

## **EX25. 3G SYNTHETIC SPORTS PITCHES**

The Executive considered a report by the Chief Executive, Falkirk Community Trust presenting options for the provision of 3G synthetic sports pitches in the area.

The Council had agreed in 2009 to provide 6 synthetic 3G sports pitches for the area. Two sites, in Grangemouth and Denny, had been identified. The proposed site at Grangemouth was not pursued and, following discussion with the Scottish Football Association (SFA) and sportscotland as potential funders, an alternative site within the footprint of Denny Football Centre was identified.

The report summarised developments since 2009 and set out the SFA's and sportscotland's current position in regard to pitch provision, including their funding preference for projects fully supported by local community clubs with a robust business case to ensure long term sustainability. Two options were now presented – to pursue the Denny option or to consider a club led option whereby clubs are encouraged to submit development plans and business cases for their proposals. In the latter option, clubs would identify sources of funding beyond those available from the Council and would be liable for ongoing operation costs and risks. The club led option would increase community ownership and capacity building.

The report summarised the benefits and costs of each option together with key considerations.

### **Decision**

**The Executive agreed to pursue the club led option and to seek a further report outlining a mechanism and criteria for clubs to access the Council's funding.**