



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

Report to Arts, Culture, Leisure  
and Recreation SPC  
25<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
Item No. 7

## **DRAFT Policy for Development of Changing Room Facilities/Pavilions by Community Clubs on Public Open Space.**

This draft policy and guidelines is to establish a process which facilitates the desire of community based clubs to develop recreational facilities and infrastructure on public open spaces which Dublin City Council (DCC) could not realistically deliver given its own extensive programme. This policy does not apply to St Annes Park or heritage parks where the sensitivity of these parks requires greater oversight by DCC.

**Planning Process:** All development by clubs on public open space will require a grant of planning permission by DCC. The club shall seek a pre-planning application meeting with DCC's Planning Department having as a first step sought direction and agreed the project plan and detail with the Parks Service. The location and scale of the development, including the number of rooms and their use shall be agreed in advance of the application. Proposals will have regard to the following:

- a. There is an identified need for the development and the club(s) have access to funding.
- b. Where there is more than one club using the public open space a shared facility is preferred.
- c. There is no commercial component to the development, including bar, gym or retail.
- d. An architect will be employed to prepare and submit the planning application. The building design shall be sustainable, energy efficient, accessible and of good visual quality.
- e. Other professionals shall be employed as required by DCC for preparation of the application.
- f. The location of the pavilion will be at the discretion of DCC.
- g. The development and any new /additional access to the development shall not have an adverse impact on the amenities of adjoining residential and non-residential properties.
- h. The applicant shall provide details of and agree proposals for car parking and cycle parking as appropriate/necessary.
- i. The club(s) are fully responsible for the submission of planning applications and all associated costs.

**Lease/Disposal:** Projects will be brought with a report by the Parks Service to the attention of the relevant Area Committee at an early stage before the club(s) seek formal planning approval.

It should be noted that in addition to formal planning approval, all proposals are subject to approval for lease/disposal of a site which is a reserved function of the elected members. A lease will set a rent for community usage and require rental reviews. No sub-letting or renting of space will be permitted. Club(s) will be required to sign a Deed of Renunciation so that they do not accrue rights under the Landlord and Tenant legislation.

**Sports Capital Grants:** If successful in achieving planning permission and a lease/disposal, DCC would support the application by the club for a Sports Capital Grant (subject to the conditions and criteria set by DAST particularly in relation to land ownership), however, DCC does not provide grants and each project will have to demonstrate available funding.

**NOTE:** this policy and guidelines will also be applicable to requests for other infrastructure to support recreational activity in public open space.

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**25<sup>th</sup> July 2022**