

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE



DATE	28 th April 2009
PORTFOLIO	Leisure
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Play Area Improvement Programme 2009/10

PURPOSE

1. To seek approval to release the balance of funding allocated for the 2009/10 Play Area Improvement Programme.

RECOMMENDATION

2. Executive is recommended to:
 1. Approve the schemes included in the 2009/10 Play Improvement Programme as shown in section 6 of this report.
 2. Increase the approved Play Area Improvement budget in 2009/10 to £186,114, financed from external funding received from the Big Lottery Fund
 3. Approve the procurement methods (as shown in sections 7 to 11 of this report) and approve expenditure of £152,114 from the 2009/10 Play Area Improvement budget, £34,000 for Hargher Clough having been approved previously.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. Approval of the Executive is required for changes to the approved capital programme and for any capital spend exceeding £50,000.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. **Release of resources to fund the 2009/10 Play Area Improvement Programme**
The Councils capital programme 2009/10 identifies expenditure of £177,125 of which £34,000 has already been approved (minute 190).
5. Approval is now sought to increase the 2009/10 budget to £186,114. The additional budget will be financed from external funding received from the Big Lottery Fund.

6. The Play Area Improvement programme is being implemented in accordance with the priorities that were identified in the Burnley Play Strategy 2007-2012. The schemes included in the 2009/10 programme are listed below:

Scheme	Estimated Cost
Lockyer Avenue: refurbish existing play area with new equipment	£29,375
Thornber Gardens: refurbish existing play area with new equipment	£52,875
Brunshaw: Proposed refurbishment of Sheddon Grove play area	£52,875
Reinstatement of closed play areas	£7,550
Management fee	£9,439
TOTAL	£152,144

Procurement of Capital Works

Consultation

7. Consultation will be undertaken with local residents and children in respect of each scheme and careful account will be taken in selecting equipment that is appropriate both to the age of children for which the site is aimed and the location of the site in relation to local residents.

Purchase of Equipment

8. As in previous years, it is proposed that the purchase of play equipment for all three sites will be collectively tendered to suitable play equipment suppliers based on a quality/price model that ensures that we achieve good play value for money and purchase robust equipment that is capable of meeting a minimum 15-year life.
9. However, officers are also investigating a new procurement framework available for play equipment design and installation. A group of local authority purchasing consortia, working with the Department for Children Schools and Families has set up a national framework and cost savings may be achieved in purchase of equipment through this consortium.

Installation of Play Equipment

10. Installation of equipment, surfacing, etc. at Sheddon Grove and Thornber Gardens will be competitively tendered to suitable contractors from the Council's select list of contractors.
11. Installation of replacement play equipment at Lockyer Avenue and reinstatement of the closed playgrounds will be undertaken by the Council's playground maintenance team.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

12. The Council's Capital programme 2009/10 identifies provision of £177,125 for the Play Area Improvement programme, of which £34,000 has previously been approved (Hargher Clough). This report requests approval to increase the 2009/10 budget to £186,114, the increase being funded by way of additional grant.
13. The approved Play Area Improvement budget for 2008/09 was £215,423. There are some final amendments to the year end outturn figure for 2008/09 which will be dealt with as part of the Council's Final Accounts. These amendments will not impact on the 2009/10 Programme.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

14. Community Strategy identifies that the Council will adopt and progress the implementation of the Play Strategy for Burnley 2007 – 2012. This report will facilitate implementation of the Strategy.
15. The Play Strategy identifies the importance of good quality play provision and the positive impact that children's play has across many areas of policy including health, education, community safety, housing policy and regeneration.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

16. None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

17. Files held at cemetery Office,

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

Simon Goff

ALSO:

Howard Hamilton-Smith

Appendix 1

Play Area Improvement Scheme - Capital Budget & Spend 2008/09

Approved Budget

	Big Lottery Fund £	Capital Receipts £	Capital Opp Fund £	Third Party Contributions £	TOTAL £
Rakehead	-	32,799	-	-	32,799
Queen Street	5,775	19,909	-	4,851	30,535
Whitegate	15,742	14,373	-	-	30,115
Brent Street	-	15,530	-	-	15,530
Barden Lane	46,775	-	-	-	46,775
Calder Park	-	4,025	-	13,600	17,625
Rosehill Gardens	-	11,505	-	-	11,505
Harger Clough	-	-	-	33,600	33,600
Management Fee	-	(3,061)	-	-	(3,061)
	68,292	95,080	-	52,051	215,423

Estimated Expenditure

	Big Lottery Fund £	Capital Receipts £	Capital Opp Fund £	Third Party Contributions £	TOTAL £
Rakehead	-	94,952	-	-	94,952
Queen Street	5,643	19,054	15,700	6,930	47,327
Whitegate	16,201	21,370	10,000	-	47,571
Brent Street	-	-	-	-	-
Barden Lane	46,775	-	-	-	46,775
Calder Park	-	4,025	-	13,600	17,625
Rosehill Gardens	-	11,505	-	-	11,505
Harger Clough	-	-	-	33,600	33,600
Management Fee	8,061	(3,061)	-	-	5,000
	76,680	147,845	25,700	54,130	304,355
Increased budget	8,388	52,765	25,700	2,079	88,932