

Current Position

- The new Tain Campus building is under construction and the existing Tain Royal Academy (TRA) site is due to be redeveloped for housing.
- For Options 1 and 2, the TRACC building would be retained and the remainder of the TRA buildings demolished.
- For Options 3, 4 and 5, the TRACC building would also eventually be demolished and the entire site redeveloped for housing.
- The timescales for a new Swimming Pool building on the Campus site would depend on the time required to secure the necessary funding.
- As things stand, there is no funding allocated in the Council's capital programme for any of the options under consideration.

Option 1 - Retain TRACC With Limited Refurbishment

- This would see the TRACC building retained and all the other TRA buildings demolished. The existing playing fields would be removed.
- New heating plant and an electrical sub-station, with new service connections, would be required as these are in the TRA building.
- The swimming pool plant and other installations are in poor condition, so it is proposed that these would be replaced to reduce the chance of failure in the future.
- A limited refurbishment of the building would be carried out.
- The estimated cost of this option is up to £4M and TRACC would require to be closed for up to 12 months while this work is carried out.

Option 2 - Retain TRACC With Full Refurbishment

- This would include all the work outlined in Option 1, including the demolition of the other TRA buildings and removal of the existing playing fields.
- A full refurbishment of the building would be carried out to bring it up to modern standards, including improved energy performance.
- The estimated cost of this option is £11M and TRACC would require to be closed for up to 18 months while this work is carried out.

Option 3 – Close TRACC; Plan For A New Swimming Pool

- Take forward a proposal for a new Swimming Pool to be built at some point in the future subject to securing the necessary capital funding; this building could include a fitness suite or other facilities.
- The TRACC building would close at the same time as TRA moved to the new campus.
- This would obviously result in the loss of the swimming pool facility while the funding options, design and planning work for a new building was being developed – this would take at least 3 years.
- The estimated cost of the new build option is currently £11M but this would increase in line with inflation if delayed.

Option 4 – Retain TRACC; Plan For New Swimming Pool

- Take forward a proposal for a new Swimming Pool to be built at some point in the future subject to securing the necessary capital funding; this building could include a fitness suite or other facilities.
- The work outlined in Option 1 to retain TRACC as a standalone building in the meantime would be required. TRACC would require to be closed for up to 12 months while this work is carried out.
- The estimated cost of the new build option is £11M and the work required to retain TRACC would be £4M – a total of £15M. Again, the estimated cost of the new build would increase in line with inflation if delayed.

Option 5 – Permanent Closure Of TRACC

- The TRACC building would close after TRA moves into the new Campus building.
- This would obviously result in the loss of the swimming pool facility.
- Options to provide a new fitness suite elsewhere in Tain would be explored.
- Other mitigation measures would also be considered.

Next Steps

- An online event will be held if necessary for members of the community that are unable to attend today.
- The public consultation will close on 1st August 2025.
- Once the responses have been collated and evaluated, a report will be presented to a future Council or Committee meeting to outline the proposed way forward.