

“Project Mandate”

Agenda item number:

Date of issue:

Meeting:
Programme
Board
Date:
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Report by:
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Job title:
Waste &
Environmental
Maintenance
Manager

Service:
Environmental
Maintenance

Status: First
Draft

Subject:
Play
Equipment
renewal

1 Purpose of report

To seek the release of capital funds for new play area equipment at play areas Melton Country Park Climbing forest and Kirby Fields for replacement in 2018/19

2 Recommendations

To agree release of up to £20k for capital expenditure for the purchase of 1x new climbing net for the Melton Country Park Climbing Forest and 1x swing unit for the play area in Kirby Fields Park.

3 Background

A five year programme of capital expenditure on play area equipment and capital infrastructure requirements was agreed by members in November 2014.

However in 2015/16 unforeseen capital expenditure outside of that programme was required and expended on new equipment for play areas 'the Crescent', 'MCP Visitors centre' and 'Baldocks lane'. This expenditure was essential and replaced the programmed renewal works planned for that year.

Around half of the programmed equipment replacements originally due in 2015/16 were achieved in 2016/17 through approved capital expenditure at Salford Brook and West Green Avenue play areas.

This mandate is seeking approval for capital expenditure on replacing a main piece of play equipment in the climbing forest at Melton Country Park and a swing unit in Kirby Fields play area. Some equipment was replaced last year in Kirby Fields Park however this play area was one that missed the schedule replacement for some of its equipment as capital funds were sought to replace higher priority replacement demands at Thrush close play area.

4 Legal, financial and IT implications (please identity any system admin responsibilities)

Play areas require regular inspection and examination of all equipment. These weekly inspections inform both the maintenance and replacement demand which were used in part to develop the replacement programme. The agreed programme ensures the council is keeping its facilities safe and appropriate for its residents and ensures the councils liability for any incidents or accidents that relate to play area equipment and or apparatus is kept to the minimum achievable.

5 Initial Assessment of risk

There is little risk in regards to following the replacement programme as generally only renowned and national companies are invited to quote for replacement equipment giving an assurance of quality, longevity and on-going support. Failing to renew play equipment as required will greatly increase the liability of the Council for any equipment failures and associated incidents or accidents.

6 Equalities and diversity and staffing implications

Replacement equipment options and choices will include consideration for specialist equipment suitable for those with limited ability. There are no diversity or staffing implications as a result of this mandate.
