

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2007**

#### **ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL MULTI USE GAMES AREAS**

##### **Report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the installation of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in Darvel as part of the network that is currently being developed across East Ayrshire.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Following the success of existing MUGAs the Leisure Services New Sporting Futures Team has worked in partnership with East Ayrshire Sports Council to develop a network of these facilities across East Ayrshire. These new facilities compliment and extend the range of play facilities being made available through the Council's playpark improvement programme.
- 2.2 Further to committee approval at Community Services Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2006 a network of MUGA's is currently being installed, funded from a range of external and internal sources.

### **3. PROGRESS**

- 3.1 Good progress has been made with the implementation of this project and it is anticipated that all twelve facilities will be completed by 31/3/07 in the following areas:- Hurlford; Galston; Dalmellington; Netherthird; Stewarton; Patna; New Farm Loch; Kilmaurs; Auchinleck; Cumnock; New Cumnock and Catrine.
- 3.2 Jupiter Play, as the appointed contractor, has worked closely with Council officers in the implementation of the project and has provided considerable support and technical advice. In addition Jupiter has acknowledged the large scale nature of the order by offering to supply and install a 13<sup>th</sup> MUGA at a site to be determined by the Council, at no extra cost.
- 3.3 After research and consultation with community planning partners it is proposed to allocate the 13<sup>th</sup> MUGA to Darvel. This would help to address recent police reports relating to high incidences of youth disorder and alcohol misuse, providing young people with positive alternative to antisocial behaviour.
- 3.4 Potential sites within Darvel have been identified; however final implementation will be influenced by a community consultation process.
- 3.5 It is also proposed to extend an existing Sportswall in Logan to create a further MUGA. This will again provide additional alternative facilities as a diversion from antisocial behavior.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The total cost of the supply and installation of the MUGA in Darvel would be met by Jupiter and lighting costs would be met from departmental budgets. The cost of the upgrading of the Sportswall in Logan will also be met from existing budgets.

#### **5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Some sites may be subject to planning approval; appropriate applications will be made in due course.

#### **6. COMMUNITY PLAN / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The work of New Sporting Futures is completely embedded within East Ayrshire's Community Plan delivering across four of the six themes but with a specific focus on Improving Community Safety. In addition, the project delivers directly upon East Ayrshire's Anti-Social Behaviour, Youth Justice and emerging Leisure and Cultural Strategies.

#### **7. CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 The establishment of a network of community based MUGA clearly demonstrates East Ayrshire's commitment to diverting young people from anti-social behaviour and encourage involvement in sport as a positive and healthy alternative.
- 7.2 The addition of a 13<sup>th</sup> MUGA in Darvel and the upgrading of a Sportswall in Logan will help to address issues surrounding youth disorder and antisocial behaviour in that community.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-
- (i) approve the installation of the 13<sup>th</sup> MUGA in Darvel; and
  - (ii) approve the upgrading of the existing Sportswall in Logan
  - (iii) otherwise note the content of the report.

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Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JAG/KK

15<sup>th</sup> January 2007

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS - NIL**

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