



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Lisa Firth,
Director of Parks, Leisure and Libraries

Tel: 07867 758407

Report of: Lisa Firth, Director of Parks, Leisure & Libraries
Report to: Communities Parks and Leisure Policy Committee
Date of Decision: 25th September 2023
Subject: Sports Capital Improvement Projects Update

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given?				
An EIA has not been completed for this report. Individual EIAs will / have been completed for each project.				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation has not taken place for this report. Individual consultation will / has taken place for each project.				
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A CIA has not taken place for this report Individual CIAs have been or will be completed for each project.				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<p><i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>				

Purpose of Report:

To provide a briefing to the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee on the sports capital improvement projects currently being developed and delivered, including:

- Woodbourn Road Football Hub.
- Parson Cross Sports Hub.
- Osgathorpe Cruyff Court.
- Play Zones.
- Mather Road Sports Improvements.
- Tinsley Green Ball Court Improvements.

- Coleridge Road Pitch Improvements.
- Bents Green Playing Field Improvements.
- Totley Bents Cricket Improvements.
- Stocksbridge Sports Hub Project.
- Wadsley Park Pitch Improvements.

Recommendations:

The Communities Parks and Leisure Policy Committee is asked to:

1. Note the contents of the report.
2. Note that further updates and decisions (where required) on these projects will be taken to the appropriate Committee as required.

Background Papers:

None

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: <i>Julie Currey</i>
		Legal: <i>Robert Parkin</i>
		Equalities & Consultation: <i>Lou Nunn</i>
		Climate: <i>Kathryn Warrington</i>
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	SLB member who approved submission:	<i>Ajman Ali</i>
3	Committee Chair consulted:	<i>Richard Williams</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: <i>Lisa Firth</i>	Job Title: <i>Director Parks, Leisure & Libraries</i>
	Date: <i>25th September 2023</i>	

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 The Sports, Leisure and Events team are currently developing and delivering a range of capital improvement projects across the City. The majority of these are on land managed or maintained by the council.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 provides an overview of these projects, their current status, funding and partners involved.
- 1.3 Projects currently being delivered have had previous Co-op Executive and subsequent Finance Committee budget approvals to enter the capital programme as initial development work started prior to the Committee system, for example Woodbourn Road and Parson Cross Park. Projects in development entering the will be brought to the Community, Parks and Leisure Committee and then have business cases and capital approval forms submitted and formal approval via the Finance Committee.
- 1.4 This report gives the Communities, Parks and Leisure Committee members the opportunity to make comments and ask questions about projects which will contribute to their planning and development.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

- 2.1 All projects included in this update contribute to Our Sheffield Delivery Plan priorities including the strategic goal 'Healthy lives and wellbeing for all' in particular the area of focus around 'Redesigning the sport and leisure offer in the City'.
- 2.2 Various projects within the update contribute to the delivery of the Playing Pitch Strategy which was adopted by the council in September 2022 and aims to protect and improve the quality of pitches across the city.
- 2.3 Projects contribute to the themes within Sheffield Sport and Leisure Strategy by:
 - Investing in our outdoor sport and leisure facilities to improve their quality.
 - Providing opportunities for the development of sporting talent working with national governing bodies, clubs and community partners
 - Providing facilities which will benefit children and young people across the City.
 - Improving the quality of our parks and open spaces and contribute to creating 'Active Parks' across the City
 - Providing facilities and activities to encourage more people to be more active more often.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

3.1 Sheffield City Council carried out a city-wide consultation exercise in early 2022 to help inform a new Sport and Leisure Strategy. The consultation focused on people's current views about sport, leisure and physical activity, the impact of the pandemic, what would help them be more active, priorities in their local areas and where they would like to see investment.

3.2 Consultation is also a key part of the feasibility and development stage of all sports capital improvements projects to ensure improvements delivered meet community and stakeholder needs.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality Implications

4.1.1 Each individual capital project is subject to an Equality Impact Assessment at the start of the feasibility stage and no project is progressed to Initial Business Case stage without the completion of an EIA.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 Each individual project has its own financial implications related to the funding source, grant conditions and available budget of the project. As each individual project will be subject to the capital approvals process, financial implications do not form part of this report.

4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 Each individual project may have legal implications which may link to grant agreements, property or lease agreements. Any legal implications relating to individual projects covered in this update will be reported as part of any business case or decision-making report associated with each project and are not included as part of this update report.

4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 Each individual capital project is subject to a Climate Impact Assessment at the start of the feasibility stage and no project is progressed to Initial Business Case stage without the completion of a CIA.

