

Appendix 1: Action Plan

This Action Plan covers broad strategic actions relating to the Tier 1 Play Strategy. The Locality Play Improvement Frameworks supply detailed evidence in relation to the development of site-specific options for new and improved play and outdoor youth facilities at local delivery plan level. The Action Plan is set within the framework of the Council Plan:

Thriving Residents

All of our families, children and young people are supported to get the best start in life

Policy Statement	Action	Timing ¹	Lead
P1. The Strategy recognises that Play has a key role in improving the health and well-being of children and young people through the promotion of active and healthy lifestyles.	1. Strategy partners to work in partnership with Borough Council public health to publicise and promote increased use of play and youth facilities thereby contributing to agreed Council Plan targets to reduce levels of childhood obesity.	Ongoing	BC PO/PH
	2. Strategy partners should consider signing up to the Smokefree Playgrounds initiative developed by the Borough Council	Med	Partners
	3. The Borough Council should promote the Play Strategy to the relevant Clinical Commissioning Groups in Cheshire West and Chester and develop an initiative aimed at securing additional funding/resource support for play.	Short	BC PH/PO
P2. Strategy partners will work towards ensuring that that all play provision is fully inclusive and accessible.	4. New play facilities and refurbishments to be designed and installed in line with KIDs guidance on Inclusive Play Space Design.	Immediate	BC PO Partners/ BC LT & TE
	5. Explore the potential for input into the CWAC Local Travel Plan (LTP) to identify safe routes to key play and recreation facilities similar to "safe routes to school".	Med	BC TE/LTP
	6. Explore transport options to improve access to play opportunities from rural areas eg subsidised buses, community transport etc	Med	BC TE/LTP

Abbreviations in "lead" column: BE= Borough Council; PO=Place Operations; PH=Public Health; LT-Locality Teams; LTP = Local Transport Plan; TE = Total Environment; SP= Spatial Planning;

¹ Short = year1; medium= years 2 &3; Long= year 4+

Thriving Communities

Cleanest, safest and most sustainable neighbourhoods in the country

Policy Statement	Action	Timing	Lead
<p>P3. Strategy partners will protect and enhance Play and Youth Facilities in the Borough, following good practice in relation to design quality, inclusion and risk/benefit procedures².</p>	7. New play facilities and refurbishments to be designed and installed in line with Design for Play	Short/ongoing	BC PO Partners/ BC LT & TE BC SP
	8. Ensure Play related Secured by Design principles are followed in relation to new development proposals.	Ongoing	
	9. Strategy partners to adopt 'Managing Risk in play provision' as a guide to risk/benefit analysis.	Short/Med	All Playspace managers
	10. Review of BC decommissioning guidance taking into account the Play Strategy prioritisation criteria and OSS policy	Short	BC PO
	11. Borough Council to review the need for Public Space Protection Orders in children's play areas with specific regard to dog exclusion and dogs on leads areas but to incorporate other protection measures as appropriate and identified by strategic partners and public consultation (e.g. alcohol and smoking bans).		
	12. Borough Council to work with strategy partners to ensure litter/dog foul hot spots identified by communities are targeted in relation to both informal and formal enforcement activity.		
<p>P4. Strategy partners will invest in new provision/improvements to play spaces and youth facilities only if the sustainability of the spaces/facilities can be demonstrated.</p>	13. Strategy partners to establish ongoing sustainability of play and youth facilities in relation to management and maintenance prior to capital investment in new facilities or major refurbishments. The play partnership to ensure that any proposals for new schemes (or improvement to existing sites) are communicated effectively within the play partnership to ensure best use of available funding and balance to provision across the Borough.	Immediate Ongoing	BC PO Partners/ BC LT & TE
<p>P5. The Strategy recognises the role that play and youth facilities have in enriching the lives of young people, in offering them stimulating and rewarding alternatives to anti-social behaviour</p>	14. Strategy partners to review the Locality Frameworks Plan to identify options for new youth facility provision to add to local delivery plans (taking into account potential funding opportunities).	Immediate Annually	BC PO Partners/ BC LT & TE
<p>P6. Strategy partners will aim to make appropriate</p>	15. Borough Council planners to consider opportunities for playable/child friendly	Short	BC SP

² See Section X below

public spaces as child friendly as possible, ensuring that parks, housing estates, shopping areas and other public spaces within the Borough, are as safe and conducive as possible to children's play.	public open space within all relevant planning proposals (in addition to designated play spaces). 16. Review the OSS to identify informal/natural/amenity open space suitable for play and promote as playable space. Promote play on appropriate "natural" play space (eg nature reserves, countryside sites etc).	Med	BC TE Partners
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Vibrant and healthy communities with inclusive leisure, heritage and culture opportunities

Policy Statement	Action	Timing	Lead
P7. The Strategy recognises the important role played by Town/Parish Councils, Schools, Housing Associations and the Voluntary and Community sector in relation to the provision of play spaces.	17. Strategy partners will aim to develop and support the involvement of Friends of and other community organisations in relation to play and outdoor youth facilities.	Ongoing	BC - PO, TE, LT Partners
	18. The Borough Council will offer support and advice to local partners in relation to play space and outdoor youth facility developments.	Ongoing	BC - PO, TE, LT
	19. The Borough Council will develop a pilot project of providing play space/youth facility on a school site for school and community use.	Short/Med	BC TE PO LT School
	20. Strategy partners will encourage schools, where appropriate eg. rural areas to provide increased levels of community use of play spaces and facilities such as Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs).	Med/ Long	BC PO LT Partners

Our resources are well managed and reflect the priorities of residents

Policy Statement	Action	Timing	Lead
P8. Play spaces and youth facilities will be provided/improved on the basis of a strategic analysis of local need with the aim of providing an equitable distribution of facilities and services	21. Strategy Partners will use the Locality Play Frameworks to review their own detailed developed plans on an annual basis.	Short/ annually.	BC PO Partners
	22. The Borough Council will use the Locality Play Frameworks to help determine where	Short/ annually.	BC PO, LT, TE

<p>across the Borough; with priority being given to provision where it is most needed³.</p>	<p>support and advice to local community play space initiatives is targeted</p> <p>23. The Borough Council will ensure that appropriate play forums monitor all play initiatives to promote partnership working.</p>		
<p>P9. Children, young people and their families will be positively engaged in the planning of play spaces and youth facilities through appropriate consultation and active involvement.</p>	<p>24. Strategy partners will ensure that children, young people, their families and the wider community are effectively consulted and engaged in relation to all local play space and youth facility proposals.</p> <p>25. Strategy partners to work with schools to identify opportunities to work with schools and their communities in encouraging joint initiatives, e.g. public consultation, user surveys, volunteering at play areas. Relate work to school curricular study.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>BC PO, LT, TE Partners</p>
<p>P10. Strategy partners will seek to maximise returns from external funding opportunities and the potential of planning obligations and agreements with developers in order to facilitate the improvement and enhancement of Play and Youth Facility provision and to support its future maintenance.</p>	<p>26. Strategy partners will work together to identify potential funding sources for specific play space improvements, with the appropriate partner submitting the application.</p> <p>27. In line with other strategic plans under development, e.g. Playing Pitch Strategy, Open Spaces Audit the Borough Council, will ensure that the Play Strategy is considered in the production of a Borough Wide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to replace existing legacy documents in order to assist developer enquiries with regard to developer contributions for play and open space provision.</p> <p>28. The Borough Council will ensure that appropriate S106 agreements and commuted sums are secured and allocated to appropriate facilities re. play and outdoor youth facilities and this is communicated to partners via Localities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>BC PO, LT, TE Partners</p> <p>BC TE SP</p>

Other Actions:

- Convene an ongoing Play Partnership as advised in the Play Strategy to monitor and review the Strategy and to provide a communications network for strategy partners (to take effect following ratification of the Play Strategy –Autumn 2016).
- Produce summaries of the Play Strategy and the Locality Frameworks to be available for the general public - attractive and well designed, written in appropriate style for the general reader (following Cabinet approval).
- Update the Council's interactive mapping identifying play provision – work with Council's Spatial Planning and GIS team via new OSS GIS layers - ensure that a member of Spatial Planning Team sits on any new Play Partnership.