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| **REPORT TO** | **ON** |
| **CABINET** | **13 February 2019** |
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| **TITLE** | **PORTFOLIO** | **REPORT OF** |
| **Refurbishment of Worden Park Play Area** | **Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood and Streetscene)** | **Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods and Development** |

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| Is this report a **KEY DECISION** (i.e. more than £100,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)  Is this report on the **Statutory Cabinet Forward Plan**?  Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council?  Is this report confidential? | **Yes**  **Yes**  **No**  **No** |

1. **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT** 
   1. The report seeks Members’ approval to allocate Section 106 monies, as part of the Green Links Project approved at budget 2018/19, to partially refurbish Worden Park Play Area with inclusive equipment allowing use by individuals of all abilities.
2. **PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS**
   1. That Cabinet approves the capital spend of £170,000 to permit the partial refurbishment of the play area at Worden Park.
   2. Cabinet approves the decision to undertake a procurement exercise to procure and install the play equipment for the partial refurbishment of the play area at Worden Park.
   3. Cabinet approves delegated authority to the Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods and Development in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources and Transformation) with the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Streetscene to award the contracts.
3. **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

3.1 Health and Wellbeing is a major priority within the Council’s Corporate Plan. We want to promote our health and wellbeing objectives by developing high quality community open spaces, connected across the borough which supports residents in adopting healthier and more active lifestyles. The investment in our parks and green links will connect a network of community open spaces developed in partnership with local neighbourhoods across the borough offering opportunities for sustainable travel, leisure activities, sustainable living and a sense of connecting people to places.

3.2 Our play area on Worden Park promotes Health and Wellbeing by encouraging active lifestyles and is a highly popular and well used facility with people of all abilities. A number of items of equipment have failed or are failing and in order to maintain the site in a usable condition an element of refurbishment is required. In addition to this the type of equipment proposed to be installed will move away from the traditional play equipment to equipment that will encourage active play.

1. **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

4.1 The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

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| Excellence and Financial Sustainability |  |
| Health and Wellbeing | **X** |
| Place | **x** |

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

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| People |  |

1. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**
   1. Health and Wellbeing is a major priority within the Council’s Corporate Plan. As part of the Green Links, the aim is to create a Borough that is linked together by its green network connecting our parks including Worden Park, open spaces and Central Park. Through investing on a borough wide scale, there will be connections that join and open up more places for people to enjoy including the Worden Park play area. A key outcome to improve the health of our residents is to increase their participation in physical activity. As part of this priority, people will be encouraged to use sustainable forms of transport including walking, cycling and running. This in itself will encourage a healthier and active lifestyle while improving the environment of the Borough.
   2. As outlined within the ‘Health and Well Being’ section of the Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023,

the focus of the health and well-being actions is upon the future health of our growing population and that developing and maintaining active lifestyles is a key building block to achieving this. The most recent South Ribble Partnership Survey with residents identified that parks/open spaces, more facilities for young people and good leisure, recreation and other entertainment facilities within the Borough were important aspects to the people of South Ribble.

* 1. Worden Park is the principal park within the Leyland area and proves to be extremely popular with residents and visitors alike attracting in excess of 250,000 visitors each year, a large proportion of these visitors utilise the play area on a regular basis.
  2. Currently the Council is in receipt of an amount of Section 106 money related to Buckshaw Village the requirements of which identify the monies should be spent on Public or Community Infrastructure within a 2 mile radius of the development. Worden Park as a sub-regional facility would indeed attract residents from Buckshaw Village and therefore it would be reasonable to use such monies on Worden Park.
  3. The play area has existed in its current location since the early 1960’s and a number of items of the original equipment such as the swings still remain.
  4. The last partial refurbishment of the play area took place in 2011, a large proportion of the equipment has been in situ for approximately 20 – 30 years and is now starting to show itage and maintenance costs have risen considerably with a number of items having passed the stage of economical repair resulting in their withdrawal from use.
  5. During the last partial refurbishment of the site the equipment installed was of a type that was inclusive allowing use by individuals of all abilities this has proved extremely popular and has received positive feedback from park users.
  6. As part of the Council’s aim to encourage active lifestyles the type of equipment proposed to be installed will encourage more active play. This includes for example a Teqball table which is a new type of equipment a cross between a football and table tennis table. The table is arched and divided in two halves with a solid net in the middle and is played with a football and feet and heads rather than ball and bats.

