



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Strategic Policy and Resources Committee |
| Subject: | Suffolk Football Club – Proposed Changing Facilities |
| Date: | 14 December 2012 |
| Reporting Officer: | Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects, Ext. 6217 |
| Contact Officer: | Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Project, Ext. 6217 |

| 1 | Relevant Background Information |
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| 1.1 | At its meeting on 15 November 2012 the Parks and Leisure Committee was reminded about reports it had previously received outlining proposals from Suffolk Football Club to upgrade the existing playing pitch and changing facilities at the site. |
| 1.2 | The Committee was requested to agree to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it include on the Capital Programme list of uncommitted projects the provision of a two room changing pavilion and meeting area at Suffolk Playing Fields. However, at the meeting Members voted for a proposal to defer consideration of the matter. On a vote by show of hands, six Members voted for the proposal and five against and it was accordingly declared carried. |
| 1.3 | Subsequently, at the Council meeting on 3 December 2012 the following amendment was agreed. That the decision of the Parks and Leisure Committee of 15 th November under the heading "Suffolk Football Club – Proposed Changing Facilities" be amended to provide that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee include within its Capital Programme's list of uncommitted programmes the provision of a two-room changing pavilion and meeting area at the Suffolk Playing Fields. |

| 2 | Key Issues |
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| 2.1 | <p>The Parks and Leisure Committee were made aware of the following issues:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The current proposal is for a temporary modular changing pavilion to service the pitch which is currently under a separate 7 year legal agreement with Suffolk FC to enable the club to meet the grounds criteria of the Intermediate League. |

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| | <p>2. It would be the intention to include the changing pavilion within the terms of the current seven year agreement with Suffolk Football Club. Some amendment/variation of the FMA may be required to accommodate this.</p> <p>3. The long term provision of facilities on the Suffolk site needs to be considered within the context of a plan for all the provision on the site which might include the BELB school site.</p> |
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| 3 | Resource Implications |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Financial</u> Without details of the specific requirements regarding level of provision it is not possible to provide definitive costs at this time but likely estimate of £80,000 to £100,000.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no additional human resource implications other than Officer time and the project could potentially be added. Staff resource required from Estates, Project Management and Legal Services.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Provision of changing accommodation at the site would provide an enhancement of the Council asset. A variation of the FMA may be required.</p> |

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| 4 | Equality and Good Relations Considerations |
| 4.1 | There are no known equality or good relations issues associated with this proposal. |

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| 5 | Recommendations |
| 5.1 | The Committee is requested to agree to the advancement of the proposal for a two room changing pavilion and meeting room at Suffolk PF through the Gates governance process as an uncommitted proposal with further reports being presented at relevant stages for further consideration for inclusion in the Capital Programme against financial resource availability and prioritisation against other emerging proposals. |

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| 6 | Decision Tracking |
| The Director of Property and Projects will manage the proposal through the Gates governance process. | |

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| 7 | Key to Abbreviations |
| BELB – Belfast Education and Library Board | |

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| 8 | Documents Attached |
| None. | |