

To: Council

On: 23 February 2017

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Funding support for Kilbarchan AAC training facility

1. Summary

- 1.1 Kilbarchan Amateur Athletics Club (AAC) are one of Scotland's largest and most successful clubs. The Club currently utilise the outdoor track and field facilities at Renfrewshire Leisure's ON-X sport centre in Linwood.
 - 1.2 With the support of Scottish Athletics and Sport Scotland, Kilbarchan AAC have developed proposals to build an indoor Athletics Training centre on land to be leased from the Council adjacent to the ON-X outdoor track and field facilities.
 - 1.3 The Club have embarked on a major fund raising exercise to secure the £2.1m build cost of the development. The Club is seeking financial support for this development from the Council as part of the funding exercise.
 - 1.4 This report seeks approval from Council for the allocation of a total of £500k to support the Kilbarchan AAC's proposed development, subject to the conditions set out in this report and, which will be drawn down in two tranches of £250k in each of financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council approve the allocation of £500k, in two tranches of £250k in financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20, to support the proposed development of an indoor athletics training centre for Kilbarchan AAC, subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 3.7 below.

3. Background

- 3.1 Kilbarchan Amateur Athletic Club (AAC) is one of Scotland's most successful clubs and is in the premier division of three major Scottish Athletics' leagues. It has over 525 members who are drawn from across Renfrewshire's communities and beyond. Its members were represented in the Great Britain Olympics team in Rio De Janeiro in 2016.
- 3.2 The Club currently utilise the outdoor track & field facilities at Linwood's ON-X Sport & Community Centre. However, during inclement weather they struggle to adequately accommodate their members; utilising where possible the adjacent ON-X indoor facilities and local school PE halls. While the proximity of these indoor venues is convenient, the school facilities are limited and the ON-X being a commercial public concern, is often fully booked preventing the clubs ability to utilise during unpredictable weather.
- 3.3 To address these challenges and support the club's focus on continued improvement and athletics success, Kilbarchan AAC has prepared a feasibility study for the development of an indoor athletics training facility on Council owned land adjacent to the existing ON-X outdoor track. The Club propose to lease the land from the Council for the area required for the development.
- 3.4 The proposed indoor training centre would be provide the following facilities:
- 60m running track
 - Horizontal and vertical jumps
 - Pole vault
 - Indoor throws cage, including javelin
 - Club room
 - Strength and conditioning area
- 3.5 Kilbarchan AAC's proposal has the support of Renfrewshire Leisure and Scottish Athletics, with the latter identifying the proposal as an important project within the National Facilities Strategy. Sport Scotland are also supportive of the proposal and have agreed to provide £250k funding support, subject to certain conditions being met.
- 3.6 The total cost of the proposed facility is estimated at £2.1m and Kilbarchan AAC have secured just under £1m to date and are embarking on a major fund raising exercise to secure the total requirement. As part of that exercise, they are seeking £500k funding from the Council over two years, £250k in 2018/19 and £250k in 2019/20.

- 3.7 The successful completion of the proposed development would significantly enhance the quality of the athletic training facilities available within Renfrewshire and support the continued development and success of the Kilbarchan AAC. It is fully consistent with the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure's objectives of encouraging increased participation in sport amongst Renfrewshire's communities and support for the achievement of sporting excellence. It is considered appropriate therefore that the Council commit funding to support this project subject to the following conditions being met:
- a) Kilbarchan AAC raising the required total funding necessary to successfully complete the development;
 - b) Kilbarchan AAC and the Council agreeing satisfactory terms for the lease of the Council owned land upon which the development will be constructed;
 - c) Kilbarchan AAC receiving the necessary statutory consents for the development, and
 - d) Kilbarchan AAC providing the Council and Renfrewshire Leisure with an appropriate safe working delivery plan for the development to ensure there is no adverse effects on the operation of the ON-X sport centre during the construction phase.
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Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** – The Council will be required to provide £500k funding to support the proposed development.
- 2. **HR & Organisational Development** -
- 3. **Community Planning** – *none*
- 4. **Legal** – There will be a requirement for Legal Services to carry out work to agree an appropriate lease with Kilbarchan AAC for the Council land upon which the proposed facility will be constructed.
- 5. **Property/Assets** –An area of Council owned land will be leased to Kilbarchan AAC.
- 6. **Information Technology** - *none*
- 7. **Equality & Human Rights** - *none*

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because for example it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety** - *none*

9. **Procurement** – *none*

10. **Risk** - Shared Risk Assessment is a proportionate and risk-based approach to assessing best value within local authorities.

11. **Privacy Impact** - *none*

List of Background Papers

(a) n/a

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