

Community and Recreation

ALL-WEATHER 5-A-SIDE PITCH



AIM

The aim of this project would be the creation of an all-weather 5-a-side pitch for use by local residents and community groups throughout the year in order to increase options for recreational activities in the area and provide a resource to enable local residents to live healthy lifestyles.

OUTPUTS

By the end of the project the outputs that could be achieved are:

- The creation of an all weather 5-a-side pitch
- The development of 8 new sport clubs involving 100 local residents

OUTCOMES

The associated outcomes would be:

- Increased opportunities for healthy living for local residents
- Increased provision of sport activity groups across all age groups and interests in the community
- Additional facilities to allow increased social interaction and community events for the Peninsula West area

NEED FOR PROJECT

STATISTICAL EVIDENCE OF NEED

Across the Peninsula West area, there are reasonably good levels of health, however, the data zone surrounding Kilcreggan has a higher standardised mortality rate than regionally and nationally at 19%, higher than expected compared to Argyll and Bute (SIMD, 2009). The average standardised mortality ratio across the Peninsula West area is 5% lower than expected but still represents a higher mortality rate than across the whole of Argyll and Bute.

CURRENT PROVISION IN AREA

There are poorly maintained tennis courts in very poor condition located in Cove and the King George V sports area located in Kilcreggan which over recent years has been colonised by vegetation from the adjacent Site of Scientific Interest. There is also a small ash football pitch at Kilcreggan Primary School. None of these pitches have appropriate associated facilities and are not suitable for use all year round, in all weather conditions.

COMMUNITY DEMAND FOR PROJECT

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Almost a quarter of respondents selected improvements to outdoor sports facilities as their top priority community and recreation issue, while two thirds indicated that this option was one of their top three priorities for the Peninsula West area. In addition, 7 comments left by respondents to the community questionnaire specifically called for the development of an all-weather 5 a-side/astro turf pitch in the Peninsula West area.

COMMUNITY PRIORITISATION EVENT

39% of participants completing this board at the community open day indicated they would most like to see an all-weather 5-a-side pitch developed in the Peninsula West area. This option was selected over improving the existing tennis courts (21%), assault course (20%), full rugby pitch (14%) and golf course and athletic track (both 3%).

RELEVANT POLICIES

The development of sports facilities in the Peninsula West area that are accessible all year round would contribute towards the Scottish Government's Healthier Strategic Objective to "help people to sustain and improve their health, especially in disadvantaged communities, ensuring better, local and faster access to health care".

The Scottish Government Strategy for the wider impact of the Commonwealth Games, A Games Legacy for Scotland, aims to create a network of community sports hubs across Scotland to improve the use of, and access to, facilities for physical activity and competitive sport. Community sports hubs can be based in local facilities such as sports centres, community centres and/or schools and will provide a home for local clubs and sports and provide information and advice to local people, bringing together communities.

The Argyll and Bute Community Plan 2009-2013 also has a commitment towards creating vibrant communities through 'high quality public services and leisure/community facilities that attract people to settle in Argyll and Bute' and forward looking communities which are 'proactive communities where local people and organisations look for and create opportunities'. The development of outdoor sports facilities could contribute to both these aims of Argyll and Bute's Community Planning Partnership.

POTENTIAL PROJECT

The Trust would seek funding to develop an outdoor multi-use sports facility that could be used for a number of sports and in all weather conditions.

POTENTIAL LOCATION

COMMUNITY PREFERENCE

71% of participants completing the Outdoor Sports Facilities board at the community prioritisation event indicated they felt the current King George V sports area on the east of Kilcreggan was the most suitable place to locate any renovated outdoor sports facilities or a sports hall. With the existing tennis courts/bowling green open space/park identified as the alternative site.



CURRENT OWNERSHIP OF SITE

The west half of King George V park appears to still be owned by the survivors of Ronald McNair Teacher. The east half of King George V park appears to be owned by John and Jeanette Phipps.

COST OF PROJECT

£120,000 (3rd generation adult size synthetic grass pitch including drainage, fencing/gates, lighting, goals, etc.)

POTENTIAL FUNDERS

Sport Scotland can provide up to 50% funding for community sports facility development that will drive an increase in community based sports participation. To secure investment, the input of strategic sports partners, Argyll and Bute Sports Development and Helensburgh and Lomond Sports Council, is essential to ensure the project fits with areas sports development objectives.

The Gannochy Trust supports charities and develops youth and recreation projects and **The Robertson Trust** prioritises community sports projects which can contribute to either capital or revenue costs for this development.

Peter Harrison Foundation Awards are made to registered charities for projects involving sporting activities that provide community development opportunities.

Comic Relief has an ongoing commitment to sports development where these activities are used as part of a wider set of regeneration objectives or to improve the quality of life for the most marginalised in the community.

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Helensburgh & Lomond Sports Council/Argyll and Bute Sports Development – The Trust should develop projects in conjunction with Helensburgh and Lomond Sports Council and the relevant Argyll and Bute

Council department in order to be eligible for Sports Scotland funding. In particular, these organisations can provide advice on types of facilities and relevant partners to progress the project and support the Trust with accessing funding for sports facilities

PROJECT EXAMPLES

MUIRKIRK ENTERPRISE GROUP

The Trust designed and built an outdoor sports complex, with facilities for tennis, volleyball, netball and basketball.

PRINCESS ROYAL SPORTS COMMUNITY TRUST

The Trust owns the stadium building it operates from and provides facilities for physical recreation and leisure time activity, including a multi-gym, astro-turf sports pitches and out of school childcare. The Trust also delivers outreach coaching/fitness sessions to local schools, nursing homes and in various town halls in the area.

CONTACTS

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