

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Growth and Sustainability

TITLE: Dorothy Hyman Sport Centre Second Artificial Turf Pitch

REPORT TO:	CABINET
Date of Meeting	14 May 2025
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Environment and Highways
Key Decision	Yes
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

To gain authorisation to accept a Football Foundation Grant of £764,385 towards the build of a second Artificial Turf Football Pitch at the Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

Council Plan priority

Healthy Barnsley

- Everyone is able to enjoy a life in good physical and mental health.
- Fewer people live in poverty, and everyone has the resources they need to look after themselves and their families.
- People can access the right support, at the right time and place and are able to tackle problems early.
- Supporting residents to:
 - Take charge of your family's health and wellbeing.
 - Help to protect people who need extra support.

Recommendations

That Cabinet give approval to accept the Football Foundation Grant to build the second artificial turf pitch at the Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Barnsley Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) has identified that 'there is deemed to be an insufficient supply to accommodate both current and future demand for 3G pitches in Barnsley'. In Barnsley 61% of clubs that responded to the PPOSS consultation for the report that they require additional access to 3G provision.

[Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy](#)

1.2 The Football Foundation is the Premier League, The FA and Government's charity. The Football Foundation deliver outstanding grassroots sports facilities, helping transform communities where the need is greatest, and the impact will be strongest. As the biggest sport charity in the country, the

Football Foundation has a unique partnership between key football partners with a shared goal – ensuring every community in England has a great place to play.

- 1.3 Through Barnsley Council’s work to increase physical activity levels and provide enhanced facilities, a strong relationship with the Football Foundation has been established which is drawing substantial investment into our facilities to help meet demand and facilitate growth. Most recently, the Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre has received a Football Foundation Grant of £180,041 towards the £280,000 cost of new changing rooms and pavilion.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 The proposal is to accept the recent Football Foundation Grant of £764,385 towards the total cost of £989,836 in order to build a 2nd Artificial Turf Pitch at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Director of Finance (S151 Officer).

It is proposed that cabinet accept the funding from the Football Foundation to enable the development to take place.

If the council are successful in securing the funding, the grant will contribute 77% towards the total cost of building a new and additional 2nd artificial turf pitch at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre. (see the table below highlighting the proposed funding). To note the Section 106 Investment has already been through the governance process and approved at the S106 board.

Proposed Funding	Amount
Football Foundation Grant	764,385
BMBC Section 106 Investment	200,451
Barnsley Premier Leisure Investment	25,000
Total	989,836

The investment from the Football foundation will go alongside many existing and future funded resources improving physical activity levels of the residents of Barnsley. If the funding is not secured the project will not go ahead.

3.2 Legal

The benefits of the scheme to BPL have been assessed from a Subsidy Control Perspective. Due to the constraints on how BPL can use the revenue (ringfencing for football development and pitch maintenance) and the context of our existing long-term agreement with BPL, the scheme is not considered to have an effect on the market and therefore would not constitute a subsidy.

In agreeing the Grant directly with the funder and contracting for the works, the Council will bear the risk with respect to the development of the pitch (overspend, damage, delay, etc) and will also bear risk with respect to any breach of the operating conditions during the clawback period of 21 years.

A direct contractual agreement with BPL will be put in place (as a variation to our current agreement) to mitigate risk and put focus on their obligations during the operating phase, flowing down relevant obligations from the funding agreement.

During the 21-year clawback period any change of use or management of the site would require the approval of the Football Foundation, who will also be granted a charge over the land with respect to the monies advanced. It should be noted that this agreement therefore represents a long-term constraint on the Council's use of the site.

3.3 Governance

The decision falls within a key decision for the purposes of the council constitution part 5g Definition of a Key Decision and is referenced at appendix 1 part b and c as it results in income with a gross full year effect of £500,000 or greater and the decision is likely to have a significant positive impact on people living and working in communities in two wards or more.

3.4 Equality

Full Equality Impact Assessment completed and in Appendix 1.

3.5 Sustainability



3.6 Employee

There are no employee implications other than officer time working to implement the project alongside Barnsley Premier Leisure and Football Foundation officers.

3.7 Communications

This is a positive story of adding a much needed additional resource to the Barnsley Council leisure stock as well as supporting an increase in footballing capacity.

4. CONSULTATION

Consultation and community engagement has taken place to establish the need for the development. This has taken place at strategic level via clubs and delivery partners through the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy. It has also taken place at locality level with the local community in Cudworth to establish how the development will support local health, wellbeing and football uptake.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 To not accept the Football Foundation and find an alternative funding source for the required difference to build the 2nd artificial turf pitch. However, this option would fail to respond to the need highlighted in the Barnsley Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy, and the Active in Barnsley Strategic Plan. Therefore it is not recommended.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 This proposal draws investment for Sport and Physical Activity into Barnsley.
- 6.2 This project will directly support increased physical activity levels in Barnsley.
- 6.3 The development will fulfil an identified strategic need from the PPOSS.

7. GLOSSARY

PPOSS – Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy.

