

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 28 June 2010

REPORT ON: Proposed Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) at Baxter Park

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 283-2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval, in principle, for construction of a multi-use games area to the south end of Baxter Park.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 agrees the principle of creating a multi-use games area subject to acceptance that the development requires to be funded entirely externally; the design and specification is developed by the Council and the contract is managed through the Council and delivered to the Council's satisfaction.

2.2 instructs the Director of Leisure & Communities to work in partnership with the recognised Steering Group to take the project forward.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no capital financial implications of this approval - the project will be funded externally. However, there will be revenue implications for the Council in terms of the staff time required to liaise with the MUGA Steering Group and take forward the design and procurements and the contract management associated with the project. This can be contained by the Leisure & Communities Department 2010/11 Revenue Budget.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Director of Leisure & Communities was approached by Friends of Baxter Park in March 2009 in relation to the construction of a multi-use games area located in the south area of Baxter Park beside the bowling greens.

4.2 The principles of such an area had been discussed a number of years ago and it was felt that with the continued high use of Baxter Park, particularly by young people, this would be a facility which would respond to demand and promote sport and formal or informal physical activity.

4.3 As there is no financial provision within the Leisure & Communities capital budget for this project in the next five years, the project cannot be funded by the Council. However, the Friends of Baxter Park have indicated that they wish to take the opportunity to consult with the public on a potential MUGA and take on the task of seeking external funding. The estimated cost of a MUGA on that site is £170,000.

4.4 This report, therefore, seeks the Council's approval for the principle of progressing the project of a multi-use games area to the south of Baxter Park. It would be for the Project or Steering Group when set up to take forward the consultation and the fundraising.

- 4.5 Leisure & Communities Department would then provide the design and the procurement of the facility and take this forward through the Council's normal tendering procedures.
An outline proposal which is subject to consultation is attached.

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.

- 5.2 The initiative would support implementation of a number of Council policies: The Sport & Physical Activity Strategy, The Baxter Park Management Plan, Community Safety Strategy and Public Open Space Strategy.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Friends of Baxter Park have been consulted on this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
21 June 2010