



Subject:	Safety of 3G pitches – update report
Date:	11 October 2016
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officers:	Emma Eaton, Corporate Health and Safety Manager

Is this report restricted?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The People and Communities Committee on 9 August 2016 considered a report on the safety of 3G pitches (Appendix 1). The Committee requested that a further report be brought back on the technical specification of the material used in Northern Ireland 3G pitches.
1.2	This report provides further detail on the technical specification of the rubber granulate currently being supplied under contract for ongoing maintenance on Belfast City Council 3G pitches.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the report.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The Council currently has a contract in place with Laydex (NI) Ltd for the supply of rubber crumb. The product currently being supplied by Laydex (NI) Ltd is manufactured by Murfitts Industries Ltd. In response to our request for further technical information, Murfitts Industries Ltd have

3.2	<p>confirmed the following:</p> <p><i>'all our tyres are only sourced from within the EU and we hand check every tyre that comes into the yard. Our methods have been tested and the rubber crumb 'mixture' falls within REACH guidelines'.</i> (REACH is the EU regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals)</p>
3.3	<p>Murfitts Industries have provided the Council with the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for their recycled rubber granulate product. This MSDS confirms that the product is <i>'classified as non-hazardous under normal use and handling conditions'</i>.</p>
3.4	<p>Furthermore, Murfitts Industries Ltd have provided the Council with a technical report undertaken by Labosport which tested their SBR (styrene butadiene rubber) granulate to EN 71-3 Safety of toys part 3: migration of certain elements. This standard sets limits on a range of chemicals in order to minimise children's exposure to certain potentially toxic elements should the toy / material be ingested. The report concludes that the rubber granulate complied with the requirements of the standard.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.6	
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	Appendix 1 – Safety of 3G Pitches Committee Report 9 August 2016