Individual projects currently being delivered have a range of positive climate implications including the following:

- New LED floodlighting
- Pilot for new sustainable 3G surfaces
- Improved drainage provision as part of project

- Installation of cycle racks to encourage Active Travel Projects in development will consider the following to reduce any climate impact of construction
- The use of sustainable construction methods and local contractors
- Any ecological impact of any proposals and mitigations
- Energy implications of lighting arrangements to ensure the most efficient and sustainable options are chosen (for example user controlled).
- Identify opportunities to promote and increase active travel and sustainable transport access to facilities
- Consider opportunities for improving biodiversity where appropriate
- Consider options for minimising waste in construction

4.5 Other Implications

4.5.1 Public Health: It is anticipated that all sports capital improvement projects will contribute towards Sheffield City Council's strategic goal of 'Healthy lives and wellbeing for all' in particular the area of focus around 'Redesigning the sport and leisure offer in the City'.

4.5.2 The projects aim to improve facilities to encourage a wider range of people to be more active. Many of the projects included in the update will target communities who face inequalities in access to facilities and to being active.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 This is an update report.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Committee members to note the sport capital improvement projects currently in development and delivery.

Appendix to Communities, Parks & Leisure Committee Report Sports Capital Improvement Projects Update

Woodbourn Road Football Facility

£2.8m refurbishment of pitches and pavilion funded by the Football Foundation

(see [Kick-off approaches for a re-vamped football hub in Sheffield | SheffNews.](#))

- Sheffield City Council is working the Premier league, Football Association and Government's Football Foundation to deliver the project of pavilion refurbishment & pitch refurbishment which are progressing on site following a £2.1m investment from the Football Foundation
- The scheme is installing seven LED floodlit small-sided artificial turf pitches – six 5 v 5 and one 7 v 7 pitch. The two-storey pavilion will undergo major refurbishment to provide a new reception, café, meeting space, multi faith room and changing facilities.
- The six 5v5 pitches will be a test bed to research into recyclable artificial football pitch surfaces.
- The pavilion refurbishment will benefit both the football pitch users and the users of Sheffield Hallam's Athletics Stadium, which is part of the site and will share use of the pavilion.
- Regular stakeholder group meetings ongoing with a programme of use being developed with stakeholders including; Darnall Education and Sports Academy, Darnall Diamonds, Darnall FA and Darnall Wellbeing Local Area Committee and ward councillors.
- The pitch works are due to be completed by the end of September and pavilion refurbishment works early November with the facility due to open by the end of November 2023.
- Woodbourn Road will become the fourth Sheffield Football Hub along with St Georges Park Graves, Thorncliffe and Westfield with the hub due to be renamed the 'Gordon Banks Sports Hub' (not including the athletics stadium).
- All sites will be leased to the National Football Trust and operated by Leisure United as approved by Cooperative Executive in April 2022. [Decision - Sheffield Football Hubs | Sheffield City Council](#)



Parson Cross Park Sports Hub

Refurbishment of pavilion, pitch improvements (completed July 2023) and creation of Cruyff Court due for completion by the end of September 2023. Funded by Sport England, The Cruyff Foundation, S106. There is further information in the link to SheffNews.

- [Refurbishment taking shape at Parson Cross Park \(sheffnews.com\)](https://www.sheffnews.com)
- Pavilion phase 1 works to deliver mechanical and engineering works to bring the pavilion and changing facilities back into a usable state and install pitch fencing to protect the upper pitches is now complete.
- Partners include Sheffield Hawkes ARLFC, Sheffield Oaks RUFC, Sheffield & Hallamshire County FA and Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme
- The council is working with Sheffield and Hallamshire County FA to develop a 'hub' model of local football provisions and supporting the football and rugby clubs to return to Parson Cross Park.
- 9 clubs are now signed up to play from the park for the 2023/24 season.
- Work is also taking place with Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme to deliver alternate education programme, Active Through Football project and youth provisions at the park.
- A Cruyff Court is also currently being constructed on site – this will provide a high quality, lit playing surface on one of the courts on the existing Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) within the park.
- Cruyff Court due for completion September 2023
- The council is hoping to secure funding for the delivery of phase 2 of improvements including reconfiguring changing provision so it meets modern standards, developing classroom and social space and providing toilet facilities for site users.



Osgathorpe Park Cruyff Court

Feasibility underway to develop a second Cruyff Court in Burngreave.

- A further £70K from The Cruyff Foundation has been matched with local Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds to develop the old MUGA adjacent to the pavilion in Osgathorpe Park into a second Cruyff pitch for Burngreave
- Feasibility work is underway including ground investigation and bat surveys, initial design and costing work and a planning pre application will then be submitted.
- Local consultation is planned with an online survey, and discussions with residents, schools and the youth club, Local Area Committee, and ward councillors.

- The survey, planning pre application and local consultation feedback will inform the final design.
- The Cruyff Court will provide facilities for the local community and Active Through Football Project.



Play Zones

Community Engagement underway to support applications at Ecclesfield Park and Jubilee Sports Club.

