NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Executive Shareholder Meeting: 21 July 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Paul Peacock, Strategy, Performance & Finance Councillor Susan Crosby, Health, Wellbeing & Leisure
Director Lead:	Suzanne Shead, Housing
Lead Officer:	Cara Clarkson, Asst. Director – Housing Strategy & Service Development

Report Summary	
Report Title	Active 4 Today Performance Outturn for the financial year 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
Purpose of Report	This report presents the performance of Active 4 Today for the period 1 April – 31 March 2026.
Recommendations	That the Executive Shareholder Committee note the performance of Active4Today for the financial year 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.
Reason for Recommendations	To ensure that the shareholder has assurance and oversight of the company's performance ensuring that the company continues to deliver the outcomes required by the Council as aligned to the Council's Community Plan.

1.0 Background

1.1 Oversight of Active4Today (the Council's wholly owned leisure company) is achieved through the Council's nominated representatives on the Board of Active4Today, quarterly monitoring of the management agreement at officer level through the Directorate for Housing, and through the Executive Shareholder Committee.

1.2 This cover report provides the highlights for committee with appended documents to this report:

1. Report from the Managing Director 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026
2. Performance Indicators 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026
3. Sports Development Report 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026
4. NEW- Exercise Referral Scheme Annual Report 2025-2026
5. NEW – VISPA Volunteering Referral Scheme Annual Report 2025-2026
6. Year End Accounts – Year 2025-26

1.3 From Quarter 1, 2026-27, the officer lead for the contract oversight of Active4Today will pass to the Assistant Director Culture and Communities under the Director of Communities and Environment. This is to retain alignment with health improvement work and work on the wider building blocks of health, undertaken by these teams.

2.0 Performance Overview

2.1 **Appendices 1-6** provide a detailed overview of the company’s performance in the last year.

2.2 Key for the Committee to note:

- The company has achieved a strong financial year-end position. The Council’s financial system includes a budgeted management fee of £109,390 for Active4Today (A4T) for the 2025–26 financial year and the company has out turned with a surplus of £27,617 – the company has therefore operated without any subsidy or management fee in 2025-26. The surplus of £27,617 has been added to the company’s reserves.
- Active4Today has ceased as the operator of Southwell Leisure Centre from 1 April 2026.
- The company has demonstrated “robust and internal processes” following an internal audit of income collection.
- The water issue at the Dukeries Leisure Centre, previously reported to Committee in March 2026, remains outstanding, with a provisional budget set aside for historic water usage at the site.
- During the year the company installed Air-X (inflatable play) both poolside and dry-side in the Dukeries Leisure Centre, following investment from the council. A report to the committee, on the success of this investment, will be provided following a full year’s operation.
- The company has restructured to provide stable leadership for the company during both Local Government Reorganisation and the phased retirement of the current Managing Director.
- Satisfaction with services is high – the annual survey has returned a satisfaction rating of 4.42/5 for the question *please rate your overall experience with us*.

2.3 A future report to this committee will include:

- A draft proposal on the use of any surpluses generated by the company’s activities
- A draft proposal on the use and quantity of company reserves.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered **Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable**			
Financial	Yes	Equality & Diversity	
Human Resources		Human Rights	
Legal		Data Protection	
Digital & Cyber Security		Safeguarding	
Sustainability		Crime & Disorder	
LGR		Tenant Consultation	

Financial Implications – (FIN26-27/1594)

3.1 The Council's financial system included a budgeted management fee of £109,390 payable to Active4Today (A4T) for the 2025–26 financial year. However, A4T reported an outturn surplus of £77,617 in its accounts. Of this, £50,000 was already planned to be transferred to reserves, with the remaining £27,617 also added, bringing the total reserve transfer to £77,617. As a result, A4T's reserves stood at £767,962 as at March 2026. Given this position, no management fee is required, which has been reflected in the Council's outturn.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None