

## Haringey Council

### Written Statement/Record of a decision made by an officer under delegated authority.

<b>Decision Maker (Post Title)</b>	Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development
<b>Subject of the decision</b>	Up to £249,945 grant from the Football Foundation Playzone Fund towards a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Wood Green Common.
<b>Date of decision</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>Decision</b>	<p>For the Director of Placemaking and Housing to approve the council's acceptance of a grant up to £249,945 from the Football Foundation's Playzone fund under CSO 17.1</p> <p>The grant offer needs to be accepted by 30/09/24. The works need to be completed by a year after the first claim is paid.</p>
<b>Reasons for the decision</b>	<p>The £249,945 grant from the Football Foundation Playzone fund will enable the implementation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) within Wood Green Common.</p> <p>Following public consultation and engagement with local stakeholders and Ward Councillors, a project plan has been co-produced, allowing for phased improvement of the park. This project moves the Council closer to ensuring equal access to high quality greenspace across the borough.</p>
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision</b>	<p>Do nothing: Rejected, as not accepting the grant would result in loss of up to £249,945 of partnership funding for the Wood Green Common scheme. This would prevent the planned improvements from taking place, which have been discussed with residents, schools, Ward Councillors and local stakeholders, who now have raised expectations.</p> <p>Use the money for something else: Rejected, as the grant offer is ringfenced for a new MUGA at Wood Green Common.</p>
<p><b><u>Conflicts of interest – Executive decisions</u></b></p> <p>Details of any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision and details of dispensation granted by the Council's Head of Paid Service</p>	N/A
<b><u>Conflicts of interest – Non-executive decisions</u></b>	N/A

<p>Where the decision is taken under an express delegation e.g. by a Committee, the name of any Member who declared a conflict of interest in relation to this matter at the committee meeting,</p>	
<p>Title of any document(s), including reports, considered by the officer and relevant to the above decision or where only part of the report is relevant to the above decision, that part)</p> <p>These documents need to be attached to the copy of this record/statement kept by the Authority but must not be published if they contain exempt information</p>	<p>Football Foundation Grant Offer Letter dated 14/06/24, REF: G-217715. Please note we have had written confirmation from the Football Foundation of an extension to the acceptance of the grant offer until the end of September 2024.</p> <p>Wood Green Common Playzone McCardle Sports Tech Ltd DAR.</p>
<p>Reasons for exemption with reference to categories of exemption specified overleaf or</p> <p>Reason why decision is confidential (see overleaf)</p> <p>Decisions containing exempt or confidential information falling within the categories specified overleaf are not required to be published.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Signature of Decision Maker</p>	
<p>Name of Decision Maker</p>	<p>Anna Blandford</p>
<p>Does the decision need to be published</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y</p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes</p>

## DECISION REPORT

Not for Publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

This document is not for publication as it contains information classified as exempt under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information) and information.

**Report for:** Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development

**Item number:** N/A

**Title:** Wood Green Common Playzone Funding

**Report authorised by:** Pippa Gueterbock, Head of Wood Green Area Regeneration

**Lead Officer:** Alia Khonji, Regeneration Officer, Wood Green Area Team

**Ward(s) affected:** Noel Park, Woodside

**Report for Key/  
Non-Key Decision:** Non-Key Decision

### 1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report, pursuant to CSO 17.1, seeks delegated approval to receive a grant (partnership funding) of up to £249,945 from the Football Foundation's Playzone Fund for use at Wood Green Common.
- 1.2 The Playzone fund is run by the Football Foundation, which is England's largest sports charity with funding from the Premier League, FA and the government.

### 2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

### 3. Recommendations

- 2.1 Pursuant to CSO 17.1, for the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development to approve the Council's acceptance of a grant (partnership funding) up to £249,945.

### 4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. The grant up to £249,945 from the Football Foundation's Playzone fund will enable the implementation of a Multi Use Games Area within Wood Green Common.
- 4.2. Following public consultation and engagement with local stakeholders and Ward Councillors, a project plan has been co-produced, allowing for phased improvement of the park. This project moves the Council closer to ensuring equal access to high quality greenspace across the borough.

## 5. **Alternative options considered**

- 5.1. A do-nothing approach has been rejected, as not accepting the grant would result in loss of up to £249,945 of partnership funding for the Wood Green Common scheme. This would prevent the planned improvements from taking place, which have been discussed with residents, schools, Ward Councillors and local stakeholders, who now have raised expectations.
- 5.2. This funding cannot be used for a different project as the grant offer has been ringfenced for a new MUGA at Wood Green Common.

## 6. **Background**

- 6.1. The Wood Green Regeneration Framework sets out how we aim to invest in new and improved streets and spaces that are accessible, welcoming, playful and active, with places to dwell designed for all of the community and improved key East/West and North/South pedestrian and cycle routes. Through the GGF3 and SCIL funded Wood Green Common projects, Haringey are expecting to deliver a new set of schemes that will support connectivity between them.
- 6.2. The projects and proposals have come directly from recommendations arising from the Connecting Wood Green Good Growth Fund (GGF 1) scheme. This involved the in-depth engagement of multiple stakeholders to develop briefs for projects that are needed in Wood Green. During January 2020 public feedback and engagement events regarding the GGF1 projects and future schemes indicated support for these projects.
- 6.3. Haringey Council submitted the first stage of an application for the 'Adaptive Wood Green' proposal to the GLA in September 2019 and after being successful at that stage, a revised proposal was submitted in February 2020. On the 10<sup>th</sup> March, the GLA announced that in-principle approval had been granted in respect of a request for GLA monies for up to £972,500 of capital funding.
- 6.4. In the Summer of 2020, the London Mayor also announced the Better Building/Accelerator Fund. The fund is aimed at regenerating key areas across the City. The Good Growth Fund Accelerator supports regeneration of town centres and high streets through public realm improvements. Haringey Regeneration were invited to submit projects for the funding stream and in November 2020 were successful in acquiring £850,000.
- 6.5. In December 2020 Haringey Cabinet approved funding for £750,000 of Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL) to undertake improvements to Wood Green Common/Barratt

Gardens. In addition, Haringey Council Parks and Leisure were also successful in achieving £44,750 towards the improvement of the play area in Wood Green Common.

- 6.6. The project has improvement opportunities for Wood Green communities as a core aim, working in partnership with young people, key partners and local communities offering physical improvements to place - delivered in partnership with local people, upskilled and empowered to make the changes they want to see.

## 7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1. This project delivers against a number of different Corporate Delivery Plan themes and objectives.

**Responding to the climate emergency** – Haringey Council’s Climate Change Action Plan underpins the delivery of projects in Adaptive Wood Green, to deliver improved air quality and carbon reduction through School Streets, active travel and green grid improvements. More specifically, the Wood Green Common scheme includes swales, tree and meadow planting and the MUGA itself also features SuDs. The overall scheme net gain in biodiversity exceeds the 10% or more required by the Environment Act 2021.

**Children and Young People** – The MUGA has been the most asked for feature during consultation and engagement, particularly by young people. Key staff, children and young people from all schools in the area have been involved in the design development for the wider common and the MUGA.

**Adults Health and Welfare** – The proposed MUGA will provide a new sports and recreational facility within the common, helping to encourage outdoor activity amongst the local community. The overall scheme will enhance the existing green space and contribute to improved wellbeing.

**Placemaking and Economy** – The Wood Green Common scheme will protect and improve an existing park by creating a public realm that is cleaner, greener and safer for all users of the area to better encourage community use. The project will also help promote “green pathways” towards the Wood Green High Road to support and facilitate access to the Town Centre, and consequently to support businesses to thrive in a changeable economy.

The partnership funding will contribute towards the outcome of improving access to greenspace for all, as well as local strategic outcomes from the recently adopted Parks and Greenspaces Strategy, the key aims of which are:

- **Inclusion and Wellbeing** - Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.
- **Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainability** - Supporting the Council’s declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing towards saving the planet.
- **A Quality Service** - Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

Additionally, the Physical Activity and Sport (PAS) Strategy was adopted in 2019 to inform the future approach towards the provision of physical activity and sport.

The PAS Strategy has its own Vision to:

*'create and embed a culture of activity so that Haringey becomes one of the most physically active and healthy London boroughs.'*

- **Inclusion**

There is a strong correlation between physical inactivity and deprivation and between being active as a child and continuing to be active into adult life.

- **Improving access to good quality, active environments**

Activity takes place across a range of environments including in parks and greenspaces, play facilities, leisure centres and as part of our day-to-day life by walking and cycling.

- **Access to parks and greenspaces**

This is poorer in the east of Haringey. The street environment is also less attractive for walking and cycling because of high traffic flow and greater housing density, so physical improvements are required to create better conditions and facilities and improve access.

## 8. **Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

### 9. **Finance**

This report seeks approval for the acceptance of up to c.£250k Football Foundation Play zone grant funding from the Football Foundation, towards the installation of a multi-use game area (MUGA) at Wood Green common.

The delivery of the Wood Green MUGA is anticipated to be completed within this financial year and will be match funded by a combination of funding from both Park Services (capital scheme 313) and Wood Green Regen (capital scheme 480).

It is also pertinent to ensure that there is sufficient funding with Parks revenue budget for the ongoing maintenance of the MUGA after installation.

Once approved, this funding will be incorporated within the council's current capital programme plan.

### 10. **Legal**

The Assistant Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

The Council has power under CSO 17.01 to accept grant funding from an external body. As the value of the funding is below £500,000, the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development may approve acceptance of the grant.

The Assistant Director of Legal and Governance confirms that there are no legal reasons preventing the Assistant Director from approving the recommendations in this report.

## 11. Procurement

Strategic Procurement (SP) note that this report relates to the acceptance of a grant up to £249,945 from the Football Foundation's Playzone, for the implementation of a Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) at Wood Green Common.

The procurement will be conducted via the Football Foundation's PlayZones Framework which was competitively tendered in accordance with Regulation 33 of the Public Contracts Regulations by the Football Foundation.

SP is processing the Football Foundation PlayZone Joining Agreement to access the framework.

SP support the recommendation to approve the acceptance of the grant funding in accordance with CSO 17.1.

## 12. Use of Appendices

## 13. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Not applicable