

Arun District Council

REPORT TO:	Environment Committee - 31 January 2023
SUBJECT:	King George V Play Area, Felpham
LEAD OFFICER:	Philippa Dart – Director of Environment and Communities and Joe Russell-Wells – Group Head of Environment and Climate Change
LEAD MEMBER:	Cllr David Edwards
WARDS:	Felpham
CORPORATE PRIORITY / POLICY CONTEXT / CORPORATE VISION: The project to make improvements at King George V play area will implement the council's vision that aims to provide infrastructure that supports wellbeing, through easily accessible and safe greenspace, and encourage our community to embrace healthy and active lifestyles. The improvements support the delivery of the objectives set out in the council's Play Strategy 2018-2028.	
DIRECTORATE POLICY CONTEXT: The improvement project at King George V play area in Felpham sits within the Environment and Communities Directorate plan.	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY: A sum of £67K Section 106 funding from the residential development at Land North of Felpham (Site 6) has been identified to make improvements at King George V play area. This report seeks approval for draw down and expenditure of this funding and any other potential partnership funding contributions that may be made available.	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report seeks approval to drawdown the Section 106 play funding allocation from the residential development at Land North of Felpham (FP/92/04), and to approve the expenditure of the funding for play area enhancements at King George V (KGV) play area to meet the demand created by the increase in population.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to:

- 2.1. Approve the drawdown and expenditure of £67K Section 106 funding allocated from Land North of Felpham (FP/92/04) plus any other partnership funding that may be made available to carry out improvements at King George V play area in Felpham and deliver an objective from the Council's play strategy 2018-2028.

- 2.2. Approve that a procurement process is undertaken for a design and build contract and to enter into a contract for up to £67K (subject to recommendation 2.3) with the preferred bidder in order to carry out play area improvements at KGV.
- 2.3. Delegate authority to officers to increase the contract value at recommendation 2.2 should additional funding become available ahead of, during, or following the procurement process.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 3.1. This report provides a summary of the proposed project to make improvements at King George V play area, Felpham. The Project Summary in Appendix 1 provides the background information to the existing play areas located in the Felpham area and detail on the Section 106 developer play funding contributions available for improvements to these play areas.

This report recommends that the Section 106 funding generated by the residential development at Land North of Felpham (Site 6) under FP/92/04 should be drawn down and allocated for expenditure at KGV play area.

4. DETAIL

4.1 Budget

The council has identified £67K Section 106 funding from Land North of Felpham (planning ref FP/92/04) for play area improvements that could be used for necessary improvements at King George V play area in Felpham.

4.2 Background

The current play area at King George V (KGV) play area in Felpham is very popular but lacks a cohesive style or theme and would benefit from being modernised and enhanced (and expanded where possible). The inclusivity of play area could be improved with the provision of play equipment that targets a range of senses (e.g. auditory, visual and tactile) and provides play opportunities for those with a range of different abilities. In addition, the play area could be improved in terms of accessibility for those in wheelchairs and with impaired mobility so that equipment can be accessed from a seated or standing position.

The play area is designated a 'Parish Priority' in the council's play strategy 2018-2028 as it plays a significant role for residents within a parish area. This means that the council is committed to ensuring that KGV play area is improved in line with best practice to ensure it is one of the council's good quality play areas.

In comparison to other play areas in Felpham it is considered that KGV plays the most significant role in local play provision for residents in the Felpham area, including those living on the Site 6 development, and would benefit the most from allocation of the Section 106 funding from the residential development.

Alternative play areas in Felpham have been considered for the Section 106 funding, however these are not recommended as they have already undergone

recent improvements or have recently been installed and are in relatively good condition.

It is proposed that the Council will seek designs from reputable play companies for the play area improvements at KGV. It is proposed that the improvement works will take place during 2023/24.

4.3 Proposed Scope

The council proposes to enhance the existing play area at KGV including installation of new play equipment for a range of ages and abilities, and improvements to the surfacing. This will include improvements to the inclusivity and accessibility of the play area.

4.4 Public Consultation

The council will carry out a public consultation to determine the opinions of local site users which will feed into the design brief for the proposed improvements.

4.5 Procurement

Following the public consultation, the council will undertake a tender process to procure a preferred supplier to carry out the improvement works.

4.6 Programme

The following table sets out the expected work programme:

Project Activities	Timescale
Public Consultation	Spring 2023
Tender Process for designs	Late Spring - Summer 2023
Delivery	Autumn – Winter 2023

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1. Consultation will be carried out with the public and stakeholders including Felpham Parish Council to obtain local opinions and determine the key requirements for the play area improvements. These key requirements will feed into the design brief submitted to the play companies. Following initial discussions, it is the Council's intention to work closely in partnership with Felpham Parish Council on this project.

6. OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 6.1. To approve the recommendations as set out in the report.

- 6.2. To not approve the recommendations and delay the improvement project at King George V play area, and potentially cause the project to be defunded.

7. COMMENTS BY THE GROUP HEAD OF FINANCE/SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 7.1. The report indicates that the proposed project will be funded from S106 income and any other third party funding identified. There is therefore no direct budget pressure arising from the recommendation.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The risk log (see Appendix 1) sets out potential risks which may impact the project.
- 8.2 A risk assessment and method statement will be produced by the Principal Designer and the project will be delivered in accordance with the Construction, Design and Management (CDM) Regulations 2015.

9. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER

- 9.1. The contract will be procured in accordance with the Council's contract standing orders and relevant legislation.

10.HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

- 10.1 There are no human resources implications arising out of this report.

11.HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACT

- 11.1 The project will be delivered in accordance with the Construction, Design and Management (CDM) regulations 2015. Risks will be considered by the project team and consultants during design phase, and health and safety will be managed by the Principal Designer during the construction works.

12.PROPERTY & ESTATES IMPACT

- 12.1 The council will retain responsibility for the enhanced play area. The project will result in improvements to council assets as well as additional maintenance obligations.

13.EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) / SOCIAL VALUE

- 13.1. The play area improvements at King George V will help to improve the social and environmental well-being of the Felpham area, by providing a better quality, safe play facility for use by the whole community.

14. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT/SOCIAL VALUE

- 14.1. Environmental sustainability will be addressed at design stage to ensure that the council reduces its carbon footprint, its impact on the environment and the use of natural resources during the play area improvement works. Contractors will be required to provide evidence of their environmental sustainability policies, including any carbon impact footprints, and demonstrate how these will be applied/reduced on the project.

15. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

- 15.1. Improvement of play facilities helps to provide better services for communities to help reduce crime and disorder within Arun and offers the opportunity to build stronger communities who have confidence in their local services.

16. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT

- 16.1. The proposed scheme fulfils the freedoms and rights within the Human Rights Act 1998. There are no negative implications in terms of human rights impacts.

17. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS

- 17.1. There are no specific Freedom of Information or Data Protection issues arising from the proposals in the report.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

[Play Strategy 2018-2028](#)