- PlayZones are multi-sports courts and the Football Foundation want them to be used for other sports and activities not just football.
- The council is currently progressing a Test & Learn approach and has submitted applications for Play Zones at one local authority site (Ecclesfield Park) and one non local authority site (Jubilee Sports Club). (See decision by Communities Parks and Leisure Policy Committee 12th June 2023).
- Community engagement is ongoing at Ecclesfield Park and with Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme for the Jubilee Sports Club. This engagement will support the community engagement report submitted with the PlayZone application and is due for completion by the end of September 2023.
- Working to submit full application for test and learn sites by end of 2023.
- The PlayZone proposal at Ecclesfield Park is part of the masterplan for the site that will deliver/ has delivered new tennis courts, play areas, access, and environmental improvements. The aim of this work is for Ecclesfield Park to develop an active park with facilities that enable all ages and abilities to use and enjoy. Café and toilet facilities are also being explored for this site.



Mather Road Sports Improvements

Consultation is underway to help allocate £137k S106 allocated for sports improvements to the site.

- A new playground is currently being delivered which is funded by public health budgets, S106 and local CIL.
- The council is carrying out local consultation to gather views on improvements to the sports facilities including the football pitches, cricket wicket, old ball court and old tennis courts. Consultation has taken place online and with local groups, the local TARA, and sports clubs. Further consultation to take place with schools and residents, Local Area Committee, and ward councillors.



Tinsley Green Pitch Resurfacing

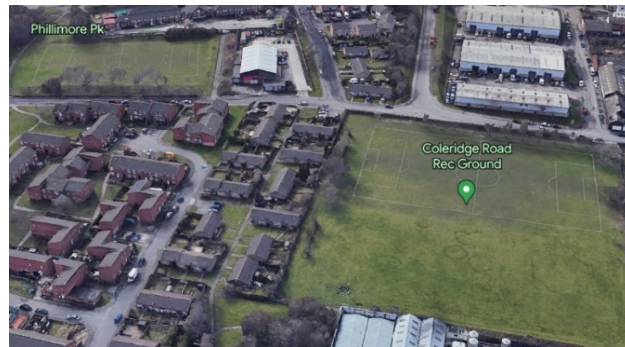
Feasibility work is currently underway to make improvements including resurfacing to the open access ball court at Tinsley Green.

- The work is looking at cost options for different surfaces and the possibility of widening the use of the court for more sports.
- Options will be discussed and agreed with community stakeholders including Tinsley Forum Local Area Committee and ward councillors.
- This work will be funded by S106 funding which was allocated by ward councillors in 2020.
- Feasibility work is expected to be completed by October. Designs will then be developed, improvement work delivered, anticipated completion to be spring 2024.
- The improvement works support keeping this site to Green Flag Standard.



Coleridge Road Pitch Improvements

- S106 funding is allocated to Coleridge Road for improvements to the football pitches on the site.
- The council is working with Darnall Diamonds to develop improvements, including improving the grass pitches, fencing the site, and providing changing facilities.
- Local consultation will be carried out to understand the usage of the site and views about the proposals. Consultation will be launched September 2023 and will include residents, Local Area Committee, and ward councillors.



Bents Green Playing Fields - Pavilion, Pitch and Access Improvements

- This project is in early feasibility stage and focuses on the re-development of the currently disused and outdated pavilion on the playing field site along with wider site improvements with the aim of improving accessibility to and from the site as well as site safety.
- We are working with a range of partners and users of the site to develop these plans and a stakeholder group has been set up.
- Feasibility work will carry out surveys, develop designs and costs in consultation with stakeholders and community.
- Submission of a funding application to the Football Foundation is planned once design and costings developed.



Totley Bents Recreation Ground Cricket Improvements

- The council is working with Yorkshire Cricket Board to deliver a new Non-Turf Cricket Pitch (NTP) plus renovations to the grass cricket wickets to improve the quality of cricket provision at Totley Bents Recreation Ground.
- The improvements will create better playing surfaces and increased playing capacity for the cricket club and the wider community.
- The project is funded by S106 compensation funding which was received from the loss of cricket facilities at Black Lane (Telecom) Sports Ground.
- The NTP is due to be delivered February – March 2024 with grass wicket renovations taking place between October 2023 and March 2024.



Stocksbridge Sports Hub

Delivery of a range of sports improvements across sites in Stocksbridge, funded by Stocksbridge Towns Fund.

- The council is working with the Stocksbridge Towns Fund on a Sports Hub project which aims to deliver a range of improvements to sports across the Stocksbridge area. These include a new 3G pitch, a new cricket pavilion, accessibility, changing and toilet facility improvements at Stocksbridge Park Steels stadium and access improvements to the Rugby Club ground.

Wadsley Park Multi Use Games Area

- The current pitch at Wadsley Park Village has had improvements to goal ends and drainage with funding from Bradfield Parish Council and Local Area Committee but is also in need of replacement surfacing.
- The council is supporting The Friends of Wadley Park Village with their fundraising efforts to make further improvements to the court.



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