



Subject:	Pitch Partner Agreements and Facilities Management Agreements Update
Date:	12 th May 2026
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Ryan Haire, Sports Development Officer

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	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
----------------	---

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues														
1.1	<p>This report is to provide an update on progress on the ongoing Pitch Partner Agreements and Facilities Management Agreements for 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.</p> <p>To recommend extension of Partner Agreements and Facilities Management Agreements from 1 April 2026 through until 31 March 2027 or until new arrangements are put in place following completion of the Community Asset Transfer Pilot.</p>														
2.0	Recommendation														
2.1	<p>The Members of the Committee are asked to note the progress to date at Partner Agreement sites.</p> <p>That Partner Agreements and Facilities Management Agreements are extended until 31 March 2027 or until new arrangements are put in place following completion of the Community Asset Transfer Pilot.</p>														
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 Agreements are for a period of 5 years with option to extend for up to a further two years. The Department has extended all of the Agreements beyond the initial 5 year period and up to 31 March 2026.</p> <p>Facilities Management Agreements are operational since inception in 1996 when an FMA was entered into in respect of the Mary Peters Track. A range of FMAs are in place citywide and extension is ongoing on an annual basis.</p>														
3.2	<p>Agreement Extension</p> <p>On 4 March 2025 the Committee agreed to extend existing Pitch Partner Agreements until 31 March 2026.</p>														
3.3	<p>Partner Agreement Sites</p> <table border="1"><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></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
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														
3.4	<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.</p> <p>All partners are compliant on these matters.</p>														

3.5	<p>Financial Support to deliver Partner Agreement Sports Development Plans</p> <p>All partners submitted their plans in early 2025 to improve sports development outcomes at each site in the 2025-2026 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>														
3.6	<p>Monitoring</p> <p>Quarterly monitoring meetings with our delivery partners continue to take place. These meetings include updates on site 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.</p>														
3.7	<p>Sports Development Impact</p> <p>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.</p>														
3.8	<p>The table below indicates outputs at the sites as reported by the 6 partners for Quarters 1 to 4 (2025/26)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="279 1086 1460 1355"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="279 1086 997 1120">A. Participation type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1120 997 1153">1. Members of different codes</td> <td data-bbox="997 1120 1460 1153">7805</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1153 997 1187">2. People with a Disability</td> <td data-bbox="997 1153 1460 1187">1648</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1187 997 1220">3. People from a minority ethnic background</td> <td data-bbox="997 1187 1460 1220">19523</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1220 997 1254">4. Females</td> <td data-bbox="997 1220 1460 1254">25147</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1254 997 1288">5. Older people</td> <td data-bbox="997 1254 1460 1288">21249</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 1288 997 1321">6. Schools / youth organisations</td> <td data-bbox="997 1288 1460 1321">37</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	A. Participation type		1. Members of different codes	7805	2. People with a Disability	1648	3. People from a minority ethnic background	19523	4. Females	25147	5. Older people	21249	6. Schools / youth organisations	37
A. Participation type															
1. Members of different codes	7805														
2. People with a Disability	1648														
3. People from a minority ethnic background	19523														
4. Females	25147														
5. Older people	21249														
6. Schools / youth organisations	37														
3.9	<p>Different codes relates to other sports making use of the facilities at Orangefield Playing Fields (Rugby and Cycling) and Dixon Playing Fields (Tag Rugby)</p> <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>														
3.10	<p>This sum is now adjusted to £120,000 following the Asset Transfer of Ulidia Playing Fields to Rosario FC on 1st November 2025.</p>														
3.11	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>														
4.0	<p>Appendices</p>														
4.1	<p>None</p>														