

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism  
Cabinet

**DATE:** 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010  
28<sup>th</sup> October 2010

**SUBJECT:** Proposals for Victoria Park, Crosby

**WARDS AFFECTED:** Victoria

**REPORT OF:** Graham Bayliss. Leisure and Tourism Director

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Phil Esseen. Head of Landscape Development and Management x 2392

**EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL:** No

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY:**

To inform the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism of proposals to make improvements to Victoria Park, Crosby and to seek approval for the proposed layout.

**REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:**

To allow progress of the scheme and implementation of the works on site.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism: -

- 1) Adopts the masterplan for the park and approves the proposed improvements to Victoria Park in Crosby.
- 2) Request Cabinet to include the sum of £116,218 for Victoria Park, Crosby in the Leisure and Tourism 2010/11 Capital Programme.

Cabinet:

- 1) Approve the inclusion of Improvements to Victoria Park in the 2010/11 Leisure and Tourism Capital Programme up to the value of £116,218 only.

**KEY DECISION:** No

**FORWARD PLAN:** No

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Following expiry of the call-in period

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

Do nothing or implement a significantly reduced scheme: this would be unacceptable as it is in the main park in the area.

**IMPLICATIONS:**

Budget/Policy Framework: Within existing policy framework to spend S106 funding on designated sites

**Financial:**

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure		116,218		
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources (S106)		116,218		
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

**Legal:**

**Risk Assessment:**

Asset Management: The department is already managing the play area in line within existing parks and open space policy.

**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**  
FD 518 - ... The Interim Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People	√		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Crosby Area committee 7 July 2010

Parks and Greenspace Asset Management Strategy

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 Victoria Park is a District scale park in the Crosby area, and is classified as a Priority 1\* site in the Parks and Greenspace Asset Management Strategy. This classification requires that the park should be a focus for improvement and so has been prioritised for the allocation of Section 106 monies arising from nearby housing developments.
- 1.2 A Masterplan for the park has been produced in consultation with the Friends of Victoria Park Group and the Victoria Park Steering Group. This indicates a number of landscape improvements which would be implemented as finances become available.
- 1.3 Funding has now become available for the second phase of landscape improvements. (Phase 1 being the recent playbuilder scheme which was implemented in March 2010). A design has been drawn-up to improve the area around the pavilion and the site of the new play area.

## **2.0 Consultation**

- 2.1. As described above a masterplan has been developed for the park. This has been the product of extensive consultation.
- 2.2. Specifically the masterplan proposals have been tabled at “Friends of “ meetings, at meetings of the Victoria Park Steering Group and also at public meetings and open days. There was a summer event day which included a range of fun activities, centred around the pavilion. This event was well attended and the masterplan proposals were on view and useful feedback was gathered. The rangers who have responsibility for the park have displayed the proposals in the pavilion and discussed the proposals regularly with park users and interested parties.
- 2.3. The views of the community have been considered and incorporated into the proposals.
- 2.4. By far the majority of people consulted are in favour of the improvements proposed and there were no major objections. Further, the Crosby Area Committee received a report and supported the scheme on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2010.
- 2.5. Consultation with the community will continue over the years ahead to implement the masterplan as finances become available.

## **3.0 Proposals**

- 3.1. The masterplan will be available at the meeting for Cabinet Member’s comments, but in outline the long-term proposals will provide a new circulation system around the park enabling a circular route linking all eight zones namely:

1. Historic landscape.
2. Wetland/bog area.
3. Pavilion/play area.
4. MUGA, tennis courts.
5. Arboretum
6. Activity space.
7. Oval sitting area.
8. Open space for larger scale activities.

3.2 One of the main intentions of the masterplan is to encourage better access from the pavilion to the open spaces to the rear of the building. It is hoped that better access and circulation around the building will encourage more community use of the building and the spaces around it.

3.3 The first part of the masterplan to be developed is zone 3, "pavilion/play area". This will include a new play area for younger children, a new path to allow better access into the play area and a paving layout that allows disabled access into the pavilion.

3.4 The development of the remaining zones will take place after further consultations with the community and as finances become available.

#### **4.0 Financial Considerations**

4.1. It is estimated that approximately £800,000 would be required to undertake all the proposed works.

4.2. There is currently £116,218 Section 106 funding allocated for improvements to Victoria Park. These monies are specifically for Green space improvements and have been allocated to the park by the Planning Committee and this decision was supported by the Crosby Area Committee.

4.3. The scheme and financial consideration have been approved by the Strategic Asset Management Group (August 2010).

#### **5.0 Procurement of phase 1 Section 106 works.**

5.1. Detailed drawings and specifications are being drawn up and will be sent out to tender to firms on the Council's select list and accepted in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules

## **6.0 Timescales**

- 6.1. It is envisaged the design and tendering process for the phase 2 works will be complete by late Autumn 2010 and the works be completed on site by Spring 2011.

## **7.0 Revenue Implications**

- 7.1. There are no significant additional revenue implications from the phase 2 design proposals, as the works entail the upgrading of existing features and infrastructure.