PRESS RELEASE January 2018

Claudia Fragapane to cut the ribbon for a 'bigger and better' Longwell Green Lifestyle Centre

Customers will be greeted by a range of new facilities at Longwell Green Lifestyle Centre, following a major £1.5m redevelopment funded by South Gloucestershire Council.

An official opening will take place at 10am on Wednesday 31st January as partners, staff and contractors involved in the project gather to watch Olympic gymnast, star of BBC's Strictly Come Dancing and local resident of Longwell Green, Claudia Fragapane cut the ribbon.

As part of the celebrations, the public are invited to look round the centre and try out the new and refurbished facilities.

These include a new fitness studio, an additional 25 stations in the fitness suite, new changing rooms - including disability changing – and more poolside showers.

There has also been significant investment made into other parts of the building, with a brand-new entrance and lobby to welcome visitors. It's hoped that the changes will secure the centre as a real destination venue for the local community and wider area.

Claudia, who won four gold medals at the 2014 Commonwealth Games and competed in the 2016 Olympic Games, said: "This is a fantastic centre for the people of Longwell Green - we're lucky to have such great facilities on our doorstep. I've received so much support throughout my career from the residents of Longwell Green and it gives me great pleasure to officially open an even bigger and better centre for the benefit of the community."

Mark Crutchley, chief executive of Circadian Trust, which manages and operates the centre on behalf of South Gloucestershire Council said: "This has been a substantial project that has taken us almost a year to complete. I would like to thank our customers for being patient throughout the redevelopment process and hope they enjoy the new look Centre.

"As a not for profit organisation, we're committed to reinvesting money back into Active Lifestyle Centres across South Gloucestershire, which means responding to demand and offering our customers a first-class lifestyle experience."

Cabinet member for Communities and Tourism, Councillor Heather Goddard, said: "This is an exciting and ambitious partnership development that has secured Longwell Green Lifestyle Centre's position as a destination for the whole community.

"We are delighted to have invested in these new and refurbished facilities, which will continue to make exercise fun and enjoyable in a friendly and modern environment. We're looking forward to welcoming new customers to the centre in 2018."

To find out more about the Longwell Green Active Lifestyle Centre, please visit: https://www.activecentres.org/centres/longwell-green/

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Photo caption: Longwell Green Lifestyle Centre is to reopen on January 31st following a major £1.5m redevelopment.

Notes to editor:

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Alternatively, please call 0117 907 3400

About Circadian Trust

- Circadian Trust operates five leisure centre sites and a dual-use sports centre across South Gloucestershire in Bradley Stoke, Downend, Kingswood, Longwell Green, Thornbury and Yate and is a company and charity. Working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council, the community strategy and overall shared philosophy is to contribute to the improved health, cultural and social wellbeing of the local community improving quality of life
- Any profit made by the Trust is reinvested to improve facilities, equipment and services for its customers.
- For more information, visit: <u>www.circadiantrust.org</u>