

## **BULLETIN REPORT**

<b><u>Name of Committee:</u></b>	Education, Culture and Sport
<b><u>Date of Meeting:</u></b>	22 November 2012
<b><u>Title of Report:</u></b>	Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Centre and the Bon Accord 2000 Bowling Club
<b><u>Lead Officer:</u></b>	Neil Bruce, Service Manager, Culture and Sport
<b><u>Author of Report:</u></b>	Lesley Thomson, Culture and Sport Commissioning Manager

### **Summary of Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide Elected Members with information on the wind up of the Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Club, and developments relating to the facility currently leased to Aberdeen City Council.

### **Background**

The Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Centre and Skyline Restaurant is owned by the Scottish Retail Partnership (owners of the Bon Accord Indoor Centre) and leased to the City Council on a long term lease at a peppercorn rent. The Indoor Bowling facility was sub leased to the Trustees for the Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Club from May 2001 – 30 April 2012.

During the final two years of the sub lease, officers worked with the Club to examine options which might have enabled the organisation to develop a more sustainable profile: however the underlying financial and organisational viability of the Club precluded any consideration of further intervention by the Council.

In spring 2012 the Club intimated their wish to wind up the body, and therefore not to accept the offer of a further extension of their sub lease for 2012 -13.

### **Financial Implications**

At the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 7 June 2012 Elected Members agreed to, as part of a series of recommendations,

- (b) Declare the Skyline Restaurant/Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Centre surplus to requirements
- (c) Refer to Finance and Resources Committee the sale and/or distribution of assets owned by the Council: and to

(d) Refer to Finance and Resources for agreement to write off debt relating to back dated insurance charges owed to Aberdeen City Council owed by the club.

The club, having consolidated their assets and received a refund of their insurance payments, have repaid to the Council the sum of £16, 852.56 which represents the final payment from the organisation before the Club closes its bank account and finalises its dealings. Officers have been instructed, in accordance with Education Culture and Sport and Finance and Resources decisions, not to pursue the Club any further for the balance of the debt.

### **Sale and distribution of assets**

Officers have concluded the distribution and sale of assets in accordance with Council protocols. A number of Council services, Arms Length External Organisations and sports groups have benefited from the process.

### **Future of the Skyline Restaurant/Bon Accord Indoor Bowling facility**

With the conclusion of the distribution and sale of the assets, and the property being declared surplus to the requirements of the Education, Culture and Sport directorate, the property is now being actively marketed by Officers within the Asset Management Team in Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure.