

**From:** Bethan Crymble [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2023 13:08  
**To:** Karen McGowan [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Feedback on asset transfer proposal for Roslin Pavilion

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Dear Karen,

I am writing on behalf of the Roslin Baby and Toddler Group regarding the community asset transfer proposal of Roslin Pavilion.

The committee think that this sounds like it could have lots of potential to benefit the community, but we do also have some concerns. The group has been running for over 30 years with a longstanding agreement with the council that we can use the Pavilion at an extremely affordable cost. Would this agreement be replicated in a new arrangement? Could the council perhaps write this into the agreement? We are keen to secure written assurance that we would be guaranteed access on the same day and time at the same price, and still have access to storage for toys and use of the kitchen. If this would be the case, we would be fully supportive of the application.

For this current year Aug 2022-June 2023, the rental price charged to us by the council was £187.20. For 39 weeks of term time use, this equates to £4.80 hall hire per use. We use the hall on a Tuesday morning from 10-11:30, although with set up and tidy up time it probably equates to 2 hours hire. We use the main hall and the kitchen so that we can provide tea, coffee, and snacks. Having looked at the proposal from LASC on rental costs, it would suggest that 2 hours hire of both the hall and the kitchen would come to £60 in total. This would just be completely unaffordable for our group.

The group is a space for 0-5 year olds and their parents/carers to play and socialise. We are entirely volunteer-run by local parents who regularly attend the group. We currently charge £1.50 per session per family in order to cover running costs: hall hire, provision of tea/coffee and snacks for adults and children, cleaning materials and batteries for toys, and materials for special events through the year eg. presents for the children at the Christmas party, stickers, play doh etc for other events. We think it's really important to provide low-cost playgroups, especially in the current economic climate and cost-of-living crisis. Interestingly in the last few months we have seen a huge increase in the number of new attendees each week, possibly due to people generally tightening their budgets and looking for cheaper things to do with babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.

We believe our group is an important provision for the community, and without a written agreement to keep rental costs low, it may not be able to run. It would be great if you could provide us with some reassurance on this.

Kind regards

Bethan Crymble (Secretary of Roslin Baby and Toddler Group)  
[REDACTED]