



Appendix 3 – Baseline Report - Play Strategy

Service Baseline / Initial Challenge	Guidance	Information
<p>Challenge</p>	<p>What resources are used</p> <p>What assets are used to deliver the current service</p> <p>Are there any limitations or barriers affecting the delivery of the service</p> <p>If the service is outsourced or provided by a third party, how are service standards monitored</p> <