

Report To:	CABINET	Date:	26 NOVEMBER 2018
Heading:	SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION OF PLAY STRATEGY FOR RURAL AREAS / GREEN SPACE PROJECTS		
Portfolio Holder:	DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (OUTWARD FOCUS)		
Ward/s:	SELSTON, UNDERWOOD, JACKSDALE		
Key Decision:	NO		
Subject to Call-In:	NO		

Purpose of Report

This report provides a summary of the considerations and recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the call-in meeting on the topic, held on the 17 October and subsequent Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on the 7 November 2018.

Recommendation(s)

That it be recommended to Cabinet that:

- a) the proposed schedule of work for investing in play areas, as detailed in the emerging Play Strategy be informed by specific needs for investment, and that these needs be recorded, rather than investment being determined solely on a schedule and list of areas.
- b) Cabinet's response to a) above be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course
- c) Cabinet looks again at the Section 106 agreement for Brand Lane in order to ensure that the agreement meets the requirements of the area in mitigating the impact of further housing development.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Following the call-in meeting regarding the Play Strategy for Rural Areas / Green Space Projects, the topic was referred back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for further consideration

Alternative Options Considered

As detailed in the report

Detailed Information

Following its consideration at the Call-in meeting held on the 17 October 2018, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved;

- the content of the Play Strategy and the emerging Car Parking Strategy, as referred to in the original Cabinet report, be further considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with suitable recommendations being made to the Executive as deemed appropriate;
- the Committee report back to the Executive in a timely manner to ensure that the time limited additional funding is utilised appropriately.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee further considered this topic at a meeting held on the 7 November 2018 with the assistance of;

- Leader of the Council;
- Deputy Leader of the Council (Outward Focus);
- Interim Director of Place & Communities;
- Assistant Director, Place and Wellbeing;
- Place Team Leader.

At this meeting, Members of the Committee discussed the further information provided with regards to the status of the Car Parking Strategy 2016 – 21, the Public Open Space Strategy 2016 – 26 and the Ashfield District Council Play Strategy. It was recognised that the Ashfield District Council Play Strategy was a plan of action, rather than an adopted document, which aimed to provide continued improvements to play facilities over a four-year period using additional funding streams.

Additionally Members also discussed the report in more detail addressing;

- Section 106 received for public open space and grant funding secured since 2014/15;
- Selston Parish Council Play strategy;
- Wharf Road improvements.

The Committee were also advised that the improvements made under the emerging play strategy would be carried out on a schedule determined by location but any required maintenance to any play area would be carried out as required as the extra funding identified in the emerging play strategy was for new play areas.

Members of the committee also expressed concern regarding the parking at Brand Lane and discussed how any Section 106 monies would be spent to relieve parking and traffic issues in the Brand Lane vicinity created as a consequence of housing development in the area. Members agreed that it would be beneficial for Cabinet to look at the terms of the Section 106 agreement with regard to this.

Members concluded by noting the further information provided by officers and the Deputy Leader of the Council (Outward Focus) in relation to future funding, play area development and enhancement in the District but asked that future improvements to play areas be carried out on the basis of need rather than location.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Implementation of the proposed projects will support the Council's priorities of Health and Wellbeing and Communities and Environment.

Legal:

The proposals detailed within the original Cabinet report and subsequent Call-In report form part of a four-year programme of investment for Parks and Open Spaces and are all subject to approval through the Council's Capital Gateway Process and by Cabinet and Council in November.

Finance:

As Detailed below

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	No direct financial implications at this stage. These will be confirmed once the proposed capital schemes have been considered through the Capital Gateway Process. If all of the above schemes are subsequently supported this will require additional net funding of £117,375 which would need to be secured via Prudential Borrowing.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	
	There are no additional General Fund Revenue implications for the schemes in Sutton. Any additional Revenue implications for the schemes in the Rural area will be the responsibility of Selston Parish Council.

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
None identified at this stage.	None identified at this stage.

Human Resources:

None

Equalities:

None

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

None

Reason(s) for Exemption

None

Background Papers

[Scrutiny Report 7 November 2018](#)

[Overview and Scrutiny Call-In Meeting 17 October 2018](#)

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