

**Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 02 June 2025**

**Question from: Councillor Blagbrough**

**Question to: Councillor Courtney, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Transport**

**QUESTION**

Please could you provide an update on the construction of the new Halifax Leisure Centre at North Bridge? I understand that the Cabinet Member responsible was recently unable to confirm a start date for the works. Does this mean that further delays are expected, or is the planned opening date of early 2026 still on track? Additionally, could you please confirm the status of the old Halifax Swimming Pool on Skircoat Road? Thank you.

**Response**

Following a full tendering exercise, Tilbury Douglas Construction Ltd have been appointed as our construction contractor to complete the detailed technical design and costings, providing greater certainty in relation to costs and timescales, and to deliver the approved scheme. As part of the tender process, Tilbury Douglas Construction Ltd sought permission to progress some early enabling works in advance of the final design. This has been agreed, to help with reducing the overall timeline for delivery, to mitigate future risks and, potentially, to reduce costs.

The current estimated timescales, which have been in place for some time, are as follows:

1. it is anticipated that site setup and the enabling works will begin late July, to be completed by the time we are ready to commence construction;
2. the detailed technical design and costings are currently anticipated to be available by the end of October, subject to satisfactory progress; and
3. if all goes to plan, construction will commence following approval of the technical design.

The construction dates are, of course, indicative at this stage, and subject to confirmation once we have the final design.

With regard to the former Halifax Pool site, the plan is to clear the site for re-development. There has been a complicating factor in that an electricity sub-station was housed in the former pool, and required relocation before the building could be demolished. We have worked with Northern PowerGrid to progress this, and it has recently been completed. Northern PowerGrid are now making arrangements for their old kit to be removed from site. This will require an asbestos survey / removal. Once the redundant Northern PowerGrid kit has been removed, then we can progress procurement of the demolition / site clearance.