

TENNIS COACHING CONTRACTS

Head of Service: Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services
Report Author Samantha Whitehead
Wards affected: (All Wards);
Urgent Decision? (yes/no) No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Appendices (attached):

Summary

To authorise officers to negotiate and sign Parks Tennis Coaching Contracts

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Nominate and authorise the Head of Operational Services, and the Interim Assistant Head of Service – Streetcare, to negotiate and enter into Tennis Coaching Contracts on behalf of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To ensure that the Authorised Officers can proceed quickly and efficiently with negotiating and signing Tennis Coaching Contracts on behalf of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council.

2 Background

- 2.1 At the Environment Committee held on 13 June 2023 it was agreed that professional coaches who are making a living from the Council's Tennis courts should make a proportionate financial contribution, whilst providing a coherent and visible community tennis programme.
- 2.2 The LTA have assisted officers with the recruitment of professional coaches to ensure that all coaches meet stringent criteria with regards to quality, qualifications, safeguarding, first aid and insurance.

Environment Committee

15 October 2024

- 2.3 We now have three tennis coaching providers who are willing to pay to use the park tennis facilities at Alexandra Recreation Ground, Court Recreation Ground and Auriol Park.
- 2.4 The tennis coaching providers will pay the Council an annual sum to use the courts which is charged for in blocks of ten hours per week up to a maximum of 30 hours per week. There will be an additional annual charge for the use of Court Recreation Ground as these courts benefit from floodlights.
- 2.5 To encourage block booking tennis coaches are offered a reduced rate on standard ad-hoc hourly charges. The Tennis Coaching scheme will generate additional income for the Council and help to encourage and improve engagement in the sport.
- 2.6 Under the terms of the contract, Tennis Coaching Providers must also commit to take part in the Barclays Free Park Tennis Initiative by offering at least one hour of free, supervised, community tennis activity at their designated location each weekend.
- 2.7 The Barclays Free Parks Tennis scheme is an LTA initiative, sponsored by Barclays bank. Barclays Free Park Tennis is open to everyone regardless of age, background, or ability. The Free Tennis initiative gives participants the chance to meet new people, take part in a full-body workout and practice their tennis skills.
- 2.8 Officers now seek formal authorisation from the Environment Committee to negotiate the details of the contracts and sign the contracts on behalf of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council.
- 2.9 It is proposed that both the Head of Operational Services and the Interim Assistant Head of Service – Streetcare are nominated and authorised for this purpose.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

- 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment
 - 3.1.1 None for the purpose of this report
- 3.2 Crime & Disorder
 - 3.2.1 None for the purpose of this report
- 3.3 Safeguarding
 - 3.3.1 None for the purpose of this report
- 3.4 Dependencies

Environment Committee

15 October 2024

3.4.1 None for the purpose of this report

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None for the purpose of this report

4 Financial Implications

4.1 Failure to secure tennis coaches will have a detrimental impact on the overall financial outturn of the pay to play tennis scheme.

4.2 The Council has budgeted to achieve £17,500 of income from tennis in 2024/25, which is needed to fund the gate system and maintain the courts. These tennis contracts will provide an additional income stream to assist the Council with achieving its income target and will mitigate the current adverse year end forecast.

4.3 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** Financial implications are contained within the body of the report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 The Council's legal team have reviewed the proposed tennis coaching contracts provided by the Lawn Tennis Association and advised officers to seek express authority to negotiate and sign the Tennis Coaching contracts on behalf of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None arising from the contents of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Opportunity and Prosperity
- Effective Council

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** None

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** None

6.5 **Partnerships:** There is a partnership between the Council and Tennis Coaching Providers

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

Environment Committee
15 October 2024

- Tennis in the Borough – 13 June 2023

Other papers:

- None