

Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

Date:	13 April 2021
Title:	Play Area Strategy
Contact Officer:	Andrea Oughton, Asset Manager

Purpose of the Report:

1. To approve the Play Area Strategy.

Background

2. The Play Area Strategy was last presented to the Community, Leisure and Recreation Committee on 7 October 2014 following which a number of comments were made and incorporated in the revised Strategy adopted on 15 February 2015.

Resource Appraisal

3. The Play Area Strategy has been reviewed and minor changes made to bring it up to date e.g. the National Playing Fields Association is now better known as Fields in Trust.
4. Within the Play Area Strategy a priority listing is detailed for play area sites that have not yet been refurbished. It is an aim to bring them up to standard in consultation with local residents, particularly children and young people.
5. There is limited provision of play for young people within the current sites and this can result in anti-social behavior and nuisance within the town.
6. Refurbishment of play areas will ensure facilities are inclusive providing better access for everyone regardless of background, age or ability.

Risk Assessment

7. The Play Area Strategy details safety standards that apply to play equipment to ensure a safe play environment for children and young people and that a plan is detailed to ensure replacement of any play equipment not meeting the standards.
8. The financial implications of the Play Area Strategy are detailed within the report. Budgeting for replacement of play equipment and improvements to play areas will be required to ensure that the strategy is successful. Funding from external sources also form an integral part of the strategy.

Legal Powers:

Local Government Act (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19

Recommendation:

- i) To approve the Play Area Strategy.***