

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 7</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED/</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING SERVICES</b>	<b>OPEN:</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>ZOE SEWTER, OPEN SPACE AND FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT MANAGER Ext: 5753</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND COMMUNITY FACILITY STRATEGY UPDATE</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

1.1 To approve the project list for the South Derbyshire Open Space, Sport & Community Facilities Strategy

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

2.1 To update Members on project progress in relation to the Strategy.

2.2 To apprise the Members of the Project List for the South Derbyshire Open Space, Sport & Community Facilities Strategy.

2.3 To update Members on the Play Facilities audit and action plan.

## **3.0 Detail**

3.1 The Open Space, Sport & Community Facilities Strategy was adopted in April 2016. It has been a successful document, well received by partners and funders. Since that time the following projects have been delivered:

- Floodlit courts at Etwall Leisure Centre/John Port School opened (spring 2016)
- Cycle hub at Green Bank Leisure Centre (launch July 2016)
- Grove Apex Climbing Centre (opened officially July 2016)
- Melbourne Sporting Partnership new clubhouse and sports facilities (launch September 2016)

- Midway Community Centre and sports facilities (launch October 2016)
- Gresley Old Hall Community hub (funding for repairs secured summer 2017)
- Melbourne Assembly Rooms refurbishment (completed April 2017)
- Playing Pitch Strategy commissioned (consultants appointed June 2017)
- Eureka Park outdoor gym (launch July 2017)
- Hillside play area refurbishment, Findern (opened July 2017)

3.2 The following projects are underway, and expected to be completed within the next 12 months:

- Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan adopted
- Site development plan agreed for Rosliston Forestry Centre (linked to new management contract)
- Phase 4 refurbishment works at Green Bank Leisure Centre to be delivered
- Costed plans agreed for 2<sup>nd</sup> (learner) pool at Etwall Leisure Centre
- Planning permission for Stenson Fields Community Centre granted
- Diana Memorial Garden to be complete
- Recreation in Aston clubhouse/community room project to be delivered
- Swadlincote Woodlands LNR designation and capital improvement works
- Costed plans and timescale agreed for delivery of Hilton Greenway “missing link”
- Play facilities audit carried out and proposed investment programme agreed

3.3 Partners were invited to submit details of projects in their area for inclusion on a Facility Development project list. This now forms the basis for local action plans, and provides evidence of need for our negotiation in Section 106 agreements.

3.4 The Project List has been updated following a round of consultation with Parish Councils and Community Groups. As new projects are developed or put forward by partners they can be added, and the list will be updated with a formal consultation and review planned to be carried out annually.

3.5 The Project List is located at Annexe A. The projects are not prioritised as such, but will be assessed in terms of “readiness” i.e. securing necessary permissions, costed plans, and available finances.

3.6 The Play Facilities Audit was last carried out in 2014, and identified that a number of play sites failed to meet a “good” standard. Since the audit

improvements have been carried out on the following sites, through a combination of Parish and District Council funding plus external grants:

- Twyford Road recreation ground, Barrow on Trent (youth facilities)
- Hillside recreation ground, Findern (toddlers play area refurbishment)
- Willington Road recreation ground, Findern (junior play area refurbishment)
- Main Street play area, Hartshorne (outdoor gym equipment)
- Newhall Park (skate park and outdoor gym equipment)
- Eureka Park (outdoor gym equipment)
- Maurice Lea Memorial Park (outdoor table tennis tables)
- Main Street play area, Hilton (junior play area refurbishment)
- Overseal recreation ground (outdoor gym and junior play equipment)

3.7 A refresh of the Play Audit is required in order to assess and re-score the improved sites, and to identify sites which fall below the required standard. A prioritised Action Plan for investment will be produced.

3.8 A review of responsibilities for inspections, repairs and insurances on Parish sites is required, to help inform the Action Plan.

3.9 The resulting Action Plan and recommendations will be brought back to this Committee in due course.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. However, it is worth remembering that if the strategy, audits and action plans are not regularly reviewed then the Council is vulnerable to challenge from developers when entering into s106 negotiations, as there is no firm and robust evidence base.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

5.1 The Strategy is a key action within the emerging Corporate Plan and contributes towards both the 'Place' theme but also 'People' and 'Progress' theme areas. The implementation of the Strategy and its action plan will be important in ensuring the Council's own stock of facilities remain well maintained and fit for purpose for an increasingly sophisticated and growing community.

#### **6.0 Community Implications**

6.1 The ongoing consultation and engagement with local people, community sports groups and Parish Councils throughout the development and delivery of the strategy will identify opportunities for significant investment and improvement in sport, recreational and community facilities across the District.

6.2 South Derbyshire is continuing to plan for and provide its growing community with quality sport and recreation facilities which will promote health and wellbeing as well as enabling people to achieve their sporting potential.

## 7.0 **Background Papers**

7.1 Annexe A – Open Space, Sport & Community Facility Strategy Project List.