

**Agenda Item 18 – Leader’s Announcements and Cabinet Question Time, including the Composite Report of the Cabinet (1 Hour Maximum)**

In response to a question relating to Ulverston Leisure Centre:-

<b>From:</b>	<b>Cllr David Webster</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>Cllr Robin Ashcroft, Economy, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder</b>
<b>Response:</b>	<p><i>“As Members will be aware, the Council has been developing proposals for the reinvestment in indoor and outdoor leisure facilities at its site at Priory Road in Ulverston. The full proposals would also enable the re-location of sports facilities from the GSK site, enabling the current GSK sports site to be considered for development as an employment site. Access to modern and sustainable leisure facilities are seen as an important facet in promoting the wellbeing and attractiveness of Ulverston as a place to live and to invest.</i></p> <p><i>Prior to the pandemic the design studies and cost estimates had revealed a funding gap which the Council was seeking to address through the facilities mix, build methods and alternative funding sources. GSK have made further announcements about the future of their manufacturing at Ulverston. They have confirmed their continued commitment to enabling the site of their sports facility and adjacent former car park to be made available for employment use and their provision of a financial contribution towards re providing facilities in Ulverston. Master-planning is underway to assess opportunity and delivery approach to the future use of the GSK land to support employment and in particular advanced manufacturing.</i></p> <p><i>Following discussion through the MPs Task Force which has been looking at mitigating the impacts of the changes announced by GSK, the Council is now investigating a phased approach to the leisure scheme. Such phasing is intended to bring assurance to the improvement of facilities, enable earlier investment in the outdoor and dry facilities, secure the contribution from GSK and develop revised funding proposals for the overall scheme.”</i></p>