

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title: Caldecott Park Tennis Courts Funding

Name of Committee: Council

Date of Meeting: 10 July 2024

Report Director: Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing

Portfolio: Leisure and Wellbeing

Ward Relevance: All

Prior Consultation: Lawn Tennis Association

Contact Officer: John Howes - Green Space and Biodiversity Manager

Public or Private: Public

Report Subject to Call-In: No

Report En-Bloc: No

Forward Plan: No

Corporate Priorities: This report relates to the following priority(ies):
 Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change. (C)
 Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents. (E)
 Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected. (HC)
 Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation. (O)
[Corporate Strategy 2021-2024](#)
 This report does not specifically relate to any Council priorities but

(C) Climate
(E) Economy
(HC) Health and Communities
(O) Organisation

Summary: The report outlines seeks a supplementary budget and approval to accept Lawn Tennis Association funding for grant awarded for the improvement of the public tennis courts in Caldecott Park, supported by section 106 funding already secured.

Financial Implications: The total spend will be £73,850 and will be fully funded through an external grant and Section 106.

Risk Management Implications:	Risk management implications include the potential non delivery of capital improvement to the public tennis courts should recommendations and budget requests not be approved.
Environmental Implications:	The Lawn Tennis Association have approved contractors that have been through their procurement approvals including sustainability responsibilities.
Legal Implications:	<p>The project has existing section 106 funding received and subject to signed legal agreement for Caldecott Park.</p> <p>The Council will be required to enter into legal agreement with the Lawn Tennis Association for the grant funding, including reporting on appropriate expenditure as detailed in the project application.</p>
Equality and Diversity:	The Caldecott Park public tennis courts are 2 courts of minimal public supply within the borough. Courts are accessible for all through appropriate booking requests.
Options:	<p>1) Approve the supplementary budget request for the capital programme and acceptance of Lawn Tennis Association grant funding.</p> <p>2) Reject the supplementary budget request and Lawn Tennis Association grant award.</p>
Recommendation:	<p>1) to enter into legal agreement with the Lawn Tennis Association to accept the grant award.</p> <p>2) a supplementary capital budget of £73,850 be established and to be funded wholly by a Lawn Tennis Association grant award and section 106 funding ringfenced for Caldecott Park outdoor sports provision be approved</p>
Reasons for Recommendation:	The capital budget request will ensure efficient and effective financial processes for the Council to deliver parks and open spaces projects through the appropriate use of external grant funding and section 106 funding.

Council - 10 July 2024

Caldecott Park Tennis Courts Funding

Public Report of the Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing

Recommendation

- 1) to enter into legal agreement with the Lawn Tennis Association to accept the grant award.
- 2) a supplementary capital budget of £73,850 be established and to be funded wholly by a Lawn Tennis Association grant award and section 106 funding ringfenced for Caldecott Park outdoor sports provision be approved

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks to approve a supplementary budget request for the acceptance of a Lawn Tennis Association grant award of £49,900 and subsequent use of ringfenced section 106 funding to undertake a refurbishment project of the public tennis courts in Caldecott Park.
- 1.2 The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and the UK government are investing over £0.300m to renovate and improve thousands of park tennis courts across Great Britain.
- 1.3 Funding will be used to make essential renovations and improvements to public park tennis courts, especially those in the worst condition and in the most deprived communities.
- 1.4 The programme is a rolling programme with projects required to be delivered by September 2024.
- 1.5 Council officers approached the LTA's Park Investment Delivery Partner regards the opportunities for the public tennis courts in Caldecott Park, located in the Benn ward.
- 1.6 The Lawn Tennis Association have centrally procured appropriate contractors and appointed a Leicester based supplier called Fosse to deliver projects across the Midlands.
- 1.7 The contractor has conducted a site visit and established a programme of works for improvements to the parks two tennis courts including works to improve the surfacing, security fencing and access gates.

- 1.8 The Initial project was rejected by the Lawn Tennis Association but following a budget underspend, the Caldecott Park tennis courts were progressed to Stage 2 of the funding programme.
- 1.9 The Council were informed in May 2024 that the Stage 2 project was successful and £49,900 funding agreed for the refurbishment of Caldecott Park tennis courts. Due to the timescales of the LTA funding, the project is required to be accepted and completed by September 2024.
- 1.10 The total cost of the project is £73,850 and will be supported by section 106 funding to complete the project requirements. S106 funding has been secured and received for “outdoor sports provision at Caldecott Park” generated from the Cattle Market Site development, B166.
- 1.11 The LTA have provided a fully costed project plan in line with the Parks Improvement Programme requirements.
- 1.12 A supplementary budget request is therefore required to establish a new budget code for the project as per the council’s Capital Strategy to ensure it is an effective and efficient organisation.

2. Caldecott Park Tennis Courts Project

- 2.1 The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) are investing £0.30m in the refurbishment of public tennis courts across Great Britain. The scheme aims to improve the provision of tennis courts including a mixture of resurfacing, repainting, new nets and new improved gate-access technology.
- 2.2 The LTA have centrally procured appropriate contractors and appointed a Leicester based supplier called Fosse to deliver projects across the Midlands.
- 2.3 The contractor has conducted a site visit and established a programme of works for improvements to the parks two tennis courts including works to improve the surfacing, security fencing and access gates.
- 2.4 Following initial rejection at Stage 1 phase, the Council have subsequently been informed of being progressed to Stage 2 of the funding programme following an underspend on previously identified projects.
- 2.5 In May 2024, the Council were informed of project approval at Stage 2 of the project proposal. The Council have been informed that the Caldecott Park tennis courts have been allocated funding of £49,900 and that the programme of works would have to be completed by September 2024.
- 2.6 The improvements to the tennis courts will include:
 - Resurfacing of the two court surfaces
 - Improvements to the security fencing
 - Improvements to the automated gates on both courts.
- 2.7 The improvements to the courts will ensure a higher quality security and customer experience for online booking. The courts are currently subject

to booking fees as set out in the council's fees and charges, but due to regular vandalism and poor equipment, the courts are not controlled in the desired way.

- 2.8 As part of the LTA contract agreements to ensure regular and consistent booking opportunities, the terms and conditions set out a partnership with Premier Tennis for a refreshed charging policy/price
- 2.9 The new booking system is called 'Clubspark' and is a nationally recognised online booking system, which includes a provision of a predetermined amount of free tennis access as part of the contract to ensure equal opportunities for the public to access tennis as a sports participation.
- 2.10 The improved gates will require users to book online and pay, before receiving a pin code sent to their phone to gain access.

3. Section 106 Contribution – Caldecott Park

- 3.1 Section 106 agreements are legal agreements between Local Authorities and housing developers where it is considered a development will have a significant impact on the local area. Obligations for section 106 agreements include contributions to:
 - Public open space
 - Affordable Housing
 - Education
 - Highways
- 3.2 The content of a section 106 agreement is agreed through the consultation period of the planning application with identified projects confirmed as part of the legal agreement.
- 3.3 The projects outlined within the report seek to ensure the following Corporate Strategy objectives are achieved:
 - Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation.
 - Residents live healthy, independent lives with the most vulnerable protected.
 - Link places together with good quality, green infrastructure and improve biodiversity across the borough
 - Make sure residents are proud of their community and their borough.
 - Support residents to lead active lives with high quality, accessible green space and recreational facilities.
- 3.4 The management of the projects through section 106 funding are deemed low risk to the council as the funding is secured through legal agreements as part of the planning process.
- 3.5 The identified section 106 legal agreement is outlined as B166 Cattle Market Site development where contributions were secured specifically for

“outdoor sports provision at Caldecott Park. The use of the identified section 106 funding ensures appropriate utilisation in line with and ensures project expenditure is formally committed.

- 3.6 The Caldecott Park tennis court project outlined in this report is to be fully funded through acceptance of the Lawn Tennis Association grant award and section 106 and will not require the council to seek additional capital loans to finance the projects.

4. Project Works, Improvements

- 4.1 The LTA have provided the Council with a fully costed pricing document from the approved supplier.

- 4.2 Outlined LTA works include:

- Power wash, moss treatment, asphalt compaction, bitumen application.
- Installation of 25mm consolidated depth of 6mm asphalt surface course and application of two-tone colour coating slip resistance of 60 wet or dry.
- Break out and disposal of existing posts with installation of new sockets, centre net anchor, net posts and nets
- New pedestrian gate.
- LTA overheads and design fees.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The report seeks the approval for the acceptance of Lawn Tennis Association grant funding and the use of existing section 106 funding for the capital improvement of the Caldecott Park tennis courts.

- 5.2 The Lawn Tennis Association require the grant award project to be completed by September 2024 and is therefore time critical to establish approval to accept the grant, establish a supplementary budget and engage the Lawn Tennis Association approved contractors.

Name of Meeting: Council
Date of Meeting: 10 July 2024
Subject Matter: Caldecott Park Tennis Courts Funding
Originating Department: Leisure and Wellbeing

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY **YES** **NO**

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink

The background papers relating to reports on planning applications and which are open to public inspection under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972, consist of the planning applications, referred to in the reports, and all written responses to consultations made by the Local Planning Authority, in connection with those applications.

Exempt information is contained in the following documents:


Doc No	Relevant Paragraph of Schedule 12A

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

Context

1. The Public Sector Equality Duty as set out under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires Rugby Borough Council when making decisions to have due regard to the following:
 - eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
 - advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
 - fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
2. The characteristics protected by the Equality Act are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage/civil partnership
 - pregnancy/maternity
 - race
 - religion/belief
 - sex/gender
 - sexual orientation
3. In addition to the above-protected characteristics, you should consider the crosscutting elements of the proposed policy, such as impact on social inequalities and impact on carers who look after older people or people with disabilities as part of this assessment.
4. The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) document is a tool that enables RBC to test and analyse the nature and impact of what it is currently doing or is planning to do in the future. It can be used flexibly for reviewing existing arrangements but in particular should enable identification where further consultation, engagement and data is required.
5. The questions will enable you to record your findings.
6. Where the EqIA relates to a continuing project, it must be reviewed and updated at each stage of the decision.
7. Once completed and signed off the EqIA will be published online.
8. An EqIA must accompany all **Key Decisions** and **Cabinet Reports**.
9. For further information, refer to the EqIA guidance for staff.
10. For advice and support, contact:
Aftab Razzaq
Chief Officer for Legal and Governance
aftab.razzaq@rugby.gov.uk
01788 533521

Equality Impact Assessment

Service Area	Parks and Open Space
Policy/Service being assessed	Capital refurbishment of Caldecott Park tennis courts
Is this a new or existing policy/service? If existing policy/service please state date of last assessment	Not applicable
EqlA Review Team – List of members	Tom Kittendorf, John Howes
Date of this assessment	18 June 2024
Signature of responsible officer (to be signed after the EqlA has been completed)	

A copy of this Equality Impact Assessment report, including relevant data and information to be forwarded to the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance.

Details of Strategy/ Service/ Policy to be analysed

<u>Stage 1 – Scoping and Defining</u>	
(1) Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the Strategy/Service/Policy (or decision)?	The primary objective of the cabinet report is to approve the acceptance of external grant funding from the Lawn Tennis Association and the appropriate utilisation of secured section 106 funding for the refurbishments of the two tennis courts situated in Caldecott Park.
(2) How does it fit with Rugby Borough Council's Corporate priorities and your service area priorities?	<p>The services enable residents to live active and healthy lives</p> <p>The service promotes, encourages and celebrates diversity and inclusion to ensure Rugby is a Place where everyone feels welcome.</p>
(3) What are the expected outcomes you are hoping to achieve?	<p>To obtain Council approval for capital budgets to be established as per the Capital Strategy.</p> <p>To carry out a full capital refurbishment of the two tennis courts in Caldecott Park as per the project report supplied by the Lawn Tennis Association.</p> <p>To have improved security and quality of service for tennis participants to access tennis provision in the town centre park. The current facilities are subject to unauthorised access, criminal damage and regular repairs to the pay and play functionality of the courts.</p> <p>Increased appropriate usage of tennis participation, improved statistics for usage and income rather than unauthorised usage.</p>

<p>(4) Does or will the policy or decision affect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers • Employees • Wider community or groups 	<p>The improvements will significantly improve the tennis court provision with Caldecott Park and ensure appropriate future use rather than unauthorised usage, criminal damage etc.</p> <p>Improved access control and booking of the courts should improve the experience for tennis users.</p> <p>Appropriate control and management of the courts will reduce the risk of unauthorised access after hours and reduce risk of resident complaints regarding noise.</p>
<p><u>Stage 2 - Information Gathering</u></p>	<p>As a minimum you must consider what is known about the population likely to be affected which will support your understanding of the impact of the policy, e.g. service uptake/usage, customer satisfaction surveys, staffing data, performance data, research information (national, regional and local data sources).</p>
<p>(1) What does the information tell you about those groups identified?</p>	<p>The tennis courts are intended for the appropriate provision of public tennis courts within a council open space.</p> <p>Whilst they are subject to fees and charges, the courts do not require participants to have a club membership.</p> <p>The courts are subject to appropriate booking to ensure the proper management.</p>
<p>(2) Have you consulted or involved those groups that are likely to be affected by the strategy/ service/policy you want to implement? If yes, what were their views and how have their views influenced your decision?</p>	<p>The project has been developed in partnership with the Lawn Tennis Association, the National governing body for tennis in England.</p>

<p>(3) If you have not consulted or engaged with communities that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision, give details about when you intend to carry out consultation or provide reasons for why you feel this is not necessary.</p>	<p>The capital works will see improvements to the current provision of tennis courts in Caldecott Park. The courts are individually fenced and gated but have been subject to vandalism and inappropriate use in recent years.</p>		
<p><u>Stage 3 – Analysis of impact</u></p>			
<p>(1) <u>Protected Characteristics</u> From your data and consultations is there any positive, adverse or negative impact identified for any particular group, which could amount to discrimination? If yes, identify the groups and how they are affected.</p>	<p>RACE</p>	<p>DISABILITY</p>	<p>GENDER</p>
	<p>MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP</p>	<p>AGE</p>	<p>GENDER REASSIGNMENT</p>
	<p>RELIGION/BELIEF</p>	<p>PREGNANCY MATERNITY</p>	<p>SEXUAL ORIENTATION</p>
<p>(2) <u>Cross cutting themes</u> (a) Are your proposals likely to impact on social inequalities e.g. child poverty, geographically disadvantaged communities? If yes, please explain how? (b) Are your proposals likely to impact on a carer who looks after older people or people with disabilities? If yes, please explain how?</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that carrying out improvement works to the tennis courts will have any negative impact on any particular group. The improvements will have positive impact for the disabled users as improved surfacing will make a safer surface to participate in tennis.</p>		
<p>(3) If there is an adverse impact, can this be justified?</p>	<p>N/A</p>		

(4) What actions are going to be taken to reduce or eliminate negative or adverse impact? (This should form part of your action plan under Stage 4.)	N/A
(5) How does the strategy/service/policy contribute to the promotion of equality? If not, what can be done?	<p>The public tennis courts do not require a specific club membership, dress code or standard of equipment.</p> <p>The courts are subject to appropriate fees to gain access and are available for all residents to participate in the sport of tennis.</p>
(6) How does the strategy/service/policy promote good relations between groups? If not, what can be done?	The project promotes health and wellbeing benefits to any resident who wishes to engage in the participation of the sport tennis.
(7) Are there any obvious barriers to accessing the service? If yes how can they be overcome?	

<u>Stage 4 – Action Planning, Review and Monitoring</u>	
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<p>If No Further Action is required then go to – Review and Monitoring</p> <p>(1) Action Planning – Specify any changes or improvements that can be made to the service or policy to mitigate or eradicate negative or adverse impact on specific groups, including resource implications.</p>	<p>EqlA Action Plan</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="873 351 2116 582"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="873 351 1120 422">Action</th> <th data-bbox="1120 351 1366 422">Lead Officer</th> <th data-bbox="1366 351 1612 422">Date for completion</th> <th data-bbox="1612 351 1859 422">Resource requirements</th> <th data-bbox="1859 351 2116 422">Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Action	Lead Officer	Date for completion	Resource requirements	Comments																				
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<p>(2) Review and Monitoring State how and when you will monitor policy and Action Plan</p>																														

Please annotate your policy with the following statement:

‘An Equality Impact Assessment on this policy was undertaken on (date of assessment) and will be reviewed on (insert review date).’