

RELEASE OF SECTION 106 CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND REPLACEMENT OF VICTORIA PARK SKATE PARK

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Wards affected: Haywards Heath Ashenground
Key decision: No
Report to: Cabinet Grants Panel, 5 June 2017
Report date: 9 May 2017

Purpose of Report

Approval is sought for the release of Section 106 contributions to fund the installation of new skate ramps at the Victoria Park skate park in Haywards Heath.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

£124,655.99 be released from Formal Sport contributions in order to fund this project.

1.0 Background

1.1 The existing skate park in Victoria Park is a hugely popular facility, but is now reaching the end of its serviceable life. In recent years the skate park has required an increasing amount of maintenance. The situation is such that some jumps may soon need to be closed because the cost of repairs is prohibitive.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed to replace the existing timber skate park structures with a new facility which will require less maintenance in future. Informal feedback from skate park users indicates that a new facility would be very well received.
- 2.2 Due to the specialist nature of the design and installation of skate parks, submissions will be sought from a number of skate park companies for both design and construction.
- 2.3 MSDC officers and the appointed contractor will work closely with skate park users during the initial consultation and design stages of the project, to ensure that the new skate park will meet users' expectations as fully as possible. It is also intended to better integrate the new skate park into the wider landscape of Victoria Park, to lessen its visual impact and help reduce anti-social behaviour.
- 2.4 The project will be managed in-house by officers from Corporate Estates & Facilities.

3.0 Consultation

- 3.1 Effective consultation is essential to ensure that the new park meets the expectations of its users, and to help reduce anti-social behaviour.
- 3.2 Prior to and during the design stage we will consult with users of the skate park, to determine their expectations for the new park and its features. A key opportunity for consultation will be the skate event which the Performance & Partnerships team are holding in Victoria Park this September.
- 3.3 We will also seek the views of other stakeholders including ward members, Haywards Heath Town Council, Sussex Police, the proprietor of Tory's Café in Victoria Park and other park users.

4.0 Value for money assessment

- 4.1 The project budget of £124,656 is based on costs for similar facilities. The contract sum for design and construction will be agreed following a competitive tendering process in line with the Council's Procurement Guide. Tenders will be assessed on the basis of price and quality.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 It is intended to fund this project using Formal Sport contributions from the following Section 106 agreements:

Site	S106 Ref	Amount available
Land at Ditton Place, Staplefield	P35/577	587.00
Land known as Wilmington Way, Haywards Heath	P35/641	18,312.70
Land at Former Magistrates' Court Site, Haywards Heath	P35/338	4,145.50
Commonwealth House, Heath Road, Haywards Heath	P35/339	6,069.00
Land South Side of Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath	P35/768	56,954.79
Land at Beacon Heights, 4 Church Road, Haywards Heath	PL12-001035	22,719.00
151 Western Road, Haywards Heath	PL13-001178	15,868.00
	Total:	£124,656.99

- 5.2 The design of the replacement skate park will be influenced by consultation with users and other stakeholders, and therefore the exact contract sum cannot be determined at this stage. However, it is important to secure funding now, so that consultation and design can proceed based on a realistic cost estimate.

6.0 Legal implications

- 6.1 The planning permissions for the developments at land at Ditton Place, Staplefield and land known as Wilmington Way, Haywards Heath secured financial contributions towards formal sport provision in the Central Area.

- 6.2 The planning permissions for the developments at land at the former magistrates' court; Commonwealth House, Heath Road and land south side of Rocky Lane secured financial contributions towards formal sport provision in the Haywards Heath area.
- 6.3 The planning permission for the development at land at Beacon Heights, Church Road secured financial contributions for the refurbishment of the skate park in Victoria Park.
- 6.4 The planning permission for the development at 151 Western Road secured financial contributions towards formal sport provision at Victoria Park.
- 6.5 This project is therefore considered to represent an appropriate expenditure of the Formal Sport contributions from the above agreements.

7.0 Programme

- 7.1 It is intended to seek tenders during summer 2017 so that the specialist contractor appointed for design and construction can take part in consultation at this September's Skate event. The construction work is currently planned to be carried out in early spring 2018. A detailed programme will be agreed with the appointed contractor.

8.0 Statutory consents

- 8.1 The replacement skate park will require planning consent. An application will be made once the design has been finalised.

9.0 Risk management

- 9.1 A risk register will be prepared and updated throughout the project.

10.0 Impact on service

- 10.1 This project will meet the Council's corporate priorities in the following ways:

Strong and resilient communities – the new skate park will help to encourage young people to be more physically active, and will offer a more attractive environment;

Effective and responsive services – the project will deliver an improved facility which will have been designed in consultation with users.

11.0 Equalities impact

- 11.1 This proposal will have a neutral equalities impact.