

REGENERATION, TRANSPORT AND CULTURE SCRUTINY PANEL	DATE 4 February 2020	ITEM NO. 4
TITLE Hervey Road Playing Fields; Overview & Scrutiny Review	WARD(S) Kidbrooke with Hornfair	
CHIEF OFFICER Director (Regeneration, Enterprise & Skills)	CABINET MEMBER Regeneration and Growth	

I. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. Part 4B of the Council's Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedures) includes a procedure under which decisions taken by Cabinet or delegated decisions may be 'called in' for further consideration. The 'call in' procedure was invoked in respect of a decision taken on the revised scheme and estimate for Hervey Road playing fields by the Deputy Leader of the Council on 24 August 2017.
- 1.2. The Hervey Road revised Scheme and Estimate report was called in 18/08/17, requesting it be reviewed by Scrutiny in relation to cost of the project.
- 1.3. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting took place 13/09/17 and it was agreed to note the decision of the Deputy Leader of the Council and request further reports back to Scrutiny at 6-monthly intervals on scheme progress, expenditure against budget and forecast final account.
- 1.4. The purpose of this report is to provide the third and final review of the scheme progress, final expenditure against the budget and final account. This is in accordance with the scrutiny decision made on the 'called in' Hervey Road revised Scheme and Estimate report.

2. Links to the Royal Greenwich Strategy

- 2.1. This report relates to the 'Healthy and Safe Living Environment' high level objective, contained within the Royal Greenwich Strategy, as the scheme promotes cohesive and healthy communities, where good

quality local services and facilities for the community are being developed.

- 2.2. It also relates to 'Tourism, Culture and Sport' as the new modular sports Pavilion will enhance Greenwich's role as a sporting and tourism destination, providing safe, accessible places for sport and recreational activities, rest and relaxation and education.

3. Summary and Background

- 3.1. Hervey Road Playing Field is located in the Kidbrooke with Hornfair ward and covers an area of 4.8 hectares. It was used as a sports ground until 2002 and has since had limited and informal use by Blackheath Bluecoat school and the local community. This informal use of Hervey Road Playing Fields by Blackheath Bluecoat School has ceased due to the closure of the school in August 2014.
- 3.2. Feasibility studies were commissioned by the Council in order to assess the potential re-opening of Hervey Road and to provide options for the site's development in relation to other existing sports facilities in the local area. The outcome of the feasibility studies was used to develop the scope and specification for the project.
- 3.3. The Council tendered the opportunity for managing the site, resulting in Blackheath Rugby Club being appointed to operate the site once the redevelopment works are complete.
- 3.4. The scope of the project involves:
 - A new pavilion, club house and changing rooms
 - A new multi-use games area (MUGA) hard surface court with floodlighting
 - A new inclusive play area
 - Improved parking
 - Pitch drainage works
 - A new cricket square

- 3.5. Due to the nature of the works within this project, they were set out to be carried out in a 3 phase process:

Phase 1 –

- Site setup, clearance and drainage preparation for the pavilion building

Phase 2 –

- New modular pavilion building with changing facilities and function area
- Multi-use games area (MUGA) to be located adjacent to the pavilion
- Installation of the new inclusive play area
- Ecology enhancement works

Phase 3 –

- Sport England standard cricket square installed along with associated pitch drainage works
- Car park improvements, resurfacing and associated works

4. Progress

- 4.1. Ground workers started on site in October 2017 and completed the Phase 1 works in February 2018, leaving the site ready for the installation of the pavilion building.
- 4.2. The Phase 2 works started on site February 2018. The modular pavilion was installed in April 2018, the MUGA was completed in May and the new inclusive play area was completed in July 2018.
- 4.3. As agreed in the planning consent, ecology enhancement works were carried out at the end of February. This included the installation of bird boxes, bat boxes and insect nest sites.
- 4.4. Ground workers returned to site in June 2018 and completed the Phase 3 works, including laying the new surface in the car park area, August 2018.
- 4.5. A specialist cricket square contractor was appointed February 2018 to create the cricket square and complete associated drainage works. These works were completed August 2018.

- 4.6. In summary, all works from Phase 1 – 3 are now complete and out of the defects liability period.
- 4.7. The projects final element of work, constructed by Integra, gained Practical Completion on 27th July 2018. Following the 12 months Defects Liability Period the End of Defects was agreed and certified on 30th October 2019.
- 4.8. Sports activity on the site commenced on 2nd September 2018 with local school activity commencing from 3rd September 2018.

5. **Financial**

- 5.1. The estimated cost of the project set out in the revised Scheme and Estimate report was £1,435,133; a further £25,000 of Playground to Podium funding has been applied to the scheme to improve the accessible ‘play’ offer for young disabled users and visitors. The costs are broken down as follows:

Project Element	Estimate £
Pavilion building, play area & MUGA	899,680
Drainage work and cricket square	141,000
External works, car park, fencing, gates and lighting	212,442
Sub-total Works	1,253,122
Fees and on-costs	207,011
Total Scheme	1,460,133

- 5.2. A large proportion of the project budget is provided by external funding, which equates to 77% of the project externally funded, broken down as shown in the table below.
- 5.3. As explained in the revised Scheme and Estimate report, the council bid for an additional £100,000 funding from the London Marathon Charity Trust to assist in delivering the cricket square works. This bid has been successful and as such has reduced the funding requirement for the Royal Borough of Greenwich by a corresponding amount.

Funding Streams:

London Marathon Charity Trust (LMCT)	£600,000
Sport England's improvement fund	£280,000
Sport England's Protecting Playing Fields Fund	£65,000
S106	£41,654
Additional LMCT funding	£100,000
Playground to Podium	£25,000
Total external funding secured	£1,111,654

- 5.4. As shown above, funding has been secured from a dedicated playground budget to provide an improved and larger inclusive play area, to ensure aspirations regarding this Olympic Legacy project are met.
- 5.5. The scheme is projected to have a forecast final account within the allocated total budget of £1,460,133.
- 5.6. The project is complete within the agreed costs and the facility is now open and fully functioning.
- 5.7. Blackheath Rugby Club signed the lease in August 2018.

6. Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	The purpose of this report is to provide the Scrutiny Panel with a third and final review of the Hervey Road Playing Fields scheme progress, including final expenditure against the budget and final account. No formal decision will be taken. As such, there are no legal implications arising directly from the report.	John Scarborough, Director of Legal Services, 7 February 2020
Finance and other resources including procurement implications	The report provides a final update on the Hervey Road scheme and as such there are no financial implications. The project, as defined in the Scheme and Estimate report, has been delivered within the resource	Michael Horbatchewskij Accountancy Business Change Manager 07/02/2020

	allocation. This included £25,000 of additional works to facilitate the inclusion of accessible play equipment within the playground, and was offset by the application of P2P funding, which was leveraged into the scheme.	
Equalities	This report has remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Jack Dinnadge, Project Manager 31 January 2020

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