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Rupert Young & Kev Johns  
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11 March 2019

Dear Rupert & Kev

I am writing to update you on planning for the Artificial Grass Pitch originally scheduled to be built at Silhillians RUFC in the coming months.

This pitch is part of Phase 3 of the RFU's AGP programme, which began in 2016, and has successfully delivered 26 Artificial Grass Pitches to date around England.

We have taken the difficult decision to suspend the building of the majority of the Phase 3 Artificial Grass Pitches, and this will impact the plans for the pitch at Silhillians RUFC.

We are hoping this pause is temporary; we are currently in some very promising discussions with a prospective commercial partner for the AGP programme and, if the commercial partnership is agreed, it is our ambition to recommence and deliver Phase 3 as planned. Until these discussions are complete, and given the wider financial challenges for the Union in 2019/20 which we have already communicated to the game, we need to suspend the current phase of the programme.

I realise this is disappointing news and both Steve Grainger, Rugby Development Director, and I are very happy to discuss this with you, so please do call if you would like to. Your local Area Facilities Manager will also be in touch today to discuss the next steps with you. I know you will have a number of questions, and we are committed to answering them and giving you as much information as you need to manage what we hope is a 'pause' to the planned build.

We will of course keep you informed on the discussions we are currently having, and the status of the AGP plans, and aim to provide an update for you in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Melville  
Interim CEO