

**REPORT TO:** EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 28 FEBRUARY 2011

**REPORT ON:** PROVISION OF SYNTHETIC GRASS GAMES AREAS FOR SCHOOLS

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT AND DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

**REPORT NO:** 77- 2011

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report seeks approval for the provision of synthetic grass multiuse games areas for Our Lady's and SS Peter and Paul's Primary Schools.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee:

- i) notes the content of this report; and
- ii) approves the engagement of Leisure Tec Surfaces Ltd (Dundee) for the supply and installation of an LTS 'PlayGrass 24' synthetic grass multiuse games area at Our Lady's and SS Peter and Paul's Primary Schools.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The total purchase and installation cost of £18,300 for the synthetic grass games area can be met from the education capital budget 2010-11. The revenue implications arising from this expenditure in respect of financing costs are £2,313 per annum.

## **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

4.1 The Education Committee in June 2009 approved the pilot for the provision of an artificial grass multiuse games area at Eastern Primary School (report no. 345-2009, 25 June 2009 refers). This pilot has been enthusiastically supported by the school, and the installation has been well used for both play and curricular PE activities.

4.2 It is increasingly recognised that the quality and regularity of children and young people's school experience of physical education play a significant role in developing a solid foundation for their lifelong engagement in physical activity. The provision of these all-weather multiuse games areas will greatly enhance the quality of physical education lessons and provide increased opportunity for participation.

4.3 Several of Dundee's primary schools are in inner city areas where the availability of outdoor grass space is severely limited or non-existent. The Education Committee on 6 December 2010 (Report No 706-2010 refers) approved the provision of an artificial grass multiuse games area at Blackness Primary School, Dens Road Primary School, St Mary's Primary School and Castlepark Offsite Centre. This report addresses the need of the two remaining city schools which fall into this category.

- 4.4 Leisure Tec Surfaces Ltd (Dundee) has submitted offers for the supply and installation of a LTS 'PlayGrass' surface system at Our Lady's Primary School (24<sup>m</sup> x 12<sup>m</sup>) and SS Peter and Paul's Primary School (21<sup>m</sup> x 11.7<sup>m</sup>). The variation in size takes account of the space available at each location.

## **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. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be made available on the Council website: [www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/](http://www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/).

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

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

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 Equality Impact Assessment.

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