

# COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL

DATE	23/02/2023
REPORT OF	Carolina Borgstrom, Director of Environment, Economy & Infrastructure
SUBJECT	Review of Play Areas Update
STATUS	Open

## CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The work on the play areas will ensure that there are good quality play areas for children in North East Lincolnshire. This work links to the priorities of the Outcomes Framework, particularly *Benefit from green economy and a high quality environment* and *Enjoy good health and wellbeing*. This, in turn, links to the Council's *Environment* priority, as the project supports the work to *maintain our parks and open spaces for everyone to enjoy*.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the programme of work that will be undertaken in play areas over the next two years.

## MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Panel has requested an update on progress with the Play Areas project and suggested its inclusion in the Panel's work programme.

### 1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 1.1 Over ten years ago, the Council received funding from Play Builder to refurbish and install play equipment across North East Lincolnshire. Over the years, the play equipment has gradually deteriorated and work now needs to be undertaken to bring the play areas up to an improved standard.
- 1.2 Cabinet received a report on playground improvements at their meeting on 16 June 2021 and approved the release of capital funding (£800,000) for this work.
- 1.3 A project team was established to deliver the project.
- 1.4 Consultation and engagement has been undertaken with ward councillors to agree an implementation plan and allocation of equipment across play areas.
- 1.5 In order to ensure that Public Contract Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules were followed, a procurement exercise was undertaken during December 2022 and January 2023. This procurement consisted of three lots:
  - Lot One – New and replacement equipment and surfacing
  - Lot Two – Spares and parts to supply the Parks Team
  - Lot Three – Schedule of works for repair
- 1.6 The procurement exercise has now closed and the process is at the contract award stage.

- 1.7 The most pressing work that needs to be undertaken is that contained in Lot Three (Schedule of works for repair), as this is the schedule of RoSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) repairs and will cost approximately £200,000 to undertake. This work covers twenty-three play areas:

1. Ainslie Street
2. Albion Street
3. Alden Close
4. Butt Lane
5. Capes Recreation Ground
6. Carver Road
7. Duke of York Gardens
8. Grant Thorold Park
9. Haverstoe Park
10. Kingston Gardens
11. Mount Pleasant
12. Musical Garden, King's Road
13. Neville Turner Way
14. Nunsthorpe Recreation Ground
15. Quantock Park
16. Rose & Crown
17. Sidney Park
18. Sixhills Street
19. St Christopher's Playing Field
20. Sussex Recreation Ground
21. Sutherland Park
22. Weelsby Woods
23. Wingate Parade

- 1.8 The total capital spend for this project is £800,000, less what will be spent on the RoSPA repairs (£200,000) and the money already spent on work (£37,115), leaving a balance of £562,885. Based on this figure, along with a 10% contingency, it is expected all wards will receive an update on most of their play areas. Please see the attached appendix for details.

- 1.9 Once the contracts have been awarded, a programme of works will be created and shared with ward members.

- 1.10 As the work progresses, if any flexibility over the scheduling and prioritising of the work arises, consultation will be undertaken with members.

## **2. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

If there is not this investment in play areas, there is a risk that the Council will be left without suitable play areas for the local community and visitors.

The investment in the play areas will provide an opportunity to prevent play equipment deteriorating further and help reduce maintenance and potential health and safety liabilities to the Council in the future.

### **3. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS**

The investment in the play areas will ensure that there is a positive reputational benefit to the Council, as it will be supporting the commitment to having a high-quality green space, which will benefit children of all ages and ability. Work will be undertaken with the Communication's Team on how best to promote the improvements that are being made.

### **4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Cabinet meeting on 16 June 2021 approved the release of £800,000 capital funding to commence a procurement exercise for the play area equipment, installation, repairs and maintenance arrangements.

### **5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS**

This investment in play areas will ensure that children of all abilities and age ranges have access to good quality local play space, which will contribute to their health and wellbeing.

### **6. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The improvement of the green space in North East Lincolnshire will make a positive contribution to the Council's commitment on climate change and the environment.

### **7. MONITORING COMMENTS**

In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources (people, finance or physical assets). As a result, no monitoring comments have been sought from the Council's Monitoring Officer (Chief Legal Officer), Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) or Strategic Workforce Lead.

### **8. WARD IMPLICATIONS**

This potentially impacts on all wards.

### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Cabinet Report on [Playground Improvements 16 June 2021](#)

### **10. CONTACT OFFICER(S)**

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## Review of Play Areas Update – Communities Scrutiny Panel

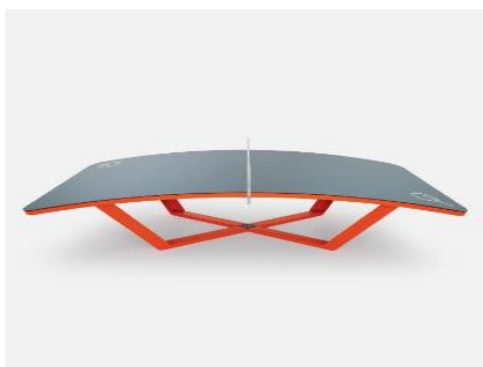
As per the information in paragraph 1.8 of the report, this appendix provides details of the updates that can be expected in the play areas using the remaining balance of £562,885.

<b>Duke of York Gardens (West Marsh Ward)</b> Seating x 2 Picnic Table Swing Teqball + matting	<b>Grant Thorold Park (East Marsh Ward)</b> Disabled Roundabout Teqball + matting
<b>Albion Street (East Marsh Ward)</b> Multi play unit Seating x 2 Picnic tables x 2	<b>Sutherland Park (East Marsh Ward)</b> Fit Pod Seating x 2 Picnic tables x 2 Trim Trail - large
<b>Haverstoe Park (Havertoe Ward)</b> Disabled Roundabout Picnic tables x 2 Seating x 2 Teqball + matting	<b>People's Park (Park Ward)</b> Disabled Swing Pod Fit Picnic tables x 3 3 seater Blazer Teqball x2
<b>Ainslie Street (Park Ward)</b> Seating x 2 Picnic table Blazer Trim Trail - large	<b>Pilgrims Mount (Immingham Ward)</b> Pod Fit Picnic table Disabled swing Teqball
<b>Carver Road (Immingham Ward)</b> Double cradle swing Climbing boat	<b>Sidney Park (Sidney Sussex Ward)</b> Disabled roundabout Picnic tables x 2 Spinning bowl Blaze Rocker Steel slide large Teqball
<b>Sussex Recreation Ground (Sidney Sussex Ward)</b> Disabled swing Flat swing 3 seater Blazer Pod Fit Teqball	<b>Weelsby Woods (Heneage Ward)</b> Pot Fit Disabled swing Picnic tables x 3 Zip wire Teqball
<b>Sixhills Street (Scartho Ward)</b> Blazer Flat swings	<b>Bradley Woods (Wolds Ward)</b> Seating x 2 Picnic table Trim Trail large
<b>Capes Recreation Ground (Yarborough Ward)</b> Double swing	<b>Mount Pleasant (Waltham Ward)</b> Blazer Picnic table x 2

Seating x 2 Picnic table Cradle swing Slide Disabled roundabout	Teqball
<b>Neville Turner Way (Waltham Ward)</b> Trim Trail - large Picnic tables x 2 Seating x 2	<b>Nunthorpes Recreation Ground (South Ward)</b> Toddler Multiplay Unit Fit Pod Teqball
<b>Quantock Park (Scartho Ward)</b> Fit Pod Picnic table Trim Trail - large Teqball	<b>Rose &amp; Crown (Scartho Ward)</b> Disabled swing Picnic table Set of 2 flat swings Fit Pod Teqball
<b>St Christopher's Playing Field (Humberston &amp; New Waltham Ward)</b> Zip Wire Teqball Blazer Picnic tables x 2	<b>Wingate Parade (Freshney Ward)</b> Disabled roundabout Picnic tables x 2 See Saw
<b>School Walk (Croft Baker Ward)</b> Trim Trail (standard) Blazer 3 seats Roundabout	

## Images

The following images show examples of the new equipment that are expected to be introduced to the play areas.



**Teqball**



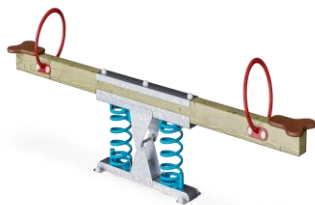
**Disabled swing**



**Fit Pod**



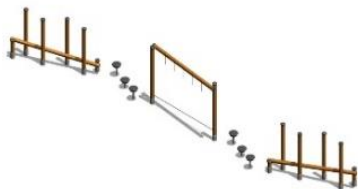
**Disabled Roundabout**



**2 seater Blazer**



**3 seater Blazer**



**Large Trim trail**



**Multi-play unit**



**Metal climbing frame (boat shaped)**



**Toddler multi-play unit**