



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Ormeau Park – Amendment to Pitches Strategy Proposal
Date:	14 August 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The purpose of this report is to reconsider the proposal from the Pitches Strategy relating to Ormeau Park within the context of the emerging Leisure Transformation Programme.</p> <p>Members are reminded that within the Pitches Strategy it was agreed that the Council would provide a 3rd generation artificial turf pitch with fencing and floodlighting and a changing pavilion at Ormeau Park.</p> <p>In line with that decision a planning application has been lodged with the Planning service and this is currently receiving consideration. At a recent meeting with the Planning Service concern was expressed about the location of the proposed pitch and the pavilion.</p> <p>Following discussion the location of the pitch was accepted on technical grounds, however concern remained over the location of the pavilion. Planning Service indicated that it would prefer the new pavilion to be located immediately adjacent to the Ozone Building.</p> <p>Members will be aware that the Leisure Transformation Programme has been developed and adopted, post the Pitches Strategy. Under Leisure Transformation it is intended that the management of our Leisure assets transfer to a Trust Model.</p> <p>As work on Leisure Transformation continues on the development of a specification, it is proposed that the development of a new pavilion be</p>

	<p>delayed and that Officers explore the extent of the works and associated costs of refurbishing part of the Ozone to accommodate the addition of the 3G pitch.</p> <p>It is intended that work on the construction of the 3G pitch be continued with a view to completion in 2015.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
	<p>The key issue for the Committee at this time is that there is likely to be a time delay in the construction of the 3G pitch and the delivery of the changing facilities.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p>The financial implications are unknown at this time.</p> <p><u>Human Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	<p>There are no equality implications.</p>

5.	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to agree that the construction of a stand alone changing pavilion at Ormeau Park be deferred at this time and that the construction of the 3G pitch be progressed.</p>

6.	Decision Tracking
	<p>A further report will be brought to the Committee at a later date.</p>

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>3G – Third Generation</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>None</p>