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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> March 2010</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director – Regeneration and Resources</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>RC/10/03/SJ/WW</b>
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<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Support for Access to Leisure and Community Facilities</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the details of the proposals made in the 2010/11 Budget Proposals regarding reductions in hire charges relating to access to various leisure and community facilities.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The 2010/11 Budget proposals agreed to provide £105,000 to improve access to leisure facilities and community facilities for young people and uniformed organisations, promoting and supporting the valuable role played by community and voluntary groups in Inverclyde.
- 2.2 The £105,00 can be broken down further as follows:
- £9,000 for free pitch hire for under 16 teams at Battery Park Synthetic Pitch
  - £36,000 to reduce the cost of synthetic pitch hire
  - £20,000 to subsidise indoor lets for uniformed organisations
  - £20,000 to subsidise indoor lets for under 16 sports teams
  - £20,000 to subsidise lets for Community Learning and Development activities

Further information is given at paragraph 4.2 below.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That Committee notes details relating to the budget of £105,000 to improve access to community facilities as agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010 agreed to allocate £105,000 to improve access to leisure facilities and community facilities for young people and uniformed organisations, promoting and supporting the valuable role played by community and voluntary groups in Inverclyde.
- 4.2 Details of what the £105,000 will be used for and how it will be managed are as follows:

### £9,000 for free pitch hire for under 16 teams at Battery Park Synthetic Pitch

This will allow all under 16 sports teams who currently use the Battery Park to use the facility under the same terms and conditions as all other pitches operated by Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Leisure. This means that these under 16 Sports Teams will now have free access to the facility.

### £36,000 to reduce the cost of synthetic pitch hire

Inverclyde Council synthetic pitches are currently on a different pricing structure from Inverclyde Leisure. Pitch costs are currently as follows:

	IC cost/hour lights	IL cost/hour	Proposed
Adult	£68.30 (peak)	£61.50	£54.50

The proposal will remove peak charging. It is estimated that the cost of harmonisation between Inverclyde Council costs and Inverclyde Leisure costs will be £9,000. The balance of the funds will be used to reduce the harmonised hourly rate to £54.50.

It is therefore proposed to reduce the cost of an adult hiring a synthetic pitch to £54.50 per hour, at any time, for all Inverclyde Leisure and Inverclyde Council pitches for 2010/11.

### £20,000 to subsidise indoor lets for uniformed organisations

The current income from use of indoor lets by uniformed organisations is £25,000. 25% of this income is paid by the Waivers of let budget and 75% from the uniformed groups themselves.

It is proposed to use the £20,000 Subsidy Fund to pay for the 75% contribution from uniformed groups (i.e. £18,750). The £1,250 balance of the Fund will be used to offset any potential increase in usage by uniformed groups.

This means that uniformed groups will be given a 100% waiver against indoor lets during 2010/11. This budget will require close monitoring to ensure that the £20,000 Subsidy Fund is not overspent.

### £20,000 to subsidise indoor lets for under 16 sports teams

The current income from use of indoor lets by under 16 sports teams is approximately £18,000. In this case 0% of this income would normally be paid from the Waivers of Let budget and 100% from the sports teams themselves.

It is proposed to use the £20,000 Subsidy Fund to pay for the 100% contribution from under 16 sports teams (i.e. £18,000). The £2,000 balance of the Fund will be used to offset any potential increase in usage by Sports Teams.

This means that Under 16 Sports Teams will be given a 100% waiver against indoor lets during 2010/11. This budget will require close monitoring to ensure that the £20,000 Subsidy Fund is not overspent.

## £20,000 to subsidise lets for Community Learning and Development (CLD) activities

The letting Policy for 2010/11 approved by the Regeneration Committee in January 2010, highlighted that CLD activities will receive a 75% waiver for activities that take place during normal working hours (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm) and a 25% waiver for activities that take place outwith normal working hours.

This £20,000 Subsidy Budget will pay for these CLD contributions ensuring that CLD activities can be carried out at no charge to the relevant CLD Services. Again, this budget will require close monitoring to ensure that the £20,000 Subsidy Fund is not overspent.

### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Finance: The above budgets need to be allocated against the Community Facilities budget which is in the process of being transferred to Inverclyde Leisure.

#### Financial Implications – One off Costs

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>Budget Year</b>	<b>Proposed Spend this Report</b>	<b>Virement From</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
00474	Community Facilities	2010/11	£105,000	n/a	n/a

#### Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>With Effect from</b>	<b>Annual Net Impact</b>	<b>Virement From (if Applicable)</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc

- 5.2 Human Resources: None

- 5.3 Legal: None

- 5.4 Equalities: None

### **6.0 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 None

### **7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 None