1. **PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)**

6.1It is proposed to replace a number of items of play equipment with items that encourage

activity which is designed to be utilised by individuals of all abilities, this will enable a

greater range of individuals to use the facilities provided.

6.2 As identified a number of items have failed in recent years and a number of other items are

beginning to fail, it is intended to replace these with inclusive items which include the following:

Wheelchair swing

Cable ride

Swing set

Multi-unit climber (toddler)

Multi-unit climber (junior)

Roundabout

Seesaw

Various sensory equipment

6.3 It is intended to install additional equipment in the vicinity of the play area, this would be aimed at engaging people of all ages in both physical and mental activity this would include an outdoor chess table and a Teqball table.

* 1. The equipment would be purchased in line with the Council’s procurement procedures, however given the equipment is manufactured by a number of suppliers it would be purchased through a number of smaller lots to ensure the equipment identified is obtained.

1. **Consultation carried out and outcome of consultation**
   1. Consultation at Worden Park has been carried out on a number of occasions in recent years and this has identified a need for dynamic equipment and inclusive equipment to be provided.
2. **alternative options considered and rejected**
   1. The option to maintain the current equipment levels was considered however this would mean that the equipment would continue to deteriorate and the opportunity to enhance and improve the facilities and increase its usability by individuals of all abilities would be missed.
3. **financial implications**
   1. The Council has received s106 contribution for the purpose of providing public infrastructure within a 2 mile radius of Buckshaw Village. This receipt can be used to fund the provision of playground equipment. Maintenance and repair costs will be considered as part of the contract appraisal process to ensure appropriate provision is made in the parks revenue budget.
   2. Provision of new equipment will mitigate future reactive repairs costs through initial manufacturer’s warranties. This allows existing funds to be redirected to a future maintenance fund or replacing other equipment.
4. **legal implications**
   1. Please see the Monitoring Officer comments. There are no legal concerns with what is proposed.
5. **human resources and organisational development implications**
   1. None.
6. **ICT / TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**
   1. None.
7. **PROPERTY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**
   1. None.
8. **RISK MANAGEMENT**
   1. As identified previously the equipment currently in situ is now beginning to deteriorate and failure to replace this equipment would affect the usability of the facility in the future. Should the section 106 monies not be spent within the designated timescales there may be a requirement to return this to the developers concerned.
   2. Provision of new equipment will also mitigate any potential claims from users should equipment fail.
9. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT**

15.1 The provision of inclusive equipment would increase the ability for individuals of all abilities

to utilise the site and equipment.

1. **RELEVANT DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS**
   1. That Cabinet approves the currently allocated spend of £170,000 to permit the partial refurbishment of the play area at Worden Park.
   2. Cabinet approves the decision to undertake a procurement exercise to procure and install the play equipment for the partial refurbishment of the play area at Worden Park.
   3. Cabinet approves delegated authority to the Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods and Development in collaboration with the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources and Transformation) and the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Street Scene to award the contracts.
2. **COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER**

This project is part of the Green Links and has been included in the proposed Capital Programme for 2018/19. The detailed Capital Programme was approved in February 2018.

1. **COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

Section 106 monies may only be spent for the purposes set out in the relevant section 106 agreement. In this instant the proposed use of these monies is in accordance with the agreement in question.

All necessary procurement exercises will be carried out in accordance with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules. Formal contract documentation will be drawn up.

Obviously once this equipment has been installed we must ensure that we have the necessary insurance in place.

1. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

19.1 None.

**20. APPENDICES**

20.1 None.

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