

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET 21 NOVEMBER 2018

SPORTS PROVISION IN THE IRVINE VALLEY

Report by Depute Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer (Economy and Skills)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide an overview on sports provision in the Irvine Valley.

BACKGROUND

2. Cabinet on 19 September 2018, considered a report which set out options to address issues with the condition and suitability of St Sophia's Primary School. That report noted that previous proposals to co-locate St Sophia's Primary School with Galston Primary School were no longer viable. Those proposals included the provision of a full size artificial grass pitch recognising that the pitches provided as part of the Galston Primary School new build use are sub-standard. In considering the report, members sought further information about the extent of sports provision already available in the Irvine Valley before deciding whether to proceed with an artificial pitch at Galston Primary School.

VENUES

3. Within the Loudoun Hub area there are a number of Sports and Physical Activity venues which can cater for various sports and physical activities:

<i>Venue</i>	<i>Details</i>
Barmill Road P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
Barmill Street Sport Cage	Recreational area, tarmac surface with fencing for multi sports activities
Barward Street Sport Cage	Recreational area, tarmac surface with fencing for multi sports activities
Darvel Bowling Club	Outdoor Bowling Green, clubhouse and changing facilities
Darvel Bowling Club	Outdoor Bowling Green, clubhouse and changing facilities
Darvel Street Sport Cage	Recreational area, tarmac surface with fencing for multi sports activities
Darvel Town Hall	Large Main Hall (including balcony), seating capacity of 360, Upstairs Lesser Hall with raised stage, seating capacity of 50, Separate Kitchen Facilities for both halls & Public Meeting Rooms
Fenwick Road P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
Galston Community Centre	Small gym, 2x meeting rooms
Galston Bowling Club	Outdoor Bowling Green, clubhouse and changing facilities

Hurlford Street Sport Cage	Recreational area, tarmac surface with fencing for multi sports activities
Jamieson Road P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
John Fulton Hall	Large Hall with large stage
Loudoun Driving Range	Golf Driving Range, Café and assault courses.
Loudoun Golf Club	18 hole golf course, putting green and practice area. Clubhouse with changing facilities.
Loudoun Leisure Centre	Floodlit synthetic pitch, Swimming Pool Main Hall Sports, Gymnasium Hall, Fitness Centre.
Loudoun Mains Country Club	Gym & Swimming Pool
Morton Hall, Newmilns	The Main Hall has a large stage and a seating capacity of 180. The medium hall is fully carpeted with a capacity of 50. The small public meeting hall has a capacity of 30. Large spacious kitchen.
Newmilns Bowling Club	Outdoor Bowling Green, clubhouse and changing facilities
Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex	Small dry ski slope and large dry ski slope, BMX track, meeting space
Newmilns Street Sport Cage	Recreational area, tarmac surface with fencing for multi sports activities
Richardson P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
Richardson P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
Sport Darvel	Large Games Hall, Gym, Kitchen Facilities, Changing, Meeting room
St Mary's Holm P&P, Galston	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion
West Loudoun Equestrian Centre	Horse stable and training area – Indoor and outdoor space
Western Road P&P	Grass Football Pitch & Changing Pavilion

SCHOOLS AND ACTIVE SCHOOLS

4. The following schools are within the Loudoun Hub area:

Galston PS	Newmilns PS	Darvel PS	Fenwick PS	Hurlford PS	St Sophia's PS
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5. These schools are all part of the Loudoun Academy Education Group, apart from St Sophia's which is part of the St Joseph's Academy Education Group.
6. There are also 6 early childhood centres: Hurlford Early Education Centre, Hurlford & Crookedholm Early Learning & Child Care Services, Fenwick Pre 5s, Newmilns Early Childhood Centre, Darvel Early Childhood Centre & Galston Early Childhood Centre.
7. The Active Schools Coordinator (ASC) for this area, coordinates the delivery of curricular, extracurricular and community sports activities such as:
- Fenwick Primary (P1-P2) multi sports
 - P7 Leadership (Newmilns PS)

- P6/7 Leadership (Galston PS)
 - Fitness Programme (senior pupils) Loudoun Academy
 - Health & Wellbeing Committee (Newmilns Primary)
 - Multi Sports club (Loudoun Leisure Centre)
 - Sports Leaders (Loudoun Academy)
 - Loudoun Games Holiday Programme (Easter, Summer & October)
 - Boxing (Sports Mentor, Kieran McMaster)
8. This is not an exhaustive list however gives an overview of the various activities the ASC will deliver.

SPORTS CLUBS

9. There are twelve sports clubs in the Loudoun Community Sports Hub area that are affiliated to the East Ayrshire Sports Council. These are:
- Ayr Storm – satellite club with links to Loudoun Academy
 - Darvel Juniors
 - Darvel Victoria Amateur Football Club
 - Dean Fenwick Thistle AFC
 - Galston Bowling Club
 - Galston Lau Gar Kung Fu Club
 - Galston United AFC – girls under 7s, 9s, 11s & boys 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004.
 - Galston YFC
 - Kilmarnock Archers
 - Irvine Valley Swimming Club
 - Loudoun Golf Club
 - Hurlford Thistle AFC
10. Other Clubs that are known of in the area but not affiliated to the East Ayrshire Sports Council are:
- West Loudoun Riding Club
 - Aquarius Gymnastics Club
 - Hurlford Juniors
 - Hurlford Bowling Club
 - Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex
11. The largest leisure centre in the area, Loudoun Leisure Centre, has regular bookings from the following sports clubs and organisations:
- Galston YFC (various age groups)
 - Galston AFC
 - Darvel Juniors
 - Darvel Victoria FC
 - Hurlford Boys Club
 - Dreghorn BC
 - Irvine Valley Swimming Club
 - Fenwick Flames Netball
 - Craig Tindle – Basketball Club (Ayr Storm)
 - Active Schools – Multi Sports Club
 - Karen E Moir Dance & Drama

YOUTH GROUPS, STREET SPORT & EARLY YEARS

12. The following table shows various clubs and activities within the Loudoun Community Sports Hub area:

Activity	Venue
Galston Youth Club	Barmill Rd Community Hall
Transition Club	Galston primary
Darvel Youth Group	Sport Darvel Trust
Fenwick Youth Club	John Fulton Hall
Premier Night Leagues	Loudoun Leisure Centre
Street Sport Cages	Darvel, Newmilns & Galston
Galston Parent & Toddlers	Galston Community Centre
Darvel Parent & Toddler	Darvel Town Hall
Newmilns Toddlers	Townhead Church

LOUDOUN COMMUNITY SPORTS HUB

13. Clubs and organisations from the Loudoun Hub area recently attended the first Loudoun Community Sports Hub open evening on 18 September 2018 to find out more about community sports hubs and how they could be involved. This served as the first open meeting for the Community Sports Hub. An action that arose from this meeting was for the Community Sports Hub (CSH) officer and ASC to take a targeted approach to making contact with local clubs, community councils, local action plan groups and the school sports council. This will be undertaken and discussed at the first Loudoun Community Sports Hub steering group meeting being held on 4 December 2018 at Galston Community Centre.
14. There are a number of clubs affiliated to the East Ayrshire Sports Council and clubs who are not. A number of these clubs use Loudoun Leisure Centre for their training, matches and competitions. The Active Schools Coordinator delivers a variety of sports and physical activity opportunities alongside colleagues from youth work and sports development who also deliver clubs and sports sessions in the community.
15. It is clear that there is a wide range of sports facilities and activities available within the Irvine valley area, managed either by East Ayrshire Leisure or by local clubs and organisations. It appears therefore that there is no overwhelming need for an additional artificial grass pitch for community use. The Head Teacher has indicated that whilst an artificial pitch would be welcome in terms of maximum availability, the overriding need is for a useable outdoor sports space. The cost of an artificial grass pitch are estimated at around £0.650m. The grassed area provided at Galston Primary School cannot be used by the school due to poor drainage and the fact that stones and building materials lie just beneath the surface. It would be possible to excavate one of the pitches and import new soil and seed. Initial estimates have been obtained by Outdoor Services and, depending on the extent of soil removal required, costs are indicated to be a maximum of £0.300m. It is proposed to proceed on this basis to ensure that the school and early childhood centre have access to a useable sports and outdoor activities surface.

POLICY/COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

16. There are no Policy/Community Plan implications arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

17. There are no Legal implications arising from this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

18. There are no Human Resource implications arising from this report.

EQUALITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

19. An equality impact assessment is not required as this report for the committee to note and consider.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

20. Costs to create a grass pitch at the school are estimated at £0.300m and would be met from the capital allocation set aside.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

21. There are no Risk implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

22. It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (i) agrees to proceed with the installation of a grass pitch at Galston Primary School and early Childhood Centre; and
- (ii) otherwise notes the contents of this report.

Alex McPhee
Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer
Economy and Skills

For further information please contact: Alex McPhee, Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER
Andrew Kennedy, Head of Facilities and Property Management