

TOWN AREA COMMITTEE

21 NOVEMBER 2016

REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS CASE- PLAY EQUIPMENT- INCREASE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek members approval for the revised Play Equipment Business Case, and increase the authorised spending by a further £8k from monies currently set aside for play area equipment renewal within the capital programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Members to approve the revised Play Equipment Business Case attached as Appendix A, which shows an increased spend of £8k of capital expenditure for the purchase of new play equipment for the Salford Brook Play Area; and recommend to the Policy Finance and Administration Committee that funding be allocated from the special expenses reserve.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

3.1 Play Equipment

Members of the Policy and Financial Affairs committee gave approval in July earlier this year to renew play equipment at both Salford Brook and West Green play areas. Included with the Salford Brook scheme was a special piece of equalities compliant equipment a 'swirl unit' particularly suitable for those that might be wheelchair bound

This request for the approval to release additional funds relates in the main to the cost of additional safety surfacing required to ensure satisfactory compliance with current Health and Safety regulations for the installations of the new equipment

- 3.2. Members may be aware that safety surfacing can be all but the costliest element of equipment renewal depending upon the type extent and depth of the safety surface required.
- 3.3 The play area renewal and replacement programme approved in 2014 had identified £68k of capital expenditure for equipment renewals or replacement that might be needed in 2016/17 However when the sites identified for renewal within that programme were reviewed the replacement equipment determined as needed at the time was calculated to cost £43k.
- 3.4 The final cost of removing the redundant equipment, extensive remedial ground work and site preparation along with the substantially increased safety surfacing required has increased the cost of the renewals to £51k an increase of £8k above that already approved.
- 3.5 Members will note the request for the additional £8k of funds (totalling £51k) remain within the £68k monies set aside for the approved renewals programme for 2016/17 and still result in £17k less capital expenditure than was originally assumed.

4.0 **POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policies or corporate implications as a result of the report

5.0 **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The approved play area renewal and replacement programme had assumed £68k as the capital expenditure needed for new play equipment in 2016/17. This request to release a further £8k from the Special Expense reserve to cover the actual replacement costs can still be achieved from the monies set aside for the programme and as such should have minimal implications in regards to finance or resources.

6.0 **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report

7.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

7.1 There are no direct links relating to community safety in this report.

8.0 **EQUALITIES**

8.1 No Specific Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken, however, the play equipment facilities proposed are expected to have a positive impact on the accessibility and availability of play areas with equipment suitable for those limited to wheelchair mobility

9.0 **RISKS**

L I K E L I H O O D	A	Very High				
	B	High				
	C	Significant				
	D	Low			2	
	E	Very Low			1	
	F	Almost Impossible				
			Negligible 1	Marginal 2	Critical 3	Catastrophic 4

IMPACT

Risk No	Risk Description
1	The Play Equipment proposed does not meet community needs
2.	The recommendation of this report is not approved

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 No direct Impact has been identified.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 The Business Case that originally supported the request for capital expenditure took into account community needs in those areas and the equipment proposed has been designed to meet those needs and maximise the sites usage

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All wards of the Borough are affected..

Contact Officer: Raman Selvon

Date: 15th November 2016

Appendices: Revised Business Case

Background Papers: None

Reference: Cttees\TAC\2016-17\21/11/16\HR- Play Equipment- Business Case