

SPORTING COMMUNITIES – GRANT FUNDING REQUEST

Report of the Head of Housing Management

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Normanton Park opened in 1909 as a place that people in the area could escape the heavily populated and industrial area. Over the last few years the Council have worked alongside a number of partners to refurbish parts of the park. The roof of the pavilion has been replaced and the clock tower has also been refurbished,
- 1.2 Sporting Communities have been an organisation leading the transformation of the park and working alongside Derby City Council have secured Normanton Park as one of only 5 potential locations in the Country for two Playzone pitches.
- 1.3 Playzones are safe, inclusive and accessible outdoor facilities that bring communities together through recreational forms of football and a range of other sports. These Playzone pitches will use new, state of the art technology to ensure that the courts are accessible and sustainable. They will include reinforcement within the court so that football, cricket and other sports can be played without wearing the surface. Further information about the project can be found on the Football Foundation website <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/playzones-programme>
- 1.4 This report request the remaining match funding to enable the bid by Sporting Communities to progress to the final stage.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Operational Board are recommended to approve the grant request of £40,000, subject to final consent from the Council.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 This project will
 - Strengthen Communities and making people proud of where they live
 - Benefit the tenants and families of tenants living in the local area
 - Provide state of the art sports facilities in a deprived area of the city
 - Enable the development of a training and education space for Derby residents.

4. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 This request has been received from Sporting Communities who are already an organisation that work in partnership with Derby Homes and the Council to provide positive engagement opportunities for children and young people across the City.
- 4.2 Normanton Park, situated on Warwick Avenue is on the fringe of some large social housing estates (Osmaston/Austin/Sunnyhill) and serves communities within the most deprived wards of our city.
- 4.3 Over recent years the Council have sought improve facilities at the Park working alongside volunteers and partner agencies. The ongoing partnership with Sporting Communities has rejuvenated the Community Centre and helped to secure additional external funding, enabling a three year Play Leadership Programme to take place at the park. This grant funding request is to carry out further, much needed improvements to rejuvenate the courts to enhance facilities for football and other ball sports.
- 4.4 Normanton has considerably poorer health, education and higher inactivity and poverty when compared to the national and local figures. In addition to the poor health, low education and low household income of predominantly young ethnic minority residents, Normanton ranks as one of the highest wards for crime and anti-social behaviour. The renovation of the sports court will address these by providing a safe space for people to become active, improving the health and wellbeing of residents. In addition it will create employment opportunities through the provision of activities.
- 4.5 Sporting Communities have an agreement in place to support Dale Primary School, who currently have no facilities for physical education. Additionally to support the asset transfer agreement with the Council they also plan to offer out the the space free of charge to local people who can not afford to hire the facilities.
- 4.6 Projections made by Sporting Communities estimate that the court will not just have a positive impact on the Normanton Community, but also the City. One of only five suchlike facilities in the United Kingdom they estimate a throughput of over 75,000 people per year, compared to the current 5,000 per year and as mentioned earlier in the report could lead to the development of a training and education space being created in the adjacent Pavillion.
- 4.7 The total cost of the project is £280,000, with £40,000 contribution being requested from Derby Homes. The remaining funding has been secured as shown below:
- £100,000 – Football Foundation
 - £60,000 - Cruyff Foundation
 - £25,000 - DCC, Levelling up Fund (£80,000 allocated to Normanton)
 - £10,000 - Sport England
 - £45,000 - Reduction in cost from supplier.

5. CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Sporting Communities have already carried out extensive consultation with individuals, schools and community groups within the area. Community Engagement is at the heart of the Playzone programme. The facilities have been designed in partnership with local communities to ensure that the final design and surface works for football and other sports and activities identified for the area. Playzones will be available for community use day and night, all year round.

6. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This proposal supports Derby Homes business plan in that it will provide much needed community facilities within one of the most deprived areas of the City encouraging the health and wellbeing of our residents.
- 7.2 The grant of £40,000 can be met within existing budgets to support community engagement and estates improvements.

7. ENVIROMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The provision of the facilities will enhance the recreational facilities within the existing park and help to continue the wider regeneration of the area.

8. COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 This proposal is already being supported by Derby City Council through Levelling up Funding.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 As part of the bid to the Football Foundation a comprehensive equalities impact assessment has been carried out. A key aim of the programme is to tackle inequalities. Priority groups across the country face inequalities in activity levels and access to sports facilities. As a result of the Covid-19 impact this inequalities gap has widened further. The project aims to offer safe and inclusive facilities that will help local communities to overcome these challenges. The four main groups facing the greatest inequalities have been identified as:

- Lower socio-economic groups
- Women and girls
- Disabled people and people with long term health conditions
- Ethnically diverse communities.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Legal and Confidentiality
Personnel
Health & Safety
Risk
Policy Review

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

Name - Carl Willis, Head of Housing Management / Email carl.willis@derbyhomes.org

Background Information: None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Managing Director	M Murphy	07.12.2022
Finance Director	M Kirk	07.12.2022
Head of Service (Operational Board reports)	C Willis	07.12.2022
Company Solicitor		