



Subject:	Pitch Partner Agreements Update
Date:	Tuesday 7 th March 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales , Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Cate Taggart, Neighbourhood Services Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress on implementation of Partner Agreements for the Quarter 3 period from October to December 2022 and to recommend an extension of all current partner agreements to 31 st March 2024 or until any new arrangements are put in place following completion of the Community Asset Transfer Pilot.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Note the progress to date at Partner Agreement sites for quarter 3 (October to December) 2022/23;ii. Agree to extend all current partner agreements until 31 March 2024 or until new arrangements are put in place following completion of the Community Asset Transfer Pilot.

3.0	Main report																
3.1	<p>Legal Agreements</p> <p>Council agreed to enter into Partner Agreements at the following sites with the clubs identified below. The original agreements were for a period of 5 years with the option to extend for up to a further two years. The Department has extended all of the Agreements beyond the initial 5 year period.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="323 499 1329 913"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="323 499 949 548">Location</th> <th data-bbox="949 499 1329 548">Partner</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 548 949 600">Dixon Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 548 1329 600">Sirocco Works FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 600 949 651">Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park</td> <td data-bbox="949 600 1329 651">East Belfast FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 651 949 703">Woodlands Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 651 1329 703">Co Antrim Board GAA</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 703 949 754">Loughside Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 703 1329 754">Loughside FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 754 949 806">Shore Road Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 754 1329 806">Grove United FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 806 949 857">Orangefield Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 806 1329 857">Bloomfield FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="323 857 949 909">Ulidia Playing Fields</td> <td data-bbox="949 857 1329 909">Rosario FC</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Location	Partner	Dixon Playing Fields	Sirocco Works FC	Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park	East Belfast FC	Woodlands Playing Fields	Co Antrim Board GAA	Loughside Playing Fields	Loughside FC	Shore Road Playing Fields	Grove United FC	Orangefield Playing Fields	Bloomfield FC	Ulidia Playing Fields	Rosario FC
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3.2	<p>On 10 March 2023, the Committee was asked to note that, under the Scheme of Delegation, the Director had extended the current Partner agreements for the sites at Shore Road Playing Fields, Woodlands, Dixon Park and Orangefield Park until 31 March 2023.</p>																
3.3	<p>Regular checks on the necessary Insurance, Health and Safety and Governance have been completed at all sites. The reporting documents were amended in accordance with audit requirements and sent to partners one month in advance of reporting deadlines. All partners are compliant on these matters.</p>																
3.4	<p>Financial Support to deliver Sports Development Plans</p> <p>Successful applicants submitted their plans in early 2022 to improve sports development outcomes at each site in the 2022 – 2023 financial year. Funding of up to £20,000 per annum has been available for each partner to deliver a programme supporting their Sports Development Plan. Letters of offer to all partners are based on approved sports development plans for the financial year. Partners must submit Sports Development plans annually which are aligned to the financial planning calendar for the incoming year.</p>																
3.5	<p>Monitoring</p> <p>Following the easing of Covid 19 restrictions the end of quarter face to face monitoring meetings with our delivery partners have now resumed. These meetings include updates on site</p>																

management and bookings, health and safety, finance and their sports development plan. Action plans are reviewed and agreed with the partners during these discussions to ensure that planned outcomes are achieved and improvements identified where required.

Sports Development Impact

3.6 In line with Council objectives, the diversification of use and improved sports development impact are priorities at the partner agreement sites. Programme delivery continues to achieve positive achievements across the sites.

The table below indicates outputs at the sites as reported by the 7 partners for Quarter 3 (October-December) 2022.

A. Participation type	
1. Members of different codes	740
2. People with a Disability	24
3. People from a minority ethnic background	2282
4. Females	2113
5. Older people	1656
6. Schools / youth organisations	2
B. Participation usage	
Number of full pitch/adult matches on site	199
Number of full pitch/adult match participations	6780
Number of small sided/youth matches on site	227
Number of youth match participations	9486
Number of training sessions held on site	270
Number of training session participants	8400
Number of other bookings / activities on site	48
Number of other bookings/activity participants on site	1308
C. Partnership working	
1. Working with Belfast City Council	4
2. Sport's Governing Bodies	15
3. Other teams / groups in your sport	11
4. Other teams / groups in different sports	1
5. Community / voluntary groups	5

	<p>D. Social value</p> <p>1. Young people at risk 661</p> <p>2. Encourage participation of under- represented groups 279</p> <p>3. Promote positive cross community relations 117</p> <p>4. Promote health and wellbeing in socially deprived communities 1201</p> <p>5. Promote Volunteering skills 66</p> <p>6. Develop skills that will improve employability 30</p>	
3.7	<p>Request to extend existing agreements</p> <p>All existing agreements will terminate on or shortly after the 31 March 2023.</p>	
3.8	<p>Council is currently developing a new policy regarding the management of assets within the community with a pilot being delivered across a number of sites. One of the sites included in the initial pilot is Ulidia Playing Fields and this site has been assessed using the pilot approach. At their meeting in October, Strategic Policy and Resources committee endorsed this committee's recommendation to transfer the existing Partner Agreement at Ulidia to a long term lease. It is anticipated that, following review of the Community Asset Transfer pilot process, a number of the sites listed at 3.1 above may also be made available for consideration under new management arrangements.</p>	
3.9	<p>Until that time, and to ensure continuity of service provision, it is proposed that existing Partner Agreements continue until any new arrangements are put in place.</p>	
3.10	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>A total of £140,000 per annum is available within revenue estimates to support annual Sports Development Plans at the Partner Agreement sites.</p>	
3.11	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications and Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>	
	<p>None</p>	