

Project – Swindon Community Assets Policy

Swindon Borough Council appreciated the value of supporting local organisations to operate its 25 community facilities, although required a user-friendly and standardised approach to the transfer and usage of those assets.



Key Actions

Pulse Regeneration developed a Community Halls Pricing Policy and Community Assets Policy. The Pricing Policy simplified existing procedures and reduced the amount of paperwork required, while evidencing the level of grant support provided to community organisations. The Assets Policy developed an innovative approach to the transfer of assets based on a minimum baseline requirement, and the aligning of a lease agreement with a target-driven Service Level Agreement, justifying the provision of facilities at peppercorn rents.

Achievements

- Both policies have been adopted by the Communities Directorate and Property Services Departments
- The accountable approaches enable the Council to better meet its statutory duties, maximise the value of its assets for the community, secure Community Strategy Action Plan outputs, and adopt systems that are easily integrated into wider Council approaches.

“Pulse Regeneration worked with our Council to develop a new Pricing Policy and policy arrangements for Asset Transfer. They came highly recommended. We were impressed with their knowledge of the subject area, but more impressive was their understanding of the political issues and tensions behind the policies and their potential adoption. The work was completed to a high standard, on time and on budget. Sometimes when you engage a consultant you don't always get something better than what you could have done yourself internally, given the time. Pulse definitely added value to our existing work and we would highly recommend them.”

Chris Sivers, Joint Director of Community and Cluster Lead for East Swindon,
Swindon Borough Council/Swindon Primary Care Trust Key Actions

For further details about how Pulse Regeneration can help, please contact us.

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