
Contractors moving on site for the demolition of Seaton Pool

CONTRACTORS were today moving onto the site of the former Seaton Pool in Plymouth, to pave the way for demolition work to begin.

Workers were preparing to remove items like doors and windows, which can be reused.

When this is finished, diggers will move on to the site of the boarded-up pool to demolish it.

A spokeswoman for the South West Regional Development Agency said:

“Contractors will move on to the site today and will start making it ready for demolition. They will strip it out and remove anything that can be taken out by hand, and the diggers will then move in and knock it down.”

It follows Plymouth City Council's controversial decision to close the pool to the public.

The council handed the building over to SWRDA, which owns the site, on April 24, and it has remained empty and boarded up ever since.

SWRDA said the building represented a health and safety hazard and that keeping the site safe and secure was costing too much money, so it had decided to demolish it.

The swimming pool site will now be razed and cleared to allow it to be redeveloped as part of the growing Plymouth International Medical and Technology Park.

The park has been earmarked as a key site for the economic development of Plymouth and is intended to attract

inward investment to the city from hi-tech medical and technology businesses.

The city council said keeping Seaton open was costing it £160,000 a year and a further £1million needed to be spent on it to bring the facility up to scratch.

When it was announced in November 2005 that the pool was to be closed, swimmers and their supporters launched a vigorous but unsuccessful campaign to try to persuade the council to change its mind.
