

Upgrade to Talacre Community Sports Centre

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this project happening?

The proposed improvements are necessary to upgrade and modernise the Talacre Community Sports Centre which was built in 2002 and to meet the increasing and unmet demand for services from the known needs of the community.

What will the project achieve?

- An additional 100 square meters gymnastics floor space.
- A new 115sqm multi-purpose exercise studio.
- A new multi-use space for a variety of functions.
- A flexible classroom space with a moveable wall.
- Improved access to the park.
- Accessible toilets for users of the centre and the park.
- Upgraded changing rooms.
- Upgraded reception area and cafe facilities.

How do the remodelling proposals address accessibility issues?

The design proposals are in compliance with Building Regulations and Sports England guidance. The points highlighted below provide examples of the improvements which have been incorporated in the design proposals:

- New entrance offers step free route into the building from Canteloves Gardens.
- A new staircase and lift will be conveniently located to allow easy access to the centre.
- Main entrance will have new wide automatic sliding doors for ease of access.
- Corridor allows for wheelchair store outside the accessible changing rooms.
- New entry system barriers will include a wide gate for wheelchair users.
- An additional accessible toilet will be included on the ground floor next to the entrance to cater for park visitors.
- Seating will be provided to the café area, which the current centre does not have.
- Changing room will be upgraded to include an ambulant shower, bench and toilet.

What is the anticipated cost of the project?

The anticipated cost for the project will be in the region of £3.26m

Why is the Council spending a significant sum of money on this project?

The cost of remodelling the Talacre Community Sports Centre is being funded from the grant the Council received from Central Government following a successful application to its Levelling Up Initiative. The deadline set by central government for spending this money is March 2025.

You can email us with any additional questions/thoughts by 30th November on:
talacreremodelling@camden.gov.uk

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Who is likely to benefit from the project?

The beneficiaries of the upgraded and refurbished sports centre will be the widest possible cross section of the community as a range of activities and courses will be promoted in the newly created multipurpose studio spaces. Furthermore, Talacre Town Green users will have the availability to use the accessible toilet facilities and café when visiting the public realm.

How long will the work take to complete?

The likelihood is the construction work to upgrade and refurbish the sports centre will take between 6 to 9 months.

Will the Sports Centre need to close for the works to be undertaken?

The sports centre will be kept open throughout the construction period by adopting a phased approach to conduct the works. However, there may be short periods where certain parts of the centre will have to close to accommodate some of the work where any such periods will be kept to a minimum. There may be occasions when the work will be carried 'out of hours' when the centre is normally closed.

Are the proposed improvements to the sports centre for the benefit of existing users or will there be opportunities for new visitors?

We anticipate at least 500+ new visitors per week to the centre to take part in physical activities such as yoga, pilates, gentle keep fit classes and mentally stimulating board games sessions which will be programmed in the newly created multipurpose studios.

How many new visitors will the new gymnastics extension facility attract?

There will be additional 920 visits per week to the term time gymnastics programme. There will be additional 530 visits per week to holiday gymnastics courses/activities.

Dalby Street is congested with poor parking and broken paving causing trip hazards. Will this be improved as part of the project?

Dalby Street is a private road and not part of this project. We are however in contact with the owners to encourage them to make improvements for public safety. Alternatively, the Council will use the cash deposit secured from the Legal Agreement when the development took place to conduct the required works. To this end the Council has already conducted a Road Safety Assessment for Dalby Street.

Will the Town Green be closed while works are being completed?

We expect the Town Green to remain open during the completion of the works. Small sections of the park, including the entrance off Dalby Street may be closed for some periods to allow works to be safely completed. We will work to keep these periods as short as possible.