

Committee(s): Community and Health Committee	Date: 28 June 2021
Subject: Football Hub update report	Wards Affected: ALL
Report of: Kim Anderson	Public
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Summary

The report provides an update for Members on the progress of the Football Hub development at the Brentwood Centre site and the work that has been undertaken.

Main Report

Introduction and Background

1. On 30 July 2019 Extraordinary Council (min. ref. 153), Members agreed for officers to commence procurement exercise to appoint a contractor to undertake a football feasibility study to support the football hub development at the Brentwood Centre site. 4 Global were appointed with LK2 Architects, to undertake these works. Their report was presented to 10 March 2020 Community & Health Committee which set out the strategic context, evidence of need, consultation with key stakeholders, assessment of options and indicative costings for each of the options along with proposed next steps.
2. Some further master-planning for the Brentwood Centre site was undertaken in 2020 and officers have also had a meeting with planning development to understand the specific constraints on the site.
3. After the meeting with planning development the main constraint for the site is that it sits in Green Belt, any planned built facilities should be near current built facilities and not spread across the whole site.
4. With planning advice, Officers drew up the specification to appoint an architect to develop the plans ready for planning submission.
5. The Council was keen as part of the development to look at zero carbon opportunities for the new development where possible.

6. A total of 14 submissions were received as part of the tender exercise and LK2 Architects were the successful architect and have now been appointed.
7. Initial meetings with the architects and the Essex FA and the Football Foundation took place in June and a further meeting with planning development to progress the plans.
8. Local football clubs and other key stakeholders will be consulted with as part of the development.

Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

9. The proposed development will include a 3G stadia pitch together with 2 additional 3G pitches and 4 grass pitches. These pitches will be supported by changing facilities together with community space.
10. Relevant surveys will be undertaken to inform the planning submission and will include Highways, topological, drainage and ecological.
11. Consultation will also be undertaken with local football clubs to understand the usage of the facilities and understand where the peak times will be.
12. The Council is also keen to explore opportunities to develop zero carbon leisure facilities and also understand the cost implications of the build but the benefits of a long-term reduction in utility costs.
13. The architects will also engage with the planning development department to discuss location of facilities, constraints on the site and recommended materials for the built facilities.
14. Subject to planning approval the Council would look to appoint a contractor for the build and apply for funding to the Football Foundation.
15. Below sets out the expected high-level timeline for the project. This will be refined in the coming weeks and months.

Date	High Level Action
June 2021	Initial Meetings with Architect, Essex FA, Planning
July 2021	Begin initial consultation with local football clubs.
July 2021	Surveys Commence
July / August 2021	Plans Drawn Up
September / October 2021	Planning Application Submitted
October / November 2021	Specification and Procurement Exercise begins.
November / December 2021	Application Determined
January 2022	Grant Application to Football Foundation submitted.
January / April 2022	Procurement of Pavilion Build completes
April 2022	Grant Application Determined
May/June 2022	Phase 1 Build Begins

Reasons for Recommendation

16. The report is to provide an update to Members and for information only.

Consultation

17. Consultation will be undertaken with the Leisure Strategy Working Group, local football clubs and any relevant stakeholders in the development options and plans for the Football Hub development.

References to Corporate Plan

18. The Football Hub sits under the Developing Communities strand and in particular - to continue to invest in and develop new community facilities to meet the future needs of a growing population

Implications

Financial Implications

Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Corporate Director (Finance and Resources) and S151 Officer

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19. Subject to planning approval Officers will need to determine the total build costs for the development, as well as the whole project and align with this year's budget setting process for 2022-23. The Council will also apply to the Football Foundation for financial contribution to the hub development.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Corporate Director (Law & Governance) and Monitoring Officer

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20. The Council will follow the public procurement regime and any contract entered into will be subject to legal input and scrutiny. This will mitigate the risk of challenge to the Council.

Economic Implications

Name/Title: Phil Drane, Corporate Director (Planning and Economy)

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21. Improving the health and wellbeing of those living, working and visiting the borough can benefit the local economy in a multitude of ways.

Equality and Diversity Implications

Name/Title: Kim Anderson, Partnerships, Leisure & Funding Manager

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22. The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
 - (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
23. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil

partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).

24. The proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic.

Health & Wellbeing Implications

Name/Title: Jo Cory, Corporate Health & Wellbeing Officer

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25. The planned facilities should encourage increased participation in grassroots football and encourage active and healthy lifestyles.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

None.

Background Papers

- Football feasibility Report
- Play Pitch Strategy
- Local football Facilities Plan