
REPORT TO:	HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMUNITY	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	6 TH FEBRUARY 2003	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	CHRIS MASON 5794	DOC:
SUBJECT:	LOTTERY FUNDING FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY	REF: e:\leisure\committee reports\consultationplay.doc
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:CS04

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members' comments are sought on the Department for Education and Sciences to provide Lottery Funding for Children's Play.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To bring the initiative to Members' attention and identify key issues for inclusion in a written response to the consultation.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 The funding of children's play, in its widest sense, has long been an obvious omission in the good causes that benefit from Lottery Funding. The proposals, as detailed, appear to provide a welcome approach for addressing the shortfall

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 A summary of the consultation launched by the Department for Education & Science (DfES) and the Department of Culture and Media Studies (DCMS) is attached at Annexe A.
- 4.2 The consultation document follows the announcement by the Government in June 2001 that £200m of Lottery Funding was going to be directed to children's play via the New Opportunities Fund (NOF). Following extensive consultation it is likely that funding will be available to spend in 2005.
- 4.3 Page 2 of the summary details the elements of public provision that will be included in the review. Also identified is that disadvantaged areas and groups of children with limited play opportunities are a priority for the review.
- 4.4 It is suggested that the following be included in a written response to the consultation document:

- That the Council welcome the broad outline of the proposals and support the emphasis on linking adequate play provision to housing and regeneration schemes

-Recognise the major problem we have in bringing our stock of play equipment up to current safety & quality standards.

– Recognise the need to provide challenging play provision for children of all age groups and to involve young people directly in the design and location of this.

– Acknowledge the need to provide support to meet the increased demand for informal leisure provision from teenagers particularly for skate and BMX provision.

- Financial support for the production of children's play strategies that clearly identify priorities

- Recognise and support a partnership approach to bring children's play provision up to an acceptable standard.

– Concerns that the level of funding allocation may not be sufficient to address even high priority shortfalls in play provision.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 None from this report

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 Note and support the comment on ensuring that play provision is considered in the appropriate South Derbyshire strategic planning forums.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 The proposals, if implemented, offer an important vehicle for delivering much needed community facilities in the District

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The proper funding of children's play has generally been a somewhat neglected area of local provision. The proposals, if properly funded, offer a positive step forward

9.0 Background Papers

9.1 'Ten' Policy Briefing Note