

11 Feb 2020

Sent via CAT@MORAY.gov.uk

Your Reference:
CAT ATR 060/COMM-114-9458

Dear Moray Council

Reference: CAT / ATR / 060 ATR Publication Representation Notice

Thank you for providing the feedback from the Public Consultation and it is noted that from the 152 responses, all were supportive of the Community Asset Transfer Request with 2 of those needing some clarification and 1 requiring additional detail.

Please see below Elgin Sports Community Trust's response to those specific comments.

Ref 22. *I support the Transfer to Elgin City*

ESCT Response: The Community Asset Transfer Request is **not** for Elgin City FC, it is for the benefit of the whole community. Although the Football Club is fully supportive of the Transfer and the plans to build a pitch, the Club does not stand to benefit in any way other than the convenience of having a training facility next door. Elgin City FC will have to hire the pitch at the same rate as any other Club or organisation and will not receive any beneficial treatment regarding bookings or reservations. All profits from the hire of the facility will be reinvested for the Common Good of the Community and projects that will benefit Moray.

Ref 59. *XXXX is at elgin city fc (sic) and this would be great for them to train.*

ESCT Response: Elgin City FC will have to hire the pitch at the same rate as any other club or organisation and will not receive any beneficial treatment regarding bookings or reservations. The pitch is being designed so that rugby and football and multiple other sports can be played there.

Ref 128. *XXXX overall proposal has my 100% support...*

...However I have one or two comments re effective usage

(i)The problem re usage nine to five-that is why so many artificial surfaces are attached to secondary schools In addressing this issue while the paper carefully avoids naming priority partners it might be helpful to consider priority discussions with

(a)Moray College who have a popular Sports Degree but no pitch ownership (b)Moray Leisure Centre who are a really imaginative programmers but have no outdoor facilities (c) Elgin FC who are next door neighbours and have many activities that would help the utilisation factor

(iiOne (sic) of the main issues would be management and supervision-on the basis that setting up separate booking /caretaking is expensive and sometimes restricting re usage it might be advisable to enter into discussions with MLC and/or Elgin City re using the admin/janitorial services they already employ on an all day basis

.Geographically they already are immediately adjacent and shared services would not be an issue

Indeed is there the possibility of MLC./Borough Briggs and the new facility being part of an almost integrated facility with all parts working together for Moray and Elgin

ESCT Response: Although Elgin City FC will have no priority treatment, one of the reasons that Lesser Borough Briggs is preferred to any other site is the assistance and 'gifts' of land and resource to maintain and upkeep the facility (until the facility is paying for itself) that Elgin City FC is offering. This is on the understanding that no preferential treatments will be given to the Club in accordance with the ESCT constitution. The club is offering these gifts because of the convenience of having a training facility next door that it can hire in the same way that anyone else can hire and at the full price.

ESCT is open to all and any discussions with other sports and recreation organisations in the area and will avoid going in to direct competition with anyone. The studies over the last year have provided evidence

that all weather surfaces are in great demand and will increase and enquiries received by ESCT from organisations, clubs and teams would have the pitch booked out in the evening peak hours from day one. The point about the use of the pitch / facility during the day / school hours is an excellent one and something that the Trust has already covered in the Business Case where we will be looking at offering its use at minimum charge to those organisations providing social, health and welfare opportunities for the Community.

I look forward to meeting you soon to discuss the next stages of the CAT process.

Yours Sincerely
Elgin Sports Community Trust
Chairman