

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 20 th October 2022
Report Subject	Flintshire County Summer Playscheme 2022
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire County Council continues to work closely in partnership with all Town and Community Councils and Welsh Government to deliver the county wide summer playscheme. This scheme has been operational since 1996.

The success of the summer playscheme is well evidenced with evaluations from children and young people, families and communities via our Town and Community Councils and partner organisations.

Playschemes are fully inclusive. There is special provision for children with disabilities through the Flintshire Buddy Scheme. Provision is also made through the medium of Welsh to meet the needs of Welsh speaking children.

The Flintshire summer playscheme programme was delivered in compliance with the Local Authority's Play Sufficiency Action plan 2022/2023.

The well-established partnership with local Town and Community Councils and the financial contribution they make to the playschemes continues to be invaluable in the delivery of this vital play opportunity for Flintshire children.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Members acknowledge the effective partnership with local Town and Community Councils to deliver the universal playscheme offers for all children aged 5 -12 years across the county during the summer and 5 -17 years for the Flintshire Buddy scheme providing for children with disabilities
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2	Members acknowledge the contribution from Welsh Government for summer play schemes via the Holiday Playworks grant and urge Welsh Government to continue to make this funding available.
3	Members note the ongoing developments within the service to strengthen the relationships with partner organisations to ensure that the most vulnerable children in Flintshire are identified and provided with play opportunities in the summer.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY SUMMER PLAYScheme
1.01	57 site locations were available for Playschemes of 3, 4, 5 or 6 weeks duration across the county during the school summer holidays of 2022.
1.02	30 Town and Community Councils worked in partnership with the education portfolio's Play Team to deliver the summer playscheme.
1.03	All playschemes had a bilingual aspect for 2022 with two targeted Welsh Language sites at Oakenholt and Ysgol Glanrafon. There were 198 children registered to the Welsh Language playschemes
1.04	30 Children and young people were enabled to access their own local community playscheme via the Flintshire Buddy scheme (Funded separately by the Summer of Fun Grant).
1.05	A new digitalised system for registration of children at summer playscheme was developed in partnership with FCC IT. This was a 'pilot' for the county and ensured accurate recording, reporting and compliance with GDPR. The transition to an electronic system on site ran parallel with the existing paper system to assist with the digital divide in communities. 10% of registrations for the scheme were on paper. The digital system will be developed for future years. 40 I pads were funded by the Welsh Government AWPOG Winter of well-being (Capital) grant 2021/2022 to support this new approach.
1.06	A total of 3,975 children were registered across the county for playschemes. The number of daily registrations was 15,556. In total there were 1,102 two hour playscheme sessions delivered across Flintshire during the summer holidays.
1.07	Enthusiastic and well trained staff are critical to the delivery and success of the summer playscheme. This year 86 Flintshire residents were recruited, employed and trained. 82 of these were aged 18 -25 years.
1.08	Work was undertaken before Summer Playschemes via the Education and Youth Ukrainian working group. All playscheme documents were translated into Ukrainian and circulated via all services and partner agencies 10 Ukrainian children were registered to summer playscheme.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>Revenue: The revenue for summer Playschemes 2022 was received in the form of:-</p> <p>Contributions from Town and Community Councils £122K The AWPOG Holiday Playworks Grant £55K The AWPOG Summer of Fun Grant £20K</p> <p>These contributions and awards are received on an annual basis and it will be within the remit of the Play Development Officer to ensure continuation and resourcing for Summer 2023. The summer playscheme is dependent on this additional external funding.</p> <p>The Play Development Officer post which is responsible for the co-ordination of the summer playscheme programme is a post within the Integrated Youth Provision core budget.</p> <p>Capital: There are no implications for the approved capital programme for either the current financial year or for future financial years</p> <p>Human Resources: The recruitment, employment and training of a summer staff team within Play Development is entirely funded by revenue grants and contributions. The Council's HR team provide appropriate expert advice as required.</p>

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	Impact Assessment - n/a.
3.02	Risk Management – the playscheme programme is subject to a risk assessment process and suitable mitigations are put in place. The schemes also are the subject of a rigorous health and safety assessment and management plan.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	In partnership with the participating Town and Community Councils consultations identified site locations in communities where delivery was prioritised.
4.02	Sensitive consultations were undertaken with appropriate agencies/partners to identify vulnerable children who required support to access the playschemes.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Flintshire-Summer-Playscheme.aspx https://www.siryfflint.gov.uk/cy/Resident/Schools/Flintshire-Summer-Playscheme.aspx

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Janet Roberts, Play Development Officer Telephone: 01352 704155 E-mail: Janet.Roberts2@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	AWPOG – All Wales Play Opportunities Grant -Welsh government revenue/capital funding stream for the delivery of Corporate Play Sufficiency Annual Action Plans