

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director (Planning and Development) (Introduced by the Executive Member (Planning and Development))	Executive Member Decision	13/10/2021

## Fairview Play Area Enhancement

### Purpose of report

- To seek approval of the funding required to enhance the play area at Fairview Community Centre

### Recommendation(s)

- To approve the funding identified for the enhancement of Fairview Play Area

### Executive summary of report

- The play area at Fairview Community Centre was installed in 2011 and has suffered spells of vandalism and patch repairs over the past few years. The safety surfacing has reached the end of its lifespan and needs replacement.
- A community support group has been set up to combat the antisocial behaviour issues at the site encompassing the police, Fairview Youth and Community Association (FYCA), Council teams, Chorley Youth Zone and ward members.
- Quotes have been sought for the replacement of the safety surfacing and a new springy. Different materials have been researched to choose a surface that is vandal resistant and has a long warranty. Sand filled carpet with coloured lines to demarcate the play area safety zones as existing is the preferred surface at a cost of £15,000. A new springy will be installed at the cost of £780.

<b>Confidential report</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<b>No</b>
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<b>Key Decision?</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<b>No</b>
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### Reasons for recommendation(s)

#### (If the recommendations are accepted)

- The current safety surfacing needs replacement, it has been patched, has holes in it, has been filled with alternative materials and has shrunk at the edges. Rather than take the old surface to tip, the chosen method of resurfacing will overlay with Notts Sport Childsplay sand filled carpet. This is manufactured locally in Leigh and has an 8 year warranty.

### Alternative options considered and rejected

- To replace the safety surfacing with wet pour again. This was rejected as it could incur similar acts of vandalism. The sand filled carpet is more durable and fire retardant.

## Corporate priorities

8. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	x	A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities	x	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	x

## Background

9. The play area is owned and managed by Chorley Council and the community centre is leased and managed by Fairview Youth & Community Association (FYCA).
10. There have been issues of vandalism and anti-social behaviour at Fairview Youth & Community Centre.
11. The play area was installed in 2011 at a cost of £95,000 through developer contributions from Fairview Farm. At the time, residents showed concern over the proximity and outlook to the play area and trees were planted which are now semi mature to screen the houses from the community centre.
12. The community centre has CCTV but this is not directed at the whole play area. It is managed by FYCA.
13. Both the Fairview Youth & Community Association (FYCA) and local residents have raised issues related to vandalism and anti-social behaviour over past few years but over the summer holidays the play area surface has been further damaged.
14. Local residents have set up a community support group to deal with the antisocial behaviour encompassing the police, Chorley Youth Zone, FYCA, Council teams and ward members. This appears to have stopped the issues.

## Safety Surfacing

15. Wetpour safety surfacing generally has a lifespan of 10 years so the safety surfacing at Fairview is coming to a point of naturally needing replacing.
16. The general state of the play surface is poor and reflects badly on the council and the local community centre. It needs a fresh surface installation.
17. There have already been several attempts to patch it over the years, the general surface is starting to degrade, crack, shrink and crumble.
18. Various quotes have been sought to replace the wetpour safety surfacing like for like or to use an alternative sand filled surface from Notts Sport. The sand filled carpet is the preferred options as it is a change of surfacing to avoid any repeat learned behaviour with regards future vandalism. Due to the sand infill the product is extremely resilient to knife and arson attacks.
19. The installation company is offering two free patch repairs on the site for the 8-year warranty life of the surface.

## Costs to Replace the safety Surfacing

20. The supply and installation of the Notts Sport Childsplay in Olive green with 50mm wide coloured lines to demark playground safety zones similar to existing is £15,000. The cost of the new springy is £780. The total cost is £15,780 +VAT. The lead in time for this work is 6-8 weeks.
21. Funding has been identified for this for this work from a S106 sum intended for provision and maintenance of equipped space in the Borough. The S106 is attributed to the development Park Mills, Deighton Road and is the sum of £27,648.
22. The remaining balance of £11,868 will be retained for future maintenance works wherever identified in the Borough. There is no timescale specified to spend this S106.

## Implications of report

### Risk

23. The implications of not carrying out this work are a reputational risk and also a health and safety risk. The work is necessary to ensure that the site is functioning to a high standard.
24. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	x	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	x	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

### Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

25. As detailed within the report this work is to be funded from an existing S.106 receipt.


### Comments of the Monitoring Officer

26. The funds utilised should be within the purposes specified within the relevant section 106 agreement(s) which appears to be the case. Any contract for supply and installation should comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the best value duty.

Johnathan Noad  
Director of Planning and Development

Report Author	Ext	Date
Lindsey Blackstock	5218	06/10/2021

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



**Dated: 13/10/21**

**Councillor Alistair Morwood**  
Executive Member Planning and Development