

Report of	Meeting	Date
Interim Deputy Chief Executive (Introduced by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member (Property, Assets, Commercial Services and Major Developments))	Cabinet	Wednesday, 11 October 2023

## Award of Contract for the replacement of play area equipment on Withy Grove Play Area

Is this report confidential?	No
Is this decision key?	Yes
Savings or expenditure amounting to greater than £100,000	Significant impact on 2 or more council wards

### Purpose of the Report

1. This report is asking Cabinet to award the Contract to replace the central tower at Withy Grove Park Playground in Bamber Bridge for a fixed price of £110k

### Reasons for recommendations

2. A decision is required by Cabinet for contract award due to the project value. Award of the contract will allow the project to replace the playground equipment to be progressed.

### Recommendations to Cabinet

3. That Cabinet agree to award the Contract to Kompan Ltd to replace the tower slides at Withy Grove Park Playground for a fixed price of £110,000

### Other options considered and rejected

4. The option of not replacing the tower slide with a similar item of equipment was considered and rejected as the item formed the centrepiece of the play area and Withy Grove Park is one of the few parks in the borough where such an item can be installed due to the amount of space available.

### Corporate priorities

An exemplary council	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	<b>Good homes, green spaces, healthy places</b>

## Background to the report

5. During the Summer of 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> August) two separate fires were started at Withy Grove Park Play Area which resulted in the loss of the Tower Slide unit in centre of the play area.
6. Following the incident, the area around the tower was closed for a short period whilst investigations took place into the integrity of the remaining structure and the Council had the chance to involve the insurance section and identify a way forward. Following consultation with the manufacturer of the equipment (Proludic) who installed the original play area in 2007 it was advised that the remaining parts of the tower were not recommended for retention due to distortion by the heat of the fire. It was also advised that a like for like replacement would not be possible as the company no longer manufactures many of the main component parts of the item.
7. However, Proludic were able to calculate a price for the supply and installation of the item in today's prices and working closely with the Council's insurance section and following extensive negotiations with the loss adjuster, an agreement was reached on a sum of £110K to replace the item.
8. Permission from the loss adjuster was given to remove the remains of the tower slide which was carried out on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
9. Discussions have been held with both the fire service and police around the incidents and how the resilience of the site can be developed with upgraded CCTV and other measures to deter damage and anti-social behaviour.
10. A full Procurement process has now been undertaken as shown below.

## The Proposal

10. It is proposed to replace the original 2007 tower slide with a new piece of equipment in the existing woodchip pit at Withy Grove Park playground.
11. A replacement item has been procured by a design and build process openly advertised on the Chest and Contracts Finder whereby bidders were given a maximum budget and invited to submit designs for a replacement item. The Contractor with the design that scored the most for equipment offered, play value and longevity is the one recommended for award of contract.
12. Table of Bids Received:

Bidder	Tender Complete & Within Budget	Quality Total	Social Value Total	Combined Total Score
<b>Kompan</b>	<b>PASS</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>89.20</b>
5	PASS	78	4.61	82.61
4	PASS	74	6.61	80.61
1	PASS	66	11.25	77.25
3	PASS	67	6.73	73.73

6	PASS	69	2.60	71.60
7	PASS	67	2.92	69.92

### **Climate change and air quality**

13. The work noted in this report impact on the following areas of climate change and sustainability targets of the Council's Green Agenda:

- Reducing waste production.

14. The following remediations have been undertaken to limit the environmental effect:

- Waste materials arising from the works including timber, metal and stone, will be reused on site where possible and recycled off site where needed minimising the amount of material disposed of at landfill.

### **Equality and diversity**

15. As part of preparing the 2023-24 Business Plan for Parks and Open Spaces an Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out on the whole service including play areas. As we instigate this project, we will sense check the overall EIA and apply it to this project.

### **Risk**

16. A Risk Register is in place for capital improvement works to play areas.

17. There is always a risk of misuse and vandalism of play areas and therefore design specifications seek to ensure equipment and other facilities are as robust as possible whilst remaining attractive and providing high levels of play value.

### **Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer**

18. This cost of this project are covered from within the existing, approved capital programme.

### **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

19. A procurement process has been carried out that is compliant with our Contract Procedure rules. A formal contract will be entered into. There are no concerns from a Monitoring Officer perspective.

### **Background documents**

Cabinet Report 24/05/2023 – Requesting new budget in capital programme for the replacement of the tower slide (expenditure to be reimbursed by insurance claim).

### **Appendices**

There are no appendices to this report

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This decision will come into force and may be implemented five working days after its publication date, subject to being called in in accordance with the Council's Constitution.