



ASSET TRANSFER UNDER THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT

DECISION NOTICE - REFUSED

To: West Lothian Wolves Basketball Club
5 Birrell Gardens
Livingston
West Lothian
EH54 9LF

2 April 2019

This Decision Notice relates to the asset transfer request made by West Lothian Wolves Basketball Club (WLWBC) on 10 August 2017 in relation to Blackburn Community Centre, Ash Grove, Blackburn, EH47 7QL.

West Lothian Council has decided to **refuse** the request.

The reasons for this decision are as follows:

1. WLWBC has not proven that their proposal is financially viable or sustainable in terms of projected revenue generation and expenditure costs.
2. WLWBC has significantly underestimated the capital investment cost of refurbishing the property to make it fit for purpose in the short, medium or long term.
3. WLWBC has been unable to secure the funding needed to take this project forward, despite approaching a wide range of potential funders of a period of eighteen months. In the meantime, the vacant building represents an increasing risk to public safety and an ongoing drain on scarce public finances.
4. Aspects of proposed project would duplicate a number of existing community facilities in the area.
5. WLWBC have failed to provide sufficient evidence of community support for this project.

Right to review

You have a right to apply to the council's Asset Transfer Review Body (ATRB) to review this decision and thereafter, should you wish to do so, to appeal to the Scottish Ministers.

Any application for review must be made in writing to Scott Hughes, Asset Manager, Property Management and Development Unit, West Lothian Council, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF or via email to scott.hughes@westlothian.gov.uk by 7 May 2019, which is 20 working days from the date of this notice (allowing for upcoming Public Holidays).

Guidance on making an application for review is available at:

[https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/18378/Community-Asset-Transfer-Policy-Guidance-Notes-for-Applicants/pdf/Community Asset Transfer Policy Guidance Notes for Applicants.pdf](https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/18378/Community-Asset-Transfer-Policy-Guidance-Notes-for-Applicants/pdf/Community_Asset_Transfer_Policy_Guidance_Notes_for_Applicants.pdf)

or by contacting Scott Hughes (Asset Manager, West Lothian Council) in writing via email at scott.hughes@westlothian.gov.uk

(ENDS)