

EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 21 st March 2019
Report Subject	Play Sufficiency Assessment
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer, Education & Youth
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To invite comments and to seek approval for the Flintshire Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 and the subsequent Action Plan 2019/2020. (DRAFT) The local authority are tasked with a statutory duty (Children and Families Measure Wales 2010) to report to Welsh Government with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To consider the content of the draft Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 and draft Action Plan 2019/2020 and to make suggestions for the production of the final versions which will be sent to Welsh Government at the end March, 2016.
2	To support the continued development of a strategic Flintshire Play Sufficiency Implementation Group to provide a multi-agency forum to monitor the PSA Action Plan 2019/2020.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2019
1.01	Play Sufficiency Assessments and Action Plans – Welsh Government have provided the local authority with statutory guidance July 2014. (Link to Document on FCC PSA 'Wales –A Play Friendly Country').
1.02	The Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 aims to promote inclusion and improve access to play opportunities for all children in the county including those most marginalised, segregated, and disabled. It is recognised that if given the opportunity all children will play, irrespective of their age, ability, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, social standing, religion or gender.
1.03	Play deprivation is defined as a deprivation of experience which can impact on all children. The impact of play deprivation can impact on children and young people's health and well-being, their self-esteem and self-confidence. Play deprivation can also impact on developing essential social skills vital to developing healthy and progressive communities.
1.04	The development of a Flintshire Play Sufficiency Implementation group a multi-agency group will enable the local authority to meet its statutory obligation to monitor and evaluate the Play Action Plan 2019/2020.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	All of the actions identified within the Play Sufficiency Action Plan 2019/2020, other than local authority officer time will be funded via the Welsh Government Play Opportunities fund, Families First Fund and other Revenue grants and Partner contributions.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2016 and 2019 and to comment with regard to any change. The Flintshire Play Development team were delegated to prepare the response for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Welsh Government have provided a grant of £10K to support administration and consultation for the PSA 2019.
3.02	<p>A briefing paper was circulated along with the Welsh Government Play Sufficiency template to all partners and stated –</p> <p>Flintshire Play Sufficiency 2019 - 2022 All children have the right to play as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This is recognised both by the UK Government, and by the Welsh Government.</p> <p>Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 places a</p>

	<p>statutory duty on all local authorities to assess and secure sufficient play opportunities for children. This is a task that involves working together to consider the many aspects of community life that affect play opportunities. These include use of the environment; traffic and transport; play and leisure provision, and parental and community involvement with play.</p>
3.03	<p><i>Wales – A Play Friendly Country</i>, statutory guidance to local authorities, sets out a wide range of Matters across several policy areas that need to be taken into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Matter A: Population ○ Matter B: Providing for diverse needs ○ Matter C: Space available for children to play ○ Matter D: Supervised provision ○ Matter E: Charges for play provision ○ Matter F: Access to space/provision [<i>this includes travel access, as well as information and publicity</i>] ○ Matter G: Securing & Developing the Play Workforce ○ Matter H: Community engagement and participation ○ Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas [<i>Education/schools, Town and Country Planning, Traffic and transport, Health and Wellbeing, Child Poverty, Early years/Childcare and Family policy and initiatives, Community Development, Inter-generational policy and initiatives, Community Safety, Health and Safety</i>]
3.04	<p>Play Sufficiency Assessments were submitted to Welsh Government in March 2013 and March 2016. The next is due at the end of March 2019. Annual action plans and progress reports are also submitted to Welsh Government as part of the duties.</p>
3.05	<p>All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2016 and 2019 and to comment with regard to any change. The Flintshire Play Development team were delegated to prepare the response for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Welsh Government have provided a grant of £10K to support the administration and consultation for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY November 2018 – March 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to all relevant service areas x 4 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning Policy – Planning Environment & Economy - Integrated Youth Provision – Education & Youth Services - Flying Start – Social Services - Parenting Strategy - Family Information Service, Flintshire – Social Services - Health & Safety – Corporate Policy

- Anti-social Behaviour Team
- Youth Justice Service – Education & Youth
- Education Welfare Service
- Holway Task Group – Public Service Board
- Families First
- Rural North Family Centre
- Streetscene & Transportation
- Childcare Development – Social Services
- Participation Team – Education & Youth
- Countryside services
- Health Wellbeing & Safeguarding – Education & Youth
- Gypsy Traveller Services
- Housing & Regeneration

- We held a Flintshire Play Sufficiency Seminar November 2018 in partnership with Play Wales and invited all services to attend.
- School Life Conference held to look specifically at Matter I Play in Schools held in November 2018
- We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to other partner organisations including third sector :
- In partnership with Playful Futures, 600 children have been consulted with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment
- The Play Development team have undertaken a major piece of research for Play Sufficiency by working closely with the community in the Holway since July 2018 to present. The Play Development team have engaged with all community members as part of the work commissioned by the Public Service Board (Resilient Communities) and the Holway Task Group.
- We commissioned Ludicology to consult in depth with children at Ysgol Bryn Coch, Mold and Ysgol Treffynnon, Holywell with regards to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with children attending Summer Playscheme and other play projects including Kicks For Kids and PALS (Play and Leisure Support - for children and young people with disabilities)
- The Play Development Team have consulted with 27 young people attending Ysgol Maes Hyfryd Special School with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with the Flintshire Youth Council who have linked into School Councils with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to all local Town and Community Councils (and Local Members for information). This is the wider public consultation. The Play Development Team have attended town council meetings when invited to discuss play sufficiency and have advised others via email and phone calls and have responded to all requests to provide further details. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Urdd Gobaith Cymru and Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint who have circulated it to all Welsh medium provision. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Theatr Clwyd to respond with regard to the arts, culture and museum services. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Aura to respond with regard to all areas within leisure and libraries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports Development - Leisure Centres - Library Services - Play Design and Inspection Team • An in-depth report into Play Sufficiency was undertaken at Southdown Primary School Buckley– November 2018-February 2019 with regard to a bespoke research project gathering information with regard to play sufficiency within an education setting where play has been implemented differently via a variety of play projects. • The Play Development Team have consulted with 41 disabled children and their families who received a service during the Summer Playscheme via the Flintshire Buddy Scheme where support is provided as appropriate to the needs of the child or young person. <p>All of this information has been recognised and incorporated into the Play Action Plan 2019/20</p>
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4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The Play Sufficiency Assessment and action plan 2019/2020 is required in order for the local Authority to meet its statutory requirements with regard to the Children and Families Measure (Wales) 2010.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Appendix 2 - Committee report November 2018 – Outdoor Childrens Play Areas.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None. Contact Officer: Janet Roberts, Flintshire Play Development Officer Telephone: 01352 704155 E-mail: Janet.Roberts2@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) - A duty under the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.