

# Report

<b>Body:</b>	Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2008
<b>Subject:</b>	Fisherman's Green Tennis/Basketball Courts and The Sovereign Skate Park.
<b>Report Of:</b>	Rick Newman, Sport & Leisure Manager
<b>Ward(s)</b>	Devonshire and Sovereign Wards
<b>Purpose:</b>	To update Scrutiny Committee on progress made on the refurbishment of the Fisherman's Green Tennis/Basketball facility and Sovereign Skate Park.
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Recommendation:</b>	That Scrutiny Committee note the content of the report.
<b>Contact:</b>	Rick Newman, Sport & Leisure Manager, Telephone 01323 415421 or internally on 5421.  E-mail address: <a href="mailto:Rick.newman@eastbourne.gov.uk">Rick.newman@eastbourne.gov.uk</a>

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1** Following a scrutiny review carried out by Councillor Elkin and Councillor Mrs Heaps a report was presented to Scrutiny Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008. The report recommended the refurbishment of both Fisherman's Green Tennis/Basketball facility and Sovereign Skate Park.
- 1.2** The report was then presented to Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2008. The Cabinet decision was to consider the proposals within the report alongside future capital spending plans for the Council at their meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008.
- 1.3** Cabinet approved the recommendations at their meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008, however the timing of the decision meant that it was not possible to proceed with the refurbishment of either site prior to the Summer due to tight timescales and the availability of contractors.

## **2.0 Progress to date**

- 2.1** During the Summer months Officers working in Partnership with East Sussex County Council secured additional funding (Play Pathfinders Grant) for the refurbishment of Sovereign Skate Park. A revised budget of £85,000 is now available for this project.

- 2.2** Further consultation on the refurbishment of Sovereign Skate park has been ongoing between local young people, Councillor Mrs Banister and Councillor Mrs Heaps alongside Council Officers. Following this consultation an advert will be placed in both the local newspaper and a trade magazine early in December inviting expressions of interest from suitable contractors in line with Eastbourne Borough Council's Contract Procurement Rules.
- 2.3** It is anticipated that the works at Sovereign Skate Park will be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 subject to the availability of contractors.
- 2.4** Quotations have been received for the fencing works and the resurfacing works at the Fisherman's Green site and contractors will commence work early in 2009 with a completion date prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

### **3.0 Financial Implications**

- 3.1** The following funding has been allocated to these two projects

Fisherman's Green	£156,500 (S106 monies)
Sovereign Skate Park	£50,000 (S106 monies) £35,000 (Play Pathfinders Grant)

### **3.0 Staffing Implications**

- 3.1** There are no staffing implications arising from this report

### **4.0 Environmental and Community Safety Implications**

- 4.1** Providing well maintained, safe environments for the children and young people of Eastbourne is essential and is highlighted within the Play Strategy adopted by Cabinet in 2007.

Ensuring suitable well lit facilities are available for young people may help reduce anti-social behaviour.

### **5.0 Youth Implications**

- 5.1** The provision of facilities for children and young people is essential for their physical and mental wellbeing. The refurbished facilities will enable children and young people to participate in their chosen activity. Participation in these activities will help us tackle childhood obesity and will also divert some young people from anti-social activities.

### **6.0 Conclusions**

- 6.1** The refurbishment of both sites will be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 and will both be within budget.

Rick Newman  
**Sport & Leisure Manager**

## **Background Papers**

*Eastbourne Play Strategy 2007 – 2010*

*Full Council 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007 – Fisherman's Green motion*

*Scrutiny Committee Report 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008*

*Cabinet Report 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008*

To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above