
LONGFIELD SCHOOL – SPORTS PROJECT

**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Cyndi Hughes,
Children and Young People Portfolio**

Responsible Director – Murray Rose, Director of People

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Members' agreement to release capital funds awarded from the Football Foundation for the Longfield School – Sports Project.

Summary

2. Longfield School were successful in securing a grant allocation from the DCSF as it was then, through the Youth Sports Trust to develop a 3rd Generation Synthetic Turf Pitch (STP), to compliment and enhance the sporting facilities already available at the school.
3. In addition to £530,000 already released from Cabinet (28th July 2010), this paper seeks approval to release a further £52,679 which has been awarded from the Football Foundation to support the project.

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members agree to formally release the capital funding of £52,679;

Reasons

5. The recommendation is supported by the following reasons :-
 - (a) Detailed planning to target need has been undertaken which ensures effective use of investment.
 - (b) This grant is for the purposes of improving sports facilities in the school to aid in the schools delivery of its sports diploma. It is not available for alternative use.

**Murray Rose
Director of People**

Background Papers

There are no background papers to this papers report.

Rachel Jones : Extension 2026

S17 Crime and Disorder	<p>It is anticipated that by providing such a facility, out of school hours, for community use that the community will gain a sense of ownership.</p> <p>It is also hoped that the facility will enable young people of the area whom would perhaps prefer to engage in anti social behaviour an avenue to focus their attentions.</p>
Health and Well Being	The improvement of sporting facilities in the area will have a positive impact on sports participation levels of not only pupils but the wider local community
Carbon Impact	There are no specific Carbon impacts resulting from this project.
Diversity	This project will add to the diversity of sports provision available to the people of Darlington
Wards Affected	Harrowgate Hill
Groups Affected	Children and young people from the school and Primary schools and the wider local community as a whole
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council budget or policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The facility will allow the school to further develop their status as an exemplar sports College in the region
Efficiency	The facility will support extensive community use and provide the School will an income generation opportunity

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

6. Longfield School is a Sports College: this designation requires the School to develop and maintain good links with local sports clubs as well as to promote access to its facilities by the local community for active recreation. Longfield already has good links with its partner schools, with local sports clubs and community users of its facilities.
7. In July 2010, Cabinet released £530,000 funding received from the Department for Education for the development of a Synthetic Turf Pitch at the school. The project is to assist the delivery of curricular PE and school sport, and will also better accommodate community access, particularly during the evenings, weekends and holidays when the synthetic pitch will be made available for managed community use.
8. In addition to the initial grant funding received, the Council also submitted a bid to the Football Foundation. The grant letter, confirming success of this bid, was received on 16th November 2010.
9. The allocation of £52,679 will be used to address Planning Conditions imposed on the project and provide additional equipment at the facility for the school and community users.
10. A formal planning application for the full-sized fenced and floodlit synthetic turf pitch along with temporary access and car parking was approved on Wednesday 25th August 2010 and work started on site Monday 13th September 2010.
11. Members are asked to approve the release of the additional funding received in November to enable the final aspects of the project to be fully completed.

Outcome of Consultation

12. No consultations were required in the preparation of this report.