

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 22 March 2010

REPORT ON: Grove Centenary Wing

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 169-2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report recommends that the Grove Centenary Wing should be designated as Dundee's first Community Sports Hub and that its development should be taken forward under the auspices of Dundee Leisure.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 invite the Board of Dundee Leisure to incorporate the Grove Centenary Wing into their Management Agreement with Dundee City Council and that appropriate adjustments be made to the Agreement to reflect this
- 2.2 approve a new lease be drawn up by Dundee City Council for the Grove Centenary Wing sports hall including all the changing facilities and toilets.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Grove Centenary Wing would be operated as a Community Sports Hub on a self-financing basis, with all direct costs associated with the operation recovered from user groups.
- 3.2 The proposed schedule of rates would require to be monitored and adjusted in light of experience gained over the first 12 months of operation.
- 3.3 Provision for the costs of initial capital works has been made in the City Council's Capital Plan 2010/2011.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Proposal

Community Sports Hubs have been identified as a national priority for **sportscotland** as part of the Legacy document and as a priority for Dundee City Council.

An opportunity has arisen for the development of a Community Sports Hub to be based at the existing Grove Centenary Wing.

The proposal centres on a partnership being implemented between Dundee Leisure and the Community Sports Hub. This would involve the operation on a Management and Health & Safety basis of the facility by Dundee Leisure which would work with consortia of clubs that would form the Management Group of the Hub.

4.2 Management

Dundee Leisure would have overall responsibility of the facility including the setting of charges; this would enable the Trust to apply on behalf of other users for relief of rates on the premises. The programming and access would be controlled by a Management Group.

Dundee City Council's responsibilities:

- Bookings
- Holiday programmes
- Building maintenance and repairs
- Utilities
- Corporate H&S contracts
- Support for the development of the Hub Management Group

Dundee Leisure's responsibilities:

- Facility Management
- Ensuring that appropriate insurance cover is in place
- Health & Safety policy compliance
- Financial control
- Cleaning
- Emergency call outs
- Authorisation of key holders

Hub Management Group's responsibilities:

- Sound Governance of the Community Hub
- Programming of club access
- Securing of funding for development
- Line-marking
- Renewal of equipment
- Control of Hub finances

Clubs' responsibilities:

- Day to day operation of programmes
- Training and development of club members
- Opening & closing of facility
- Set up and clear up of equipment

4.3 **Facility Access**

Access would be restricted to clubs in membership of the Community Hub, with provision for holiday programmes operated by clubs, Active Schools and the Sports Development Section.

This model of operation requires potential users to become recognised clubs. It is not set up to accommodate casual usage which would normally be directed to existing sports centres.

Clubs would require to identify authorised key holders who would go through training and who would have responsibility for opening and closing the facility for club sessions. This would give full control of access to Hub members and minimise the need for staffing.

4.4 **Hub structure**

The Hub structure would be made up of a representative from each member club. The Hub would require to be constituted with a full management and finance structure. The constitution would provide for the establishment of an annually elected management committee.

All clubs applying for membership of the Hub would be required to be part of the Club Dundee Scheme or National Governing Body accreditation scheme.

In addition, there would be an ex-officio representative from Sports Development Section, Dundee Leisure and the school who would be there to promote close working relationships.

4.5 **Funding Opportunities**

The establishment of the Community Sports Hub Management Group would allow the Hub to be recognised by **sportscotland**. This status provides opportunities for funding for development and capital projects with a view to improving the facility.

4.6 **Facility Development**

Initial adaptations to ensure building integrity and to adopt toilets and changing rooms for community usage would be carried out by Dundee City Council.

The development of the facility to include a functional kitchen, meeting rooms and an area for presentations would allow multiple coach education courses to be operated in the facility. This development would also allow for the Community Hub to incorporate 'club rooms' encouraging greater usage and community identity.

4.7 **Charges**

A charge for the use of the facility would be levied by Dundee Leisure to the Community Hub on a monthly basis.

As part of the agreement, it is anticipated that any lets not utilised by Hub members would be available for hire by external groups, with standard Dundee Leisure charges implemented.

It is proposed to set a fixed hourly charge for the use of the facility by the Hub to cover heat, light and cleaning costs incurred by Dundee Leisure. The charge to the Hub would be £30 for the first hour and £20 for subsequent hours.

Dundee Leisure would charge the Hub for all lets utilised at the end of each month. It would be the Hub's responsibility to secure income from its members and to determine any local variations in fees between groups.

4.8 **Exceptions**

Dundee City Council would reserve the right to cancel lets and retain access to the facility for the purpose of providing a polling station. This would prevent any disruption to the programme of Grove Academy on election days and charges as set out above would apply.

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. No major issues have been identified.

6.0 **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Director of City Development and Director of Finance have been consulted on this report.
- 6.2 In addition, these proposals have been brought forward following consultation with BERA, Dundee Leisure, Grove Academy, Dundee East Community Sports Club, the SFA Regional Coach, Local Community Planning Partnership and local Elected Members.

7.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 None

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE & COMMUNITIES
1 March 2010