

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

2490

Author:

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Department:

Children and Families

Contact:

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Subject:

Improvements to Ridge Adventure Playground

Total Value:

£300,000 (Type: Capital)

Decision Being Taken:

- 1. To approve spend £205,000 (estimated) for extension to The Ridge Adventure Playground and amend the capital programme accordingly.**
- 2. To approve spend £95,000 for Multi Use Games Area on Ridge Adventure Playground site and amend the capital programme accordingly.**
- 3. To approve dispensation from financial regulations in order to achieve best value for the Council.**

Reasons for the Decision(s) The Ridge Adventure Playground was originally designed to provide a free creative, natural and active play facility for the delivery of services to 5-13 year olds.

It is proposed to: 1. build an extension 2. build a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) to make it suitable for service delivery to young people up to the age of 19 (25 if they are disabled). The MUGA will be for available for use by the wider community.

William Olds Youth Centre, where youth delivery currently takes, place requires a considerable amount of money spent to enable it to be used in the future for delivery of activities for young people. Growing pressures mean that we have to work more efficiently in terms of resource and operating from one building rather than two. This makes sense both in terms of cost of maintaining buildings and staff resourcing. Revenue savings of approximately £22,000 from William Olds will contribute to the SAM programme.

1. The extension to the Ridge will provide additional indoor space and has been estimated to cost £205,000.
2. The MUGA is to be partially funded by WREN. Their contribution is understood to be £30,000. For the City to benefit from this funding, the MUGA needs to be completed by 31 July 2016.

In order to obtain best value for money, this report seeks approval to go directly to a supplier for MUGA only (requiring dispensation from financial regulations). A supplier has provided a price which includes lighting and all works; this company has delivered similar schemes to the Council previously and can deliver to the deadline of 31 July 2016 provided they receive an order by 1 June 2016.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered:
To do nothing - rejected on the grounds that to refurbish William Olds and complete all priority 1 repairs would be costly and would not achieve possible savings identified in the Strategic Asset Management Plan for Children's Services and in addition the efficiency in regards to staffing one building rather than two.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: None

Affected Wards: Bestwood

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Any Information Exempt from publication: Yes

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

Exempt Information:

Description of what is exempt: The estimate of the amount of the capital receipt from the sale of William Olds Youth Centre and other income streams.

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the disclosure of financial information could prejudice the Council's negotiating position in the proposed sale of William Olds Youth Centre.

Documents exempt from publication:

The Ridge proposed funding 230516.xlsx

Consultations:

Date: 07/12/2015

Ward Councillors: Brian Grocock, David Smith, Mick Wildgust
Councillors were briefed and were in favour of the proposal.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

There are no Crime and Disorder Implications as services will continue to be delivered.

Equality:

Please login to the system to view the EIA document: Equality Impact Assessment The Ridge Improvements 200516 .doc

Relates to Council Property Assets:

Yes

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

No

The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.

Person Consulted: Cllr. Brian Parbutt

Consultation Date: 27/05/2016

The order for the Multi-Use Games Area needs to be placed by 1st June in order to meet external funders timescales.

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement, Equality and Diversity, Property

Legal Advice:

Provided that the issue of funding is resolved then the proposed decisions raise no significant legal issues and, on the basis outlined, are supported.

Advice provided by Malcolm Townroe (Legal Services Manager) on 26/05/2016.

Finance Advice:

The cost of this decision is £300,000 to be funded as per the exempt appendix. This is funded from a mix of external grant and City Council revenue funding as detailed in the exempt appendix. The scheme will enable the sale of the William Olds building which will generate a capital receipt which will support corporate capital priorities as per the capital receipt policy outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The revenue funding is dependent upon a request for contingency funding. All external sources of funding have been confirmed.

The capital programme will be amended to include the scheme and associated funding.

This proposal seeks dispensation from Contract Procedure rule (5.1.2) in accordance with Financial Regulations 3.29 , and is appropriate in these circumstances.

Advice provided by Stephen Lynk (Finance Analyst) on 27/05/2016.

Procurement Advice:

After discussion with the client I understand the preferred procurement route is to use the EMPAii Framework Agreement with G F Tomlinson. The EMPAii Framework Agreement provides a compliant and value for money option for these works to be undertaken. In order for the scheme to be completed on time it is necessary to seek a dispensation to Finance Regulation 3.29 to make a direct award for the MUGA element. There are no significant concerns with the recommendations set out in the report.

Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 10/05/2016.

**Equality and Diversity
Advice:**

The proposal has no significant equality issues.

Advice provided by Adisa Djan (Equalities and Diversity Consultant) on 27/05/2016.

Property Advice:

This decision envisages the transfer of services from William Olds Youth Centre to The Ridge. This is to be followed by the closure and sale of the William Olds Youth Centre which will be the subject of a further decision. Marketing advice in respect of the sale of William Olds Youth Centre has been provided to Children's and Families including an estimate of the likely capital receipt. The actual level of the final receipt will not be known until the sale of the site completes.

Advice provided by Rodney Alan Martin (Senior Surveyor) on 26/05/2016.

Signatures

David Mellen (PH Early Intervention and Early Years)
SIGNED and Dated: 02/06/2016
Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)
SIGNED and Dated: 02/06/2016
Theresa Channell (Head of Corporate and Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 02/06/2016
Chief Finance Officer's Comments: