



VIRGIN ACTIVE HEALTH CLUBS

Virgin Active Limited
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Registered in England & Wales No: 03448441

26 November 2013

Mr William Powell AM
Chair
National Assembly for Wales Petition's Committee
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA
William.powell@wales.gov.uk

Dear Mr Powell

Reference: P-04-509

I thank you for your letter dated 23rd October 2013, which I have just recently received.

We closed the Virgin Active facilities in Cardiff on the 23rd August 2013. The centre was leased by us from Cardiff council with a right for us to bring it to an end on notice. We have exercised our right to end the lease and bring our obligations to an end. The lease does not include provisions relating to the centre's designation as a national tennis centre.

Unfortunately, when we acquired the club as part of our acquisition of Esporta in July 2011 it was making a significant operating loss. After two years of running the facility we reached the conclusion that it was not financially viable, and made the difficult decision to withdraw from this operation. We understand how important the tennis courts were to the local community and we directed a number of enquiries from interested operators to the council.

We are continuing to invest in our other clubs including 20 racquets clubs across the UK. We are also proud of our partnerships with the LTA and tennis foundation, through which we are able to offer many differently abled people across the UK the access and opportunity to play tennis in our clubs.

Again, I thank you for your letter and for seeking our views on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Tranfield
Chief Operating Officer
Virgin Active UK

cc. Stephen George, Committee Clerk, Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk



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