

Search the web



My Feed

Money

...



Personalise

My
London

MyLondon

+ Follow

View Profile

South London council slammed after demolishing leisure centre and only then finding out building a replacement would go £40m over budget

Story by Charlotte Lillywhite • 1h ago

South London council which knocked down a leisure centre only to discover it didn't have enough money in its current budget to build its replacement has been slammed by a resident for having "no workable plan". Kingston Council is reviewing options to replace the Kingfisher Leisure Centre after being told it would cost almost £80million to build the new facility that was granted planning permission in May 2022 - much higher than the £43.8m it had put aside for it.

The Kingfisher was shut in 2019 after it was decided repairs to fix the roof would cost more than £5m. It was bulldozed in 2023, despite an earlier petition signed by almost 4,000 people to halt demolition, after the replacement facility won planning permission.

But plans to build a new complex have been delayed after the council got quotes through a tendering process of £79.5m. The procurement process to appoint a contractor for the project was terminated in March this year.

READ MORE: [Controversial plans for South London leisure centre with two swimming pools hit with major setback after costs soar to almost £80million](#)