

# Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2 November 2015



## Fixed Play Strategy Update

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### **Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive and Terry Collins, Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services**

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#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information in relation to the Fixed Play Strategy.

#### **Background**

2. The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee carried out a scrutiny review into Childhood Obesity in 2012. This review highlighted the need for children to be active and play. In Fair Society, Healthy Lives, 2010, Professor Marmot indicates the importance of play as a vital part of a happy childhood and that it may combat childhood obesity levels as it raises activity levels.
3. In July 2015 Durham County Council's Cabinet considered a report on the Review of Fixed Play Provision following a widespread consultation over three stages. Following the consultation process it was identified that the child population should be a factor in determining the Council's Minimum Core Offer. The future offer of fixed play is:-
  - Settlements with fewer than 100 children and Young People aged 16 and under
  - Settlements with Children and Young People numbers within 100/200
  - Settlements with Children and Young People numbers are within 201/500
  - Settlements with Children and Young People numbers are within 501/999
  - Settlements with Children and Young People numbers exceeding 1000
4. The cabinet report identifies that the purpose of any framework is to provide a context in which future decisions can be made. Following the report's consideration by Cabinet, members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested an update on the Fixed Play Strategy. A presentation focusing on the progress of the framework will be provided by Nigel Dodds, Strategic Manager Culture and Sports, Neighbourhood Services.

### **Current Position**

5. The presentation will provide an overview of the fixed play framework and cover key issues and progress as detailed below:
  - Distribution of Play: Overview of fixed play framework
  - Key Framework outcomes: Impact of adopting framework
  - Progress: Sites beyond economic repair.
  - Sites to be transferred
  - Progress: Sites to be removed
  - Progress: Overview of consultation, development & funding strategy /forward plan
  - Progress: overview of sites for investment
  - Investment and development case study/good practice: Riverside

### **Recommendations**

6. Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to note the report and information contained in the presentation and comment accordingly.

### **Background Papers**

- *15 July 2015 – Cabinet – Review of Fixed Play Provision*

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## **APPENDIX 1 - Implications**

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**Finance** – None

**Staffing** - None

**Risk** - None

**Equality and Diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty** - None

**Accommodation** - None

**Crime and Disorder** - None

**Human Rights** - None

**Consultation** - None

**Procurement** - None

**Disability Issues** - None

**Legal Implications** - None