

Member Briefing

Number: 1182

Title: Cheshire County Football Association (CCFA) – Centre of Football Excellence

Summary: The purpose of the briefing note is to make members aware of proposals from CCFA that will be made public 15 May 2018. CCFA has been developing a proposal to open a unique world class football facility in Northwich. The site will become the leading centre for the provision of women and girls football nationally and regionally as well as supporting the development of grassroots football across all of Cheshire for all ages and abilities.

The CCFA has support from the national FA and has been in detailed conversations with Everton Football Club who has expressed an interest in being a partner on what will be a best in class football environment. A partnership with Everton will bring the opportunity to extend education provision through football with a focus on academic achievement and the development of high quality training for the players, referees, and coaches of the future.

As well as sports infrastructure including 3G and high quality grass pitches and stadia the site will also be home to a high quality hotel with spa and conference facilities which can be enjoyed by the community and visiting professional teams. It is also the intention to develop facilities on the site for other non-football activities such as fishing, walking, running, and nature projects to help widen and strengthen community engagement and benefits.

The Council has been working with CCFA and its partners throughout the development of the proposed scheme. It is an exciting project for Cheshire West and Chester and will be a flagship development that will bring a host of community and economic benefits to the borough.

Key facts:

- Investment circa £70 million
- New home for Everton Ladies FC
- Two FIFA Standard Desso Grass pitches
- 1,000 seat stadium
- Luxury hotel and spa
- Two 3G pitches
- Six high quality grass pitches
- Significant job opportunities for the local community
- Youth zone
- World class education facilities

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Responsible Committee, Cabinet Member: Councillor Louise Gittins

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