

Report on	Partnership Proposal
Date of Meeting	16 th November 2023
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Sean Cavlin, Leisure Services Development Manager

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on a proposal received from St Patrick's College Maghera for a partnership to be developed.
2.0	Background
2.1	Following a request made by St Patricks College Maghera to assess potential for Maghera Leisure Centre to be included in a potential partnership between the Council and College, a number of meetings have taken place between council officers and school reps.
2.2	The school would regularly book and pay for facilities at Maghera Leisure Centre and Council would also engage with the school for use of their land (ie. for Halloween event/fireworks display, overflow car parking on occasions, etc).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Current hire charges per hour for each of the relevant facility areas are as follows: <i>(as per Councils current agreed scale of charges as approved via Development Committee in February 2023 – note the school is already eligible for concession pricing at 50% discount)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Hall - £20.80 per hour (£10.40 concession) • 3G Full Pitch - £30 per hour (£15.50 concession) • 3G – 1/3 Pitch - £6.80 per hour (£3.40 concession)
3.2	The schools recent historical annual invoices would be in the region of £1,800 per year based on previous usage. The schools dependency on facilities at Maghera Leisure Centre tend to reduce during the spring, summer, and autumn terms (in the more favourable weather conditions) – ie. these are generally periods when the school utilise their own grass pitch on a priority basis rather than the facilities at the leisure centre.

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>The school have therefore asked for the below times to be included within a usage agreement for facilities at Maghera Leisure Centre that would see a fixed annual fee be agreed in which the school would pay council and therefore the council could benefit from use of school facilities and land where required as part of the agreement (eg. for Halloween event/fireworks display, overflow car parking, use of school hall for activities/events in the wider Maghera area if the leisure centre is unavailable,etc).</p> <p><u>Main Hall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday: 12.15pm – 3.00pm • Tuesday: 11.15am – 4.00pm • Thursday: 11.30am – 4.00pm • Friday: 12.15pm – 4.00pm <p><u>3G Pitch</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 5.00pm <p>The times listed above are generally the “down times” within Maghera Leisure Centre – ie. these slots are rarely booked by anyone else apart from the school themselves. Should this partnership approach proceed, it would be the intention that Maghera Leisure Centre could still facilitate other 3rd party bookings provided there’s communication and agreement between both parties (this is most likely for one off booking only rather than recurring bookings).</p> <p>Therefore, taking this into account along with the reciprocal benefits Council can achieve for use of school land and facilities where reasonably required, it would be suggested that an annual fee of around £1,000 could be a reasonable fixed annual fee – it is proposed that this is trailed for a period of 12 months initially and reviewed for effectiveness should it be beneficial to continue on beyond the initial trial period with annual reviews thereafter.</p> <p>It would be proposed that council should still retain the position that should any significant one-off booking or where a full price recurring booking may have the potential to take place, that Council engage with the school where relevant to look at alternative provision where possible.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: A proposed £1,000 per annum fixed fee payable to Council by the school – no fees/expenditure to be incurred by council for any hire charges towards any reasonable use of any school land/facilities – note any costs associated with staffing for any set up/break down requirements would be additional and mutually agreed.</p> <p>Human: None anticipated at this juncture.</p> <p>Risk Management: Considered in line with relevant Council Policies and Procedures.</p>

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>To note the contents of this report and to give consideration to to St Patricks College Maghera proposal and give agreement for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A partnership agreement between the school and council with an annual fee of £1,000 payable to Council • Partnership to be trialled for a period of 12 months initially and reviewed for effectiveness should it be beneficial to continue on beyond the initial trial period with annual reviews thereafter
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A