

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET MEMBER MEETING – HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES****3 December 2013****Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director – Health and Community Safety****FUNDING REQUEST TO PROVIDE A MULTI USE GAMES AREA IN SOMERCOTES****Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for £40,050 which will support the design and construction of a multi-use games area in Somercotes.

Information and Analysis

A request for funding to provide a multi-use games area (MUGA) in Somercotes was made on behalf of the local community. The site proposed is an open, green space accessed off Scott Drive and Bonnington Drive on the Thurston Avenue Estate. This is a sloping, grassed area with a fenced off stream at the bottom and is the only place on the estate where young people can play ball games. However, it is not suitable for football because of the slope. There are a number of smaller, green areas on the estate but most have house walls abutting on to them. Following complaints about youngsters playing ball games on these small green spaces Futures Homescares, the local housing provider, has erected 'No Ball Games' signs to stop children playing there.

The target group is young people between the ages of 8-13 years who live on the estate and surrounding area. The land is owned by Amber Valley Borough Council which would tender for the work, project manage the build and maintain the 10 x 20 metre junior MUGA. Total cost is estimated at £49,350, see breakdown below:

Supply and erect Heras fencing	£600
Cut and fill are level	£4,000
Supply and install gabions to support cut and fill	£6,000
Supply and install access	£6,000
Prepare and lay groundworks to the base	£6,875
Supply and lay tarmac	£6,875
Supply and install fencing and ball walls for the MUGA	£16,000
Supply and install furniture (benches and bins etc)	£3,000
Estimated Total	£49,350

Match funding has been secured from Futures Homescapes, £4,300 and Somercotes Parish Council £5,000. A further £5,000 is being sought from the Police and Crime Commissioner (awaiting confirmation).

Timescale for the tendering process is approximately ten weeks but work may not start until spring 2014 as weather conditions have to be considered in the build. Thurston Avenue estate is a medium crime and anti-social behaviour area which extends to both sides of the busy Somercotes Hill. There were 128 crimes and 106 police calls for service in the 12 months October 2012 to September 2013. Local intelligence also suggests this could be a high risk area for crime and anti-social behaviour but under reporting by local community is due to the fear of repercussions and therefore they do not report crimes.

Financial Considerations

Proposed funding of £40,050 (or £35,050 if PCC funding is secured) can be met from the Communities budget, which together with the match funding totals £49,350.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, and legal, environmental, health, human resources, property and transport considerations.

Background Papers

Key Decision – No

Call In

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? - No

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the sum of £40,050 be awarded from the Communities Budget to support the design and construction of a multi - use games area in Somercotes which in turn will reduce the level of crime and anti-social behaviour.

David Lowe

Deputy Chief Executive Strategic Director – Health and Community Safety