

Report on	Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application
Date of Meeting	4 th November 2021
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing

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 of the progress of the Sport NI Multi Facility Fund Application and to seek Members approval for match funding allocation from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Multi-Facility Fund is a capital grants programme managed and administered by Sport Northern Ireland. The programme is financed by National Lottery funds.
2.2	Previously in November 2018, Council approved the progression of and Mid Ulster District Council application to Stage 2 of the process, specifically an application for Mid Ulster Sports Arena facility enhancement to include an 8 lane running track and pitch in the middle of the track both with floodlights. It was noted that this project would require additional land so as part of this approval, Officers were also permitted to write to CAFRE Director to formally request the transfer of land known as First Beech to Mid Ulster District Council.
2.3	The indicative budget for the Sport NI Multi-Facility programme is £6.75m and following an initial 39 applications that were invited to Stage 2, subsequently 10 applicants were invited to the next stage which included the MUSA project. District councils are eligible for 60% of the costs up to a maximum of £1million.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Previously in November 2019, as a result of a successful Stage 2 application, Council approved the procurement of a consultant to complete the required Economic Appraisal required for the project. In conjunction with the Council's technical team, the Consultant progressed design works with a number of potential options for the proposed new facility enhancement having been considered. This included extensive consultation with clubs and user groups and the development of a sports

	development plan for the MUSA facility. A funding application along with an economic appraisal was submitted to Sport NI in advance of their 4 th September 2020 deadline.
3.2	Members agreed the Capital Framework 2020 – 2024 at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held in February 2020 and a budget allocation of £1million was assigned to the MUSA project subject to successful funding.
3.3	Previously in September 2020, Members at the Development Committee resolved to note the progression of the Economic Appraisal to Sport NI as part of Stage 4 of the process and subject to the achievement of funding from Sport NI, approval was given for the appointment of a full ICT team and the submission of full planning permission. Indicative costs were approved at this point for £2,585,306 (including optimum bias) and on the basis Council could achieve the maximum funding of £1million.
3.4	At April 2021 Development Committee, it was noted within Chairs Business that Sport NI approved the application with an indicative funding offer of £1million for that project.
3.5	Council officers have commenced work on Sport NI's project management requirements that includes the appointment of ICT Teams and applying for planning permission.
3.6	Members approval is sought for Council match funding allocation of approx. £1.6million from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024 (an uplift of approx. £600k based on previous budget allocation of £1million in February 2020).
3.7	As time has elapsed from the Economic Appraisal in September 2020 and rising material costs experienced over the past 12 months, full costs will not be known until a tender processed is conducted. Potential savings have been identified which include a potential reduction for the PC sum for NIE works for relocation of overhead cables and also a reduced specification for the running track. Further design work will be required to identify potential savings. Reduction of the specification of the infield pitch from 3G to natural grass sand mattress was ruled out within the economic appraisal due to other natural grass pitch provision on site as well as the benefits of a 3G surface being available all year round. Savings may therefore be realised at tender stage and also as a result of NIE works.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: This preferred option has been approved by Sport NI. This option sets the parameters for any future Stage 4 Letter of Offer Pack. The Sport NI Board agreed to offer an indicative maximum award of £1m towards capital costs. This provisional offer is subject to Mid Ulster District Council fulfilling the remaining Project Management Requirements, including submission of a Tender Report,

	<p>business case updated with the tendered costs, full partnership funding package, and risks/benefits etc.</p> <p>Project is dependent on appropriate match funding being secured from the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024, estimated at approx. £1.6million.</p> <p>Project is dependent on land transfer from Department.</p>
	Human: Current staff structure sufficient to deliver on outcomes.
	Risk Management: Additional external funding has been secured with an indicative award but is subject to a number of conditions and risks. Council staff and appointed ICT will manage and monitor the project aims and outcomes to ensure compliance to council policies and procedures and associated funders criteria throughout the delivery of the project.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with Council's policies and procedures.
	Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with Council's policies and procedures.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members note the progression of the project and to give approval for Council to provide match funding of £1.6 million as part of the Council's Capital Framework 2020 – 2024.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Draft Site Plan.