

**The following statement has been submitted by Bromley Valley Gymnastics Club to be considered by PDS and Executive in relation the recommendation made.**

We write on behalf of Bromley Valley Gymnastics Centre to confirm our commitment to the redevelopment of our current site. We understand that the development is to deliver new residential homes in addition to a new gymnastics facility that is suitable for current and anticipated future needs in line with British Gymnastics standards and further community facilities.

A specifically designed and modern building will enable us to increase participation and retention within our Recreational Gymnastics Programme, with obvious physical and social benefits. This in turn, will realise an increase in opportunity for more talented Bromley gymnasts to train for elite national and international competition.

Bromley Valley Gymnastics Club already collaborates with local schools and other organisations involved in educational and community activities, to make use of the centre's facilities during 'off peak' times. However, the dilapidated condition of the building limits our effectiveness. A modern, fully accessible building will greatly increase our ability to provide a facility that will have substantial benefit to the wider community.

We have previously been working with the Council's advisers, Cushman & Wakefield and GSA Architects, reviewing and evolving the indicative design concepts to create a development solution that articulates the requirements of BVGC, as part of the overall proposal.

Whilst dialogue continues, to date discussions have been positive in realising a facility that, with some further input to the design, has the potential to substantially benefit the operation and future of the gymnastics centre.

Should such potential be realised, once the nature of the redevelopment is finalised, we recognise a joint responsibility to review the financial basis upon which we occupy the space and the leasehold arrangements between ourselves and Bromley Council. We will be working with the Council to consider this further, recognising that there would be a correlation between the financial benefit to Bromley Valley Gymnastics Club attributable to the redevelopment and leasehold arrangements, including rental payments, agreed with Bromley Council.

In 1991, the granting of a lease on the former Walsingham School building to Bromley Valley Gymnastics Centre saved the sport of gymnastics in Bromley from near collapse and set us on course to become a thriving and successful club. The regeneration of the centre will allow this work to continue and furthermore create a facility of great benefit to our local community.