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Equality Impact Assessment

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date Ashley Gray Strategic Finance Business Partner 2 April 2025
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Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date Rebecca Asquith Head of Legal Services 2 April 2025
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Report Author: Stuart Rogers

Post: Service Manager – Sport and Physical Activity Team

Date: 26th March 2025

Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessment

Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre – 2nd Artificial Turf Pitch

Stage 1 Details of the proposal

Name of service

BEST

Directorate

Growth and sustainability

Name of officer responsible for EIA

Stuart Rogers

Name of senior sponsor

Anthony Devonport

Description / purpose of proposal

Construction of new artificial turf football/Sports pitch.

Date EIA started

25/03/25

Assessment Review date

31/03/26

Stage 2 - About the proposal

What is being proposed?

Construction of a new artificial turf pitch at the Dorothy Hyman Sport Centre.

Why is the proposal required?

To plan effectively for the demand on site and build a new football facility at the existing site – Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

What will this proposal mean for customers?

The new facility will add extra space for football and multi sports to be take place. It will be fully DDA compliant and will offer inclusive sport, leisure, health all customers. Features will include level access, disabled parking close to the pitch and appropriate lighting to and from the facility.

Stage 3 - Preliminary screening process

Use the Preliminary screening questions (found in the guidance) to decide whether a full EIA is required

Yes - EIA required (go to next section)

No – EIA not required (provide rationale below including name of E&I Officer consulted with)

Pre screen EIA completed with BDR Business partner Zahid Qureshie

Stage 4 - Scoping exercise - What do we know?

Data: Generic demographics

What generic data do you know?

The facility will be open to all. There is currently a facility on site so this will offer more capacity to the venue.

Data: Service data / feedback

What equalities knowledge do you already know about the service/location/policy/contract?

There is operating knowledge and feedback from currently having a pitch on site, this development will add additional pitch capacity.

Data: Previous / similar EIA's

Has there already been an EIA on all or part of this before, or something related? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

N/A

Data: Formal consultation

What information has been gathered from formal consultation?

The has been a process of community consultation and involvement as part of the football foundation application. This is a requirement of the funding. Consultation has taken place with members of the facility and the local community to identify potential ways that people could be active using the new facility. There was also some wider consultation with local football clubs and Barnsley FC who will be key users of the facility.

Stage 5 - Potential impact on different groups

Considering the evidence above, state the likely impact the proposal will have on people with different protected characteristics

(state if negative impact is substantial and highlight with **red text**)

Negative (and potentially positive) impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.

Protected characteristic	Negative ' - '	Positive ' + '	No impact	Don't know	Details
Sex					
Age					
Disabled <i>Learning disability, Physical disability, Sensory Impairment, Deaf People ,invisible illness, Mental Health etc</i>					
Race					
Religion & Belief					
Sexual orientation					
Gender Reassignment					
Marriage / civil partnership		N/A			
Pregnancy / maternity					

Other groups you may want to consider

	Negative	Positive	No impact	Don't know	Details
Ex services					
Lower socio-economic					
Other ...					

Stage 6 - BMBC Minimum access standards

If the proposal relates to the delivery of a new service, please refer to the Customer minimum access standards self-assessment (found at)

If not, move to Stage 7.

Please use the action plan to be taken to ensure the new service is accessible to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled people.

Not yet live

- The proposal will meet the minimum access standards.
- The proposal will not meet the minimum access standards. –provide rationale below.

Stage 7 – Action plan

To improve your knowledge about the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: community engagement with affected groups, analysis of performance data, service equality monitoring, stakeholder focus group etc.

Action we will take:	Lead Officer	Completion date
Build the facility	SR/AD	June 2025
Monthly steering group meetings to look at who is using the site and to put in place a development plan.	SR/AD, BPL, FF staff, SHCFA.	Monthly from June 25

To improve or mitigate the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: altering the policy to protect affected group, limiting scope of proposed change, reviewing actual impact in future, phasing-in changes over period of time, monitor service provider performance indicators, etc.

Action we will take:	Lead Officer	Completion date
A policy will be put in place between the two pitches that will be in place that any groups who book that have any mobility or balance issues will be placed in the pitch nearest the carpark.	BPL	June 2025

To meet the minimum access standards . . .(if relevant)

Actions could include: running focus group with disability forum, amend tender specification, amend business plan to request extra 'accessibility' funding, produce separate MAS action plan, etc.

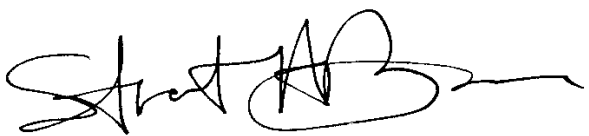
Action we will take	Completion date
Not yet live	

Stage 8 – Assessment findings

Please summarise how different protected groups are likely to be affected

Summary of equality impact	All protected groups will be considered as part of the design process and the facility will be fully DDA compliant. Once constructed the facility will offer a range of activities for all groups and as its in addition to existing similar facilities it will enable more capacity to respond to inclusive need.
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Summary of next steps	Design stage Planning permission secured Build Operational management
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Signature (officer responsible for EIA) Date	 25/03/25
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**** EIA now complete ****

Stage 9 – Assessment Review

<p>(This is the post implementation review of the EIA based on date in Stage 1 if applicable)</p> <p>What information did you obtain and what does that tell us about equality of outcomes for different groups?</p>
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