

## WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

### CABINET

THURSDAY 29th JUNE 2006

### PROVISION OF MUGA'S (MULTI USE GAMES AREAS)

<b>COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:</b>	<b>Greater Learning and Participation</b>
<b>CORPORATE PLAN THEME:</b>	<b>Enhancing Cultural Life</b>
<b>CORPORATE PLAN KEY PRIORITY:</b>	<b>Leisure and Recreation</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor John Campion</b>
<b>HEAD OF SERVICE:</b>	<b>Head of Cultural, Leisure &amp; Commercial Services</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Andrew Dickens – 01562 732900</b>
<b>AN OPEN ITEM</b>	

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To consider the allocation of £180,000 capital for the provision of 4 Multi Use Games Areas in the District.

#### **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 **The Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council:-**

- i) **That £180,000 of capital identified from the sale of assets be allocated to fund the installation of four multi game activity areas in the District.**
- ii) **That subject to the provision of capital funding, 4 multi games activity areas be provided one in Stourport on Severn and Bewdley, and two provided in Kidderminster.**
- iii) **That the Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services, in consultation with the Head of Cultural, Leisure & Commercial Services, be authorised to agree the precise locations of the MUGA's following consultation with interested parties, including the Service Panel, Police, young people and potential neighbouring properties.**

#### **3.0 Background**

3.1 The provision of dedicated space for young people to undertake meaningful recreational activities on an informal basis is seen as an integral part of youth provision and crime reduction strategies. One type of activity which has proved successful in meeting these objectives is the provision of Multi Games Activity Areas (MUGA's) at strategic locations throughout the District. The existing provision at Springfield Park, Birchen Coppice Middle School, Shaw Hedge Road, Bewdley and Borrington Road, Kidderminster have proved successful and therefore the Council are asked to consider allocating further capital resources to provide 4 additional MUGA's throughout the District.

3.2 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA's) are fenced areas which vary in size from 20m x 12m to 30m x 15m which are designed for multi purpose activity for young people, for example football, basketball.

- 3.3 The MUGA's can have either a tarmac or synthetic surface and can be floodlit.
- 3.4 Many MUGA's also have Youth Shelters adjacent to or incorporated within the actual area.
- 3.5 A Task and Finish Group is currently looking at Youth Provision in the District and also Big Lottery Fund grant money which will be coming in to Wyre Forest.

#### **4.0 Location for MUGA's**

- 4.1 It is proposed that additional MUGA's be provided, one each at sites to be identified in Stourport on Severn, Bewdley, and two in Kidderminster. The precise location of the sites will need to be the subject of further consultation with potential users, Service Policy Panel, Police etc. Suitable sites will be identified by the Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services, in consultation with the Head of Cultural, Leisure & Commercial Services, and will be the subject of formal consultation with the Head of Planning, Health & Environment.

#### **5.0 Financial Implications**

- 5.1 It has been possible to identify £180,000 from capital receipts from sale of assets to provide funding for four additional MUGA's throughout the District.
- 5.2 The revenue effects of the inspection, maintenance and sweeping will initially be provided from within the existing Grounds Maintenance Budget. However, no further capital provision has been made for the replacement of the facilities at the end of their useful life, which is estimated to be between 15 to 20 years.

#### **6.0 Legal & Policy Implications**

- 6.1 The precise siting of the proposed facilities will be subject to consultation and enquiries of the Head of Planning, Health & Environment as to whether planning consent will be required, otherwise there are no legal and policy implications for the Council to consider.

#### **7.0 Risk Management**

- 7.1 All sites will be subject to a risk assessment to ensure that they are suitable for the provision of a multi use games activity area.

#### **8.0 Consultees**

Head of Financial Services  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

#### **9.0 Background Papers**

Nil.