

Ravelston Park – Representation 059

From: Nuala Madeline Roger <REDACTED>

Sent: 29 April 2022 15:20

To: Commercial Property <Commercial.Property@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Subject: Ravelston Park community trust asset transfer

Hello

I am just writing in favour of the asset transfer of the Blackhall community trust.

As a local resident I believe it is critical for the community to proceed with the transfer and safeguard the future of the nursery.

The provision of local nursery services is fundamental to the Blackhall community and the addition of the community hub element to the proposed plans will make this a valuable space for the broader community (sports groups, after-school activities, youth groups, location for the elderly etc). Many in the community might argue that the local church can provide this space but I believe the church is not fully inclusive and certain groups have been refused access to space. This new community space can provide a inclusive non denomination space.

I understand there are objections to the loss of land but relative to the overall park this is negligible and the benefits far outweighs the minor loss of land, in fact the amount of land being requested is pretty much the same size of land that the nursery currently occupies.

I do not believe existing use of the park is impacted in any negative way by the proposals given how little of the land is being transferred for any social or community groups.

There is a real risk that if this does not happen that longer term the provision of nursery services will not be sustainable in Blackhall. This would not only impact the current families utilising the facilities but future generations too. Another impact is the loss of nursery places would have an impact on the attractiveness of the community as a location. New families may chose not to move to the area if there is no nursery provision and that could have an impact on house prices in the area and saleability for local families.

There could be argued this sets a precedent but again, I'm sure certain rules can be put into place to protect the land if the asset transfer is not able to go forward to build the nursery and community space.

The benefits for me outweighs the challenges and therefore I am fully supportive of the proposed community asset transfer.

Thank you
Yours sincerely
Nuala Roger

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