

Title: Community Sports Facilities Grant

Committee: Operational Services

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Author: Leisure & Active Lifestyles Manager

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Contact officer:

Martin Grey, Leisure & Active Lifestyles Manager

martin.grey@eastcambs.gov.uk 01353 616469, Room No. 002, The Grange, Ely

1.0 Issue

- 1.1. To consider a grant recommendation under the Community Sports Facilities Grants programme.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. Members are recommended to approve a grant of £10,000 to Ely Outdoor Sports Association as set out in paragraph 4.1

3.0 Background/Options

- 3.1. The built leisure facility stock in East Cambridgeshire comprises of the Hive (owned by ECDC and operated by GLL) and a number of other centres operated by local trusts and academies, which are self-financing, with user charges roughly covering their normal operating costs. The centres have historically received advisory support and modest grants from the Council to support capital improvements and develop their services.
- 3.2. The Community Sports Facilities grant scheme was established to provide £300,000 of funding over three years to leisure centres to upgrade facilities and develop services to meet contemporary standards.
- 3.3. Partnership funding is requested of at least a third of the total cost.
- 3.4. A total of £242,000 has been allocated to date; Ross Peers Sports Centre (Soham) £179,500 for a full replacement of the sports hall roof; Ely Outdoor Sports Association £39,100 for the refurbishment of the toilet areas; Littleport Leisure £12,000 for the refurbishment of the sports hall floor and £11,400 for the redevelopment of a second gym.
- 3.5. As funds remained available at the end of the three year period, the scheme has been extended into 2025/2026.

4.0 Arguments/Conclusions

- 4.1. **Proposal:** Construction of two Padel courts at Ely Outdoor Sports Association (EOSA)

Anticipated Cost:	£163,500
Partnership Funding	£146,000
Grant recommended	£10,000

- 4.2. The project has been developed by the directors at EOSA to provide additionality to the multisport site and to provide new facilities for people to access one of the fastest growing sports.
- 4.3. Partnership funding will come from a variety of sources as set out in the application form (appendix 1) with the option of an LTA loan to fill any gap that is left.
- 4.4. EOSA currently provide facilities for Hockey, Rugby and Tennis. The Padel courts will provide a further option for physical activity provision and is regarded as a fun, easy to learn and an extremely sociable sport that makes it appealing to a broad audience.
- 4.5. The nearest Padel courts are currently in Cambridge, St Ives and Bury St Edmunds so by providing these courts in East Cambridgeshire it will break down transport barriers.
- 4.6. Planning permission for the courts has already been received.
- 4.7. This project will provide the opportunity to get more people active, support residents health and wellbeing and increase membership and participation levels at EOSA.

5.0 Additional Implications Assessment

- 5.1 In the table below, please put Yes or No in each box:

Financial Implications No	Legal Implications No	Human Resources (HR) Implications No
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) No	Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) No	Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) No

6.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 – EOSA Padel Courts application form.

7.0 Background documents

None