

Appendix 4. KGFT 12th June 2019

Proposal for two new 5 a side artificial pitches in Stepney Green

Background

There is an existing full size astro turf pitch in Stepney Green which was funded by the Football foundation. There is a high demand for such facilities in the borough and the pitch is fully booked during peak times. There is also a changing room on site that can be booked with pitch hire. The site requires managing when in operation and this is covered by parks staff and security staff out of park working hours. The funding came with a requirement for a sinking fund for pitch replacement in ten years and also targets for under - represented groups such as womens football.

There is little or no space available to develop new all weather pitches in the borough and it makes sense to provide new pitches alongside the existing full size pitch as the management and maintenance is already in place there and this will help cut down on costs.

The proposal is for two new 5 a side pitches which would:

- Help meet the high demand for such facilities.
- Provide a long term income for King Georges Fields Charity including monies to replace the facility after ten years.

Proposal

Parks staff believe the best option would be 2 x 5 a side cages running parallel with the full size pitch (back to back east – west). This is the least disruptive option to the park as the pitches can be installed without disturbing the play area footprint and having little disturbance to the newly installed landscaping created by Crossrail.

This would lose an existing grass area, part of which is raised, but would not affect the play park south of the site or the largest area of grass west of the pitches.

The cost is estimated at around £200,000 and this could be covered by reserves in Arts Parks and Events budgets which were created from film location income when we were permitted to carry over surplus income (this no longer being the case).

We estimate that these additional pitches could generate an additional £87,500 pa at 70% usage or £62,500 pa at 50% usage. The running costs for new pitches would likely be in the region of £30,000 pa, leaving a

surplus of between £57K upper and £32K lower, with the capacity to grow as bookings increased.

Location alongside existing pitch (not to scale)

