

**REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 14 JANUARY 2013**

**REPORT ON: DUDHOPE PARK PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT**

**REPORT NO: 16-2013**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the improvement works identified to Dudhope Park play area.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Committee:
- Approve the proposed improvement works of the play area;
  - Accept the offer of £75,000 from Wicksteed Leisure Limited for the design, supply and installation of play equipment at Dudhope Park play area; and
  - Authorise the overall expenditure of £90,000, subject to availability of all external funding.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The Director of Corporate Services advises that £80,000 of the cost for undertaking the proposed improvements can be met by £43,379 from the Capital budget 2012/13 and 2013/14, and £36,621 from the Community Regeneration Fund. The Department, in partnership with the Friends of Dudhope Park, are submitting an Awards for All Funding Application to the Big Lottery for an additional £10,000.

## **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 Reference is made to report number 573-2009 to the Leisure & Communities Committee of 7 December 2009 where the Outdoor Play and Youth Strategy for the city was approved. Within the report improvements to Dudhope Park play area were identified. In conjunction with the Dudhope Park Friends Group and Local Community and Planning Partnership, proposals have been developed and potential funding sources identified.
- 4.2 The proposed works will include the landscaping, provision of safety play bark and the supply and installation of a range of inclusive play equipment suitable for children and young people.
- 4.3 The Committee are asked to approve the upgrading of the play area on the basis of the offer received from Wicksteed Leisure Limited. Sketch designs were prepared by a number of play equipment supply companies by way of a mini design competition organised by the Environment Department using the Tayside Procurement Consortium framework agreement for outdoor playground equipment.

- 4.4. Design proposals based on a target cost of £75,000, were received from six companies. The designs were assessed on value for money and play value. Feedback following a community consultation exercise was taken into account in assessing the bids. Designs and offers were received and quality ranked, as below:

| <b>Company</b>                        | <b>Ranking</b> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Wicksteed Leisure Limited             | 1              |
| Jupiter Play                          | 2              |
| Sutcliffe Play Limited                | 3              |
| Hags Play Limited                     | 4              |
| The Play Practice (Kompan)            | 5              |
| Sovereign Design Play Systems Limited | 6              |

- 4.5 In addition to the above, a contingency allowance of £5,000 should be made. The local community have aspirations for an increased level of content within the play area. A further application will be submitted for an additional £10,000 of external funding to seek to meet these aspirations.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the content of this report.

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Ken Laing  
**Director**

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Gary Robertson  
**Head of Environmental Management**

**Date**            **12<sup>th</sup> December 2012**