



Subject:	Pitch Partner Agreements Q1 and Q2 update
Date:	7 November 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales – Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Cormac McCann – Lead Officer, Community Provision

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime 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 report is to provide an update on progress regarding implementation of Pitch Partner Agreements for April 2023 – September 2023.																
2.0	Recommendations																
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked to note the progress to date at Partner Agreement sites.																
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.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 719 1254 1196"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Partner</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dixon Playing Fields</td> <td>Sirocco Works FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park</td> <td>East Belfast FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodlands Playing Fields</td> <td>Co. Antrim Board GAA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loughside Playing Fields</td> <td>Loughside FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shore Road Playing Fields</td> <td>Grove United FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orangefield Playing Fields</td> <td>Bloomfield FC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulidia Playing Fields</td> <td>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	The Agreements are for an initial period of 5 years with an option to extend for a further two years, subject to satisfactory performance by the Agreement holders. In March 2023 Committee agreed to extend all of the Agreements beyond the initial 5 year period until 31 March 2024.																
3.3	<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.</p> <p>It is anticipated that, following review of the CAT pilot process, the sites listed above may also be made available for consideration under revised management arrangements. Until that time, and to ensure continuity of service provision, it is intended that the remaining existing Partner Agreements continue until new arrangements are put in place.</p>																

3.4 Council is also in the process of producing both a Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy and a Playing Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy.

3.5 Regular checks on the necessary Insurance, Health and Safety and building operations and governance have been completed at all Pitch Partnership Agreement sites.

3.6 Quarterly reporting on Safeguarding, Finance and Performance in in place with the reporting documents amended in accordance with audit requirements and sent to partners one month in advance of reporting deadlines. All partners are compliant with regards to reporting requirements.

Financial Support to deliver Sports Development Plans

3.7 Successful applicants submitted their plans in early 2023 to improve sports development outcomes at each site in the 2023 – 2024 financial year. Funding of up to £20,000 per annum is 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.

Monitoring

3.8 A calendar of regular monitoring meetings are in place with OSS managers, the Leisure Development Manager and Sports Development Officer. The 2023/24 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

3.9 In line with Council objectives, the diversification of use and improved sports development impact are priorities at the Partner Agreement sites. Programme delivery has led to significant positive achievements across the sites. The table below indicates outputs at the sites as reported by the 7 partners for Quarters 1 and 2 (April-September) 2023/24.

A. Participation type	
1. Members of different codes	3841
2. People with a Disability	191
3. People from a minority ethnic background	3511

4. Females	3565
5. Older people	2251
6. Schools / youth organisations	9
B. Participation usage	
Number of full pitch/adult matches on site	351
Number of full pitch/adult match participations	10413
Number of small sided/youth matches on site	542
Number of youth match participations	21379
Number of training sessions held on site	1424
Number of training session participants	27410
Number of other bookings / activities on site	125
Number of other bookings/activity participants on site	1557
C. Partnership working	
1. Working with Belfast City Council	All reported partnership working
2. Sport's Governing Bodies	30
3. Other teams / groups in your sport	24
4. Other teams / groups in different sports	11
5. Community / voluntary groups	20
D. Social value	
1. Young people at risk	1661
2. Encourage participation of under- represented groups	3268
3. Promote positive cross community relations	724
4. Promote health and wellbeing in socially deprived communities	5205
5. Promote Volunteering skills	76
6. Develop skills that will improve employability	52

3.9

Financial & Resource Implications

A total of £140,000 per annum is available within revenue estimates to support annual Sports Development Plans at the Partner Agreement sites.

3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None