

Community and Recreation

INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY



AIM

The aim of this project would be the creation of an indoor sports facility for the Peninsula West area to allow the provision of sport and keep fit activities and encourage healthy living among residents of the area.

OUTPUTS

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

- The development of indoor sports facilities
- The development of 12 new sporting activities encouraging 150 of local residents to get involved in healthy living activities

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

There are no dedicated indoor sports facilities, including a gym/fitness suite, in the Peninsula West area. Local residents have to travel to Garelochhead and Helensburgh to access these facilities.

COMMUNITY DEMAND FOR PROJECT

COMMUNITY SURVEY

A sports hall was rated as the third priority by respondents from each area. Almost a quarter of all respondents selected this option as their top community/recreation priority while 67% selected a sports hall as one of their top three community/recreation priorities.

Ten comments were left requesting indoor sports facilities including a gym and sports hall suitable for badminton, 5-a-side football and similar sports. Four respondents suggested that Cove Burgh Hall and two suggested that the Sailing Club could be renovated to allow provision of these indoor sports facilities. Of the 40 suggestions (made by 116 respondents) for new groups/clubs for the Peninsula West area, the vast majority were for indoor activities. Six respondents also suggested a gym would be beneficial for the local area.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SURVEY

70% of the young people who completed this questionnaire felt that it was 'extremely important' to include a sports hall in any youth centre development. Further 20% also felt it was 'important'.

COMMUNITY PRIORITISATION EVENT

A gym/fitness suite, along with a swimming pool, were selected as by far the most preferred indoor sports facilities, each selected by 32% of the participants on the day. The desire for the provision of a gym in the Peninsula West area is also backed up by the selection of keep fit/gym as a new community group/project (by 17% of participants who left suggestions) and the positive response to the suggestion that the Rainbow Centre could be renovated to provide space for a gym (also selected by 16% of participants).

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 indoor sports facilities could contribute to both these aims of Argyll and Bute's Community Planning Partnership.

POTENTIAL PROJECT

The potential project would secure funding for community ownership and refurbishment of the changing pavilion at the King George V park. Alternatively, the indoor sports centre could be located on the site of the existing tennis pavilion and integrated with the tennis, bowls and all weather pitch and be central to a community campus within this part of Cove/Kilcreggan.

POTENTIAL LOCATION

COMMUNITY PREFERENCE

71% of participants completing the relevant 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 indoor sports facilities/sports hall.



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

£1,570,000 (Assumed gross internal floor area 600 m²; includes badminton court, gym, hall/meeting room, showers/toilets, changing rooms, demolition of existing pavilion)

POTENTIAL FUNDERS

Sport Scotland can provide up to 50% funding for community sports facility development that will drive an increase in sports participation at community level.

The Gannochy Trust supports charities and develops youth and recreation projects and **The Robertson Trust** operates a priority for community sports 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.

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 EXAMPLE

WELLHOUSE COMMUNITY TRUST

The Trust have three community facilities in Easterhouse including “the hub” (a community education and employment facility), “innerzone” (a facility for young people) and “hubSports” (a sports facility). The organisation directly delivers two community cafes, walking club, elderly lunch club, cheerleading, ICT, various social and community

events/evenings, advice and support, youth drop-in, youth holiday programmes, music/recording studio, family excursions, family support, a wide variety of volunteering opportunities and confidence building initiatives.

CONTACTS

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