



North Devon Council

Report Date: Monday, 2 December 2024

Topic: Approval and release of S106 Public Open Space Funds - Tarka Leisure Centre, Barnstaple

Report by: Richard Slaney, Parks, Leisure and Public Open Space Officer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report seeks to allocate S106 public open space funds to a project at Tarka Leisure Centre, Barnstaple.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. That Strategy and Resources Committee allocates £65,000 to construct a new cycle and pedestrian path.

2.2. To consider the outcomes of the Equality Impact Assessment as summarised in paragraph 6 of the report.

2.3. Subject to the approval of 2.1 and consideration of 2.2, that Strategy and Resources Committee recommends Council vary the capital programme by £65,000 and the funds be released to deliver the project.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To allocate funds in line with the requirement of the S106 agreement.

3.2. To protect and enhance public open space.

4. REPORT

4.1. On 3 July 2023, Strategy and Resources Committee agreed to enter into a contract for the delivery of a new long stay car park to allow for the redevelopment of the existing long stay car park.

4.2. The new long stay car park will be located to the west of a footpath owned by North Devon Council, which runs adjacent to Tarka Leisure Centre Artificial Grass Pitch. The new car park will adjoin the existing footpath.

4.3. This report seeks the funding required to add an additional section of path that will link to the rear of Tarka Leisure Centre so that users can easily and safely access the leisure facilities from the new long stay car park. The proposed path is subject to planning approval.

4.4. The proposed footpath will be a 3m wide cycle and pedestrian pathway made of tarmac and incorporating steps and ramp, design attached as appendix 1.

4.5. The Council's Senior Engineer has estimated the cost of the project at £65,000.



5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1. The total cost of delivering this scheme is estimated to be £65,000. It is proposed that the costs be funded from the following source:

Development Description	Application No	Amount
Larkbear (Open Space Contribution)	61119	£65,000

6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

6.1. This scheme will improve accessibility of the leisure facilities.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

7.1. There is a negative environmental impact of replacing grass with tarmac, but this will be mitigated through the planning process.

8. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8.1. What impact, positive or negative, does the subject of this report have on:

8.1.1. The commercialisation agenda: None

8.1.2. Improving customer focus: The allocation of the S106 Public Open Space funds for this project will benefit the local community and enhance accessibility to leisure facilities.

8.1.3. Regeneration or economic development: The project will use local suppliers where possible and provide investment in local public infrastructure.

9. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

9.1. Save as provided in paragraph 9.2 below, the decision in respect of the recommendations in this report can be made by this Committee pursuant to delegated powers provided in paragraph 1 of Annexe 1 to Part 3 of the Constitution.

9.2. As noted in the report, the power to decide on one or more of the recommendations in this report is reserved to Council pursuant to Article 4.4 and as such the recommendation must be referred to Council to ratify.

10. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.



11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Report to Strategy and Resources, Monday 3 July 2023, Seven Brethren Project – Land Release Fund: An Update by Head of Place, Property and Regeneration.
- Draft Design Car Park Shared Link Path (Appendix 1)

12. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Richard Slaney, Leisure Contract and S106 Public Open Space Officer.