they already own the sites. The only statement that is correct, at least in the case of the Pontllanfraith facility is that CCBC has wilfully neglected its duty to maintain these facilities. CCBC has the unenviable reputation of getting things wrong, the debacle with the Chief Exec, various botched road work schemes the list is endless. CCBC needs to be seen to do it better to restore what little reputation it has left. It seems obvious that this is a thinly veiled attempt by certain elements of CCBC to steal, and I use the word advisably, facilities from the old Islwyn area and relocate them under another ward (I'm aware boundaries have changed). These gentlemen having made an unholy mess of Bargoed, allegedly under the influence of Morrisons, are now turning their attention to our area. I would also remind CCBC that planning permission was only granted for the Cefn fforest facility because it replaced Pontllanfraith open air baths, on what was the last remnant of the original Cefn fforest. Finally, I would like to bring your attention to the following: This is a letter sent to Marquis Flavinious, a Centurion in the second Cohort of the Augusta legion, to his cousin Tertullus in Rome. "We had been told on leaving our native soil that we were going to defend our sacred rights confirmed on us by so many citizens settled overseas. So many years of our presence, so many benefits brought to us by populations in need of our assistance and civilisation. We were able to verify that all of this was true and because it was true we did not hesitate to shed our quota of blood, to sacrifice our youth and our hopes. We regretted nothing, but where as we over here are inspired by this frame of mind, I am told IN ROME FACTIONS AND CONSPIRACIES ARE RIFE, THAT TREACHERY FLOURISHES AND THAT MANY PEOPLE IN THEIR UNCERTAINTY AND CONFUSION lend a ready ear to the dire temptations of RELINQUISHMENT AND VILIFY OUR ACTIONS. I cannot believe that all this is true, and yet recent wars have shown how pernicious such a state of mind could be, and where it could lead. Make haste to reassure me, I beg you, and tell me that our fellow citizens understand us, support us and protect us as we ourselves are protecting the glory of the empire. If it should be otherwise, if we should have to leave our bleached bones on these desert sands in vain, then beware the anger of the legions." To which I have nothing to add.

The health of a lot of my family would decline dramatically as they won't have access to a local leisure centre such as Pontllanfraith. They rely on the facilities at Pontllanfraith to stay healthy. The closing of the leisure centres would cause them to become more unhealthy.

The lack of Good Public Transport in the borough would be a major factor in less people visiting the '4 strategic leisure centres'. Also local Sport teams find it almost impossible to book the facilities as they are now making it hard for junior sides to train. Reducing the facilities will only add to the problem.

The loss of Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest leisure centres would have a detrimental effect on myself and my family. The other local centres such as Nebridge is over subscribed. The school facilities are inadequate - Iswlyn High pupils have been using the gym at Pontllanfraith LC and have been transported by mini bus for lessons. Other schools pitches are over booked. If these centres close I will be using Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre, which means transport costs and traveling by car instead of walking, does not prove eco friendly .

The population is growing. If you close facilities to build housing you are having a negative effect on the wellbeing of the growing population. Get real! Stop closing facilities! AGAIN just fancy wording. It is the population that pay you to provide the facilities to encourage health and wellbeing. All this strategy is to try and justify your action. Get the message. The population is growing. So, don't close, maintain and improve what we have and keep these facilities OPEN.

The possible closures of leisure centres would impact upon myself as one of the proposed centre's for closure is pontllanfraith and is the closest one to me which I use 3-4 times a week. I often walk to pontllanfraith leisure centre and it would not be possible for me to do this with any of the other centres proposed to stay open. I use pontllanfraith leisure due to the mix of individuals that use the centre, it is a very comfortable environment which makes people feel at ease which you do not necessarily get from other gyms within the area. I feel that if pontllanfraith were to close the council would be forcing people to find other alternatives that are not suitable which possibly puts people at risk of stopping their physical activities and risk neglecting their physical health. I feel that these closures are just about saving money and not necessarily caring about the individuals that use the facilities. Government keep on mentioning the need for individuals to be more active and live healthier lifestyles so they do not become a burden on the NHS from ailments caused by being unhealthy and obesity, although how on earth are people supposed to be healthy and more active if leisure facilities keep closing. I feel this will just have a knock on effect on individuals where they will be forced to not take part in physical activities because there simply isn't anywhere suitable for them. I feel the closure of pontllanfraith leisure centre would impact upon my health greatly as I can feel self-conscious about using gyms and I feel comfortable using pontllanfraith because of the warm, friendly, non-judgemental environment. I feel this is lacking in other private gyms within the area and worry my own physical activity would decrease because of this.

There are not enough spaces for children's teams / swimming now so how would there be more ?

There are very few classes available outside of work hours at the moment. These will only reduce. I have been referred by nhs Physio to attend yoga/Pilates classes. Without these I will be back visiting the already stretched and underfunded Physio outpatients in YYF. The council and nhs need a collaborative, joined up approach

There will simply be not enough leisure centres to meet demand for local sports clubs, schools and communities. Suspect there would be a monopoly on 4 leisure sites by bigger organisations/sports clubs. North of the borough will also be forgotten. New leisure facilities in schools will also not be able to cope with demand. Local sports clubs struggle now to get bookings for training sessions on 3g/astro turf and inside sports hall use. Only get worse if only 4 leisure centres supported by schools.

These facilities are not large enough to cope with demand if all others are shut. Plus with new housing in the area the future benefit to having more facilities and investing in them is there.

<p>This would be negative if it resulted in other facilities not being available locally to people. It would require strict requirements to ensure that the facilities remaining open regularly and were maintained to an adequate standard.</p>
<p>This would greatly effect my children's ability to participate in sports and recreational activities within their local community. The effect will also be very adverse for many teams that operate within the area.</p>
<p>This would make my nearest leisure centre outside easy walking distance, so I'd be far less likely to attend</p>
<p>Too far. People won't travel. All facilities offer different things. Limiting the centres would make booking and access very difficult.</p>
<p>Totally against this view. Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre provision is vital and important to myself and my family. We can walk to the centre without taking the car saving the environment, we support activities in the local community. This is short sighted and will mean again mean services are congregated in Caerphilly!</p>
<p>Travelling to get to these "hub" leisure centres instead of my nearest one incurs more cost to me. It would also increase the numbers of persons using those centres stated which in turn limits the facilities you are able to use.</p>
<p>We need smaller centres for our communities. Just 4 centres would not be able to sustain the level of users e.g. the 3G pitch in Pontllanfraith. Also you have to have a car to get to these Centres. Bargoed and Risca are quite out of the way. I just feel the Blacwood, Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest would be denied sports access</p>
<p>We need to keep leisure centres open, for health and sport activity. Pontllanfraith has the best outlook with room to expand, put in a swimming pool and make it a sports complex. It is the best for outdoor sports and indoor sports, beautiful setting, lovely staff and plenty of car parking. We don't need any houses there, it will spoil a leisure area that can be improved greatly.</p>
<p>Why should leisure centres in the borough be closed to keep Caerphilly leisure centre open £15m (now £30m) to be spent knocking this centre down and rebuilding in this one part of Caerphilly only. Keep Pontllanfraith open will not cost £15m.</p>
<p>You can't give me the whole picture so I don't know!</p>
<p>You cannot book school facilities now as they are already fully booked so closing centers will have a negative impact on me directly.</p>
<p>You would be isolating areas like Cefn Fforest. There are very little facilities of any kind in Cefn Fforest, elderly people and children who use the pool would be penalised. The pool is a lifeline for many in Cefn Fforest. The other centres can only be reached by car. Also you are trying to put too many people into not enough Leisure Centre, Pontllanfraith atp is used widely by junior club. If the Centre closed there would not be anywhere for these kids to go. no they could not use the other Leisure Centres or schools Atp because these are all day full.</p>
<p>You've not mentioned Pontllanfraith which is an essential leisure centre for sports teams in the borough!! What about Cwmcarn? The council should run the leisure centres not schools</p>

**If you feel the impact of rationalising leisure facilities will be negative, what could be done to mitigate the impact on you and your family?**

<p>- Improved facilities (poor lighting and unclear lines in Newbridge make it unpleasant to play badminton). - Improved availability - opening times in Islwyn High are not appropriate. - Better parking facilities. - Transport provided for locals unable to travel to other leisure centred. - Reduce smartcard prices to account for petrol prices.</p>
<p>1) Reasonable increase in charges 2) Consider other organisations to run them 3) Invest some of the millions you plan to spend on a new leisure centre and maintain existing ones</p>
<p>A very small increase across The CCBC area to each household would negate the financial reasons for closure of any site.</p>
<p>Are you lot real? The more I read these questions the more frustrated it all becomes.</p>
<p>As mentioned above, I can easily transport my family to various centres if needed. However, this is predominately out of authority which I am pretty sure I am not the only resident in Caerphilly to be doing right now. Reduce number of options on sporting activities as limited spaces providing activities.</p>
<p>CCBC only care about capital receipts and lining pockets of its councillors, snr management and directors.</p>
<p>Close one of your other 4, if one has to go maybe Cefn Fforest, but keep Pontllanfraith leisure centre open.</p>
<p>Consider other ways to run/finance these facilities. Look at other areas to make savings.</p>
<p>continue to keep pontllanfraith leisure centre open or find an alternative site for this in the local area</p>
<p>Do not close centres in the borough, look to either switch management, or adopt and alternate policy of funding to spread funds equally across all centres</p>
<p>Do not close Pontllanfraith, all the additional housing needs leisure facilities</p>
<p>Do not let schools shut their facilities during school holidays. If like Islwyn, school facilities are used, they need to be available 52 weeks a year.</p>
<p>Don't close leisure centres</p>
<p>Don't close Pontllanfraith simple with the absence of Pont there will be more pressure on other leisure centres - especially with the increasing population as evidenced by the housing developments. More people leads to more pressure. Obvious.</p>
<p>Don't?</p>
<p>For example - compel schools to make their facilities available, employing extra staff if need be; establish community colleges.</p>
<p>I can only speak for myself but I would be willing to pay a little extra to keep the leisure centre I use open.</p>

increase council tax and/or the cost of usage with the amount raised ring-fenced so it has to be used to support the facilities under threat
increase the council tax.
Invest in facilities in the Pontllanfraith area of the authority.
invest more in all facilities to modernise and provide better services to attract me people, incentivise them to visit
It is really important that facilities are local to where people live to encourage individuals to build an active lifestyle into day to day life. Having to travel to access leisure facilities could be a barrier to this.
Keep all leisure centres open and improve and invest
keep all leisure facilities open and dont segregate different sports out as when i was younger girls football there was 3 teams now you got like 25 teams and 3 leagues certain sports get better and others lose people. another example the tour de france cycling is now popular as chris froome won so every year some sport thrive and other lose as i said and segregate different sports and recreation is not the answer at all.
Keep leisure centers open, i am sure even if the membership costs go up more people would be happy than the alternative of losing their nearby facility's.
Keep pont open. Sell the land from the chill and surrounding but keep the centre. Surely with all the new homes proposed, new residents will expect local amenities...
Keep Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest Leisure open
Keep Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest Leisure Centres open. If they clos, I will either fund Blaenau Gwent by travelling there to use their facilities or stop exercising all together, which will be detrimental to my health and well being.
Keep pontllanfraith centre open!
Keep Pontllanfraith LC open - it's a vital resource for us.
Keep Pontllanfraith leisure centre open.
Keep Pontllanfraith open
Keep Pontllanfraith open or do as above.
Keep Pontllanfraith open!!
Keep Pontllanfraith open. It is profitable - well used and with some thought could be made even better, for example: - convert squash court to spin room - promote classes (much better range than other centres) - re-introduce GP referrals - encourage use of facilities by other organisations e.g. slimming clubs / mother and toddler groups - promote activities for older people.

<p>Keep the leisure centers as they are, The 4 core leisure centers being of standard price with a 5-10% charge for outer core leisure centers. I would rather pay an extra £5-10 per month to use my local leisure center than to pay triple the monthly cost to access one further away. alternatively, subsidize bus fares for gym users.. however this seems counter intuitive to lowering overall costs.</p>
<p>Keeping Cefn Fforest open due to the swimming facility and increasing the gym facilities at the other gyms and making them bigger.</p>
<p>Keeping leisure centers open</p>
<p>Keeping Pont open</p>
<p>Keeping the centres open and investing in all. If money from the private sector is available this should be utilised</p>
<p>Leave things as they are</p>
<p>Listen to residents. Nothing. make decisions on the health &amp; well-being of the community, not for financial reasons.</p>
<p>Look for additional savings in other areas of the council to keep more facilities open. Look at management and councillor salaries.</p>
<p>Maintain and invest in Pontllanfraith leisure centre and Cefn Fforest. Invest the £20million plus in these facilities rather than a new one, or even a fraction of the £20million to keep them open. Change ?? more is also an option to keep them open as a last resort, look at asset transfer. Either way, keep both leisure centres open.</p>
<p>More classes</p>
<p>Not close Pontllanfraith or Cwmcarn and Cefn Fforest to mitigate the impact would mean us having to travel further afield for the team sports we play for training and matches</p>
<p>Not closing Pontllanfraith Leisure centre, maintaining, investing and improving the facilities will ensure the Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre remains a prime hub for our family and community. Costs will increase, use of car, use of buses (if running in evening). In Pontllanfraith the swimming baths has closed, the Comprehensive School has closed, the Islwyn Council offices have been demolished. The only things that are promoted in Pontllanfraith is yet more house development and Wind Turbines being built everywhere in the locality. Compare that position with Caerphilly focus and you see the difference.</p>
<p>Nothing</p>
<p>Nothing. There is no way reducing to 4 leisure centres can be positive unless you allow those that are in existence to pass to private ownership for the use of said facilities.</p>
<p>Please keep our leisure centres open.</p>
<p>Put money into Pont and Cefn Fforest instead of closing them to sell the land for housing. Disgusting</p>

<p>Rebuild existing facilities on existing sites, CCBC already own the ground. The real reason is, CCBC wants to sell the land for housing!! CCBC should remember that the swimming pool in Cefn Fforest was only allowed to be built to replace the open air pool in Pontllanfraith and planning permission was only given for this site for that reason, on was the last remnant of Cefn Fforest.</p>
<p>Reflect on your decision which clearly disadvantages the pontllanfraith and blackwood areas of the borough leaving them with no provision at all and bottom of the list for use of other facilities further away. The plans for new housing within both these areas creates further such demand for the service provision in the areas you propose to close and completely undermines any such strategy you have asked for opinions on within this survey.</p>
<p>Restructure the councillors and management so that it is a more efficient. Too much money is wasted on top paying jobs that could be put back into the communities facilities</p>
<p>Spend money refurbishing well used local leisure centres rather than invest money into something new that noone wants.</p>
<p>Very negative indeed. If children and adults in the borough hope to keep fit, active and interested in sports, then keep all local centres open and investment in the future. Do not rip the heart out of the villages by these proposed closures.</p>
<p>We could try (i.e. the electorate) getting a new non-Labour council!</p>
<p>Yes. Totally negative and contradictory to the main aim which is to encourage a health, active life style.</p>
<p>You could possibly start offering direct bus trips to Leisure Centres like Risca and Newbridge from other areas or open up new Leisure Centres in places like Islwyn High School</p>
<p>You need to communicate with sporting club within the borough (some of high sporting standard) to work with yourselves in helping you offer the services.</p>

**If you feel that the proposed changes will affect you as an individual (positively or negatively) because of any of the following, your ethnic origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality or responsibility for any dependents, please give details below.**

<p>Age - the lack of buses through Hollybush will not allow me to use facilities</p>
<p>I believe that CCBC is discriminating against the socially and economically deprived. The facilities in pont and cafe forest are used extensively and this consultation document is a joke for lots on residents. With poor reading and writing skills, this survey is painful to complete and I know of hundreds of people who are unable to contribute despite being desperate to do so.</p>
<p>I have young teenage children who will not be able to access facilities due to difficulties in travelling there. A medical condition means that access to local facilities is vital for me.</p>

Its quite simple: (1) CCBC is strapped for cash. (2) CCBC does not care for communities. (3) The strategy is so biased that the outcome is obvious. (4) This isn't a survey, its a declaration of war, making it difficult for residents of participate in recreational and sporting activities!

Local facilities are good for local residents and communities to use, closing these will have a negative effect on the locals ability to use the relevant facilities for health, fitness and wellbeing.

These Proposed changes will definitely effect me in a negative way but not as stated above. As i have a long term injury my back that is still being assessed and i use both Cefn forrest and Pontllanfraith regular as i cannot do sport as full as i used i used to do it 7 times a week i can now only do it for 30 mins 2-3 times a week and work it around my shifts and these centres work around my shift and are not too far away as i get a dead leg when travelling too far so keeping the leisure centres to me is vital. As it keeps my anxiety and depression at a certain state as well as keeping the regular exercise and keeping me going. I use it regular through our health care as a GP Referral. keep all sport and recreation facilities that all i ask thanks for reading :)

Welsh ought to be the first language on every sign, instruction booklets, provision of services in our community. We are Welsh, it is our language and ought to actively promoted in the provision of Leisure facilities across the provision.

Yes it impacts me in not being able to offer a local service for my dependants.