

REPORT TO: LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 18 March 2002

**REPORT ON: REPLACEMENT PITCH PROVISION DUE TO THE EURO 2008
FOOTBALL STADIUM IN CAIRD PARK**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF LEISURE & ARTS

REPORT NO: 207-2002

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To identify to the Committee the proposals for replacement pitches should the new Football Stadium proposals in Caird Park go ahead for Euro 2008.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That the Committee approve the proposed location of two new rugby pitches in Whitfield as replacement for the pitches in Caird Park should they be removed due to the creation of a new Football Stadium at Caird Park for the European Championships 2008.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of providing the two replacement pitches would be contained within the allowances to be met by The Scottish Executive if the Euro 2008 bid proceeds.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

The proposals contained within this report and the proposed location of the rugby pitches have taken into consideration the implications of Local Agenda 21. Resources will be used efficiently and waste minimised. Access to facilities has not been achieved at the expense of the environment and is accessible to all. Opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

The proposals contained within this report take into consideration equal opportunities implications.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 Reference is made to the Leisure Services Committee of 19 November 2001 Article IV where the Directors of Leisure & Arts, Economic Development and Planning & Transportation were remitted to identify replacement pitches and public open space in the city and report back with appropriate sites.
- 6.2 It is proposed that the two rugby pitches are replaced in Whitfield Central Core Area. Plans are attached as Appendices I and 2 showing the site and the distribution citywide of rugby pitches. One pitch would be established where there is a blaes pitch at present, north east of Summerfield Terrace which would be converted to grass and the second on a Housing Post Demolition Site adjacent to it to the south. This is presently on the Housing Account and is designated for housing in the Local Plan. This could be re-designated to recreational use in the Local Plan Review as it has a low priority for housing

- 6.3. The sites were chosen due to their proximity to existing changing facilities at Whitfield Central Core and the availability of land sufficient to locate two rugby pitches with space in the vicinity to provide car parking. The sites are also not immediately adjacent to housing although there is a sheltered housing complex to the south. Due to the relatively small number of spectators generated by rugby matches it is not considered this would cause more than minimal disturbance on weekends during the winter season.
- 6.4 The blaes pitch has not had any bookings for matches for a number of years and does not add any value to pitch provision in the city. It is more likely to have informal use by the local community as a grass pitch.
- 6.5 The four rugby teams who use the Caird Park pitches at present have all been consulted and have no opposition to the relocation.
- 6.6. **sportscotland** have been consulted on the proposals and are in agreement.
- 6.7 Options for the replacement of the remainder of the 16 hectares of park utilised by the Football Stadium for Euro 2008 are still being explored and will be reported back to a future committee.

7.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

The Chief Executive, Directors of Support Services, Finance, Corporate Planning, Housing, Economic Development and Planning & Transportation have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement.

8.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Leisure Services Committee 19 November 2001 Article IV.

9.0 **SIGNATURE**

Director of Leisure & Arts.....

Date.....

Appendix 1



