



CABINET - 5TH MARCH 2014

SUBJECT: YSTRAD MYNACH SPORTS COMPLEX - ALLOCATION CRITERIA & NAMING

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval for the criteria that will be used in the allocation of bookings at the facility and to seek approval on an official name for the facility.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Cabinet Members will be aware of the background to this project and have been kept updated on progress. Sport & Leisure Services will take ownership and manage the facility following completion of the construction work in April.
- 2.2 To ensure we maximise the opportunity this flagship facility provides it was essential that the programme is not allocated in isolation but considers our whole portfolio of facility provision across the County Borough and indeed regionally.
- 2.3 Extensive consultation with the Welsh Rugby Union and Welsh Football Trust have ensured that priorities are aligned and that a consistent and co-ordinated approach is adopted for the allocation of facility usage. Those clubs not accommodated at Ystrad Mynach will be supported through use of other facilities within the County Borough. However, those clubs who meet the required criteria will have preference if they wish to use the facility.
- 2.4 We cannot continue to call this iconic facility a "facility" as it demands a name that reflects its unique nature and something Caerphilly County Borough Council can be proud of. From its early planning stage through to completion it has been called many names causing much confusion. This report therefore asks Cabinet to approve a name that reflects its purpose.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The facility will play a key role in encouraging participation in rugby and football while also ensuring that talented youngsters have the ability to progress in a competitive and representative environment, contributing to the National Strategy "Vision for Sport in Wales".
- 3.2 This Project will contribute to the Healthy Lifestyles Agenda and the related objectives within the Single Integrated Plan, Corporate Improvement Plan and creating an Active Caerphilly Strategy.
- 3.3 It also contributes to the Council's Strategic Equality Plan's Objectives 3 and 4 (Physical and communication Access) and the UK wide "Equality Standard – A Framework for Sport".

4. THE REPORT

4.1 Criteria for usage at Performance Centre:-

Rugby Criteria

- 4.1.1 We have been working in consultation with the Welsh Rugby Union's rugby performance and community managers to ensure that the criteria used for our community clubs mirror those of the Sport's governing body. The criteria will be based on the WRU's 3 priorities outlined below:-
- 4.1.2 1st Priority - 'A' Licence Clubs - Premiership (Bedwas & Crosskeys)
- 4.1.3 2nd Priority - 'B' Licence Clubs – Championship Division 1/2/3/4/5/6 – With preference to clubs with youth/junior/mini sections of the rugby pathway.
- 4.1.4 The Championship clubs are currently Bargoed, Newbridge & Blackwood. Within the 2nd priority category the initial preference is based on league status, however if teams are in the same league priority will be given to teams with sustainable age-grade pathways.
- 4.1.5 3rd Priority – U15/16/Youth Sides from the County Borough as this is a critical focus age group.
- 4.1.6 In all circumstances clubs from within the County Borough would have priority.

Football Criteria – Junior Football

- 4.1.7 We have been in extensive consultation with the Welsh Football Trust and their regional football co-ordinators to ensure that the criteria used for our community clubs are in partnership with the sport's national governing body. The criteria that we will be following will be based on the new club accreditation model and the highest standard club, which is Gold, would take priority use (all clubs in this County Borough are currently classified as "standard").
- 4.1.8 The Club Accreditation Scheme comprises of four defined levels being STANDARD, BRONZE, SILVER and GOLD. The criteria for these levels are set by the FAW in consultation with the Welsh Football Trust. The criteria reflects the quality of provision within the Club and assists clubs improve this provision. If Clubs have the same standard preference will be given to clubs who have a sustainable age grade pathway e.g. number of teams and girls teams.
- 4.1.9 The STANDARD criteria is the minimum acceptable level for junior football clubs in Wales.
- 4.1.10 Evening and Weekend use of the facilities will be available to community clubs for training and/or playing and will be allocated based on the criteria agreed with the Welsh Football Trust. This criteria supports those clubs who have the willingness and ability to grow the game and improve levels of participation and performance.

Football Criteria – Senior Football

- 4.1.11 Senior Clubs priority usage will be based on the Clubs within the Welsh league and the highest ranked club – Premiership/Division 1/2/3. Clubs in the same league will have priority if they have a sustainable pathway e.g. number of teams and women and girls teams.
- 4.1.12 In all circumstances clubs from within the County Borough would have priority.

4.2 Official Name of Facility

- 4.2.1 Officers have consulted with key partners regarding the options for the official name of the

facility. Since the project began the facility has been referred to as “1511”. However it is felt this does not reflect or identify what this iconic facility will be used to support. Below are three options that could be used for the official signage. The options are:-

Ystrad Mynach Centre for Sporting Excellence - reflects *pursuit of Sporting Excellence*

Ystrad Mynach Sports Park – *commonly used term for this type of facility*

Ystrad Mynach Performance Centre – *focus on performance but could be confused with arts performance*

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The facility has been designed and built to comply with modern building standards and current building regulations and is therefore fully accessible for disabled people and people of all ages with mobility issues.
- 5.2 The Authority does a significant amount of work in terms of disability sport for football and rugby. The facility at Ystrad Mynach will enhance the ability of the Authority to offer further participation to disabled people.
- 5.3 The facility will allow the Council to widen access and reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity for under represented individuals, groups and communities in the county borough, such as the work already being undertaken in terms of women and girls sport.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Once completed, the facility will form part of the Sport & Leisure Services portfolio and will be managed accordingly.
- 7.2 The recent Leisure Management restructure has taken account of this additional facility.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The report reflects the views of the listed consultees.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Cabinet approves the criteria outlined in the report for usage of the facilities at the Ystrad Mynach Sports Complex.
- 9.2 Cabinet approves the name of the facility as the Ystrad Mynach Centre for Sporting Excellence.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To provide clarity on the criteria to be used when allocating the use of the facilities.
- 10.2 To ensure that the official name reflects the unique nature of the provision.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Acts. This is a Cabinet function.

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Consultees: Mark S. Williams, Head of Community & Leisure Services
Councillor D. Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive
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Dave Phenis, Sport & Leisure Services Manager
Jeff Reynolds, Sport & Leisure Facilities Manager
Gail Williams, Monitoring Officer
Gregg Woods, Rugby Development Manager, Welsh Rugby union
James Chapron, Performance Programme Manager, Welsh Rugby Union
Jay Probert, Regional Development Coordinator, Welsh Football Trust
David Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager, Environment Directorate