

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 1 JULY 2009

**REPORT ON: EASTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEW EXTERNAL SPORTS SURFACING - PILOT SCHEME**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REPORT NO: 345-2009

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval for a pilot for the provision of an artificial grass multi-use games area at Eastern Primary School.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Approval is recommended to engage LeisureTec Surfaces Ltd, Dundee for the supply and installation of a LTS "Lifestyle" multi-use games area.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Depute Chief Executive (Finance) has stated that:

3.1 The installation cost of £7250 can be met from the Education Capital Budget 2009/10, and

3.2 The revenue implications arising from this expenditure in respect of financing costs is £916 per annum.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 The existing playgrounds at Eastern Primary School and other similar older urban primary schools are very limited in size and lack facilities, with very restricted access to grass play areas.

4.2 Eastern Primary School, in conjunction with the Parent Council, has investigated and identified a suitable multi-use artificial grass games surface that can be laid on top of the existing playground surface. The provider of this surface is a local firm LeisureTec Surfaces Ltd, Faraday Street, Dundee and the yarn for the artificial grass is manufactured locally by Bonar Yarns. This provider proposes to install this surface at Eastern Primary School for £14,500 discounted to £7,250. The overall size of the multi purpose games area is 20m x 12.7m. There are no significant maintenance issues arising from this surfacing.

4.3 It is anticipated that the installation of this artificial grass surfacing will allow the school greater flexibility in timetabling both curricular and extra-curricular activities and will greatly enhance the opportunity to reach the two hour per week target for physical education.

4.4 It is proposed to take this forward as a pilot scheme for primary schools.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues identified.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

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Director of Economic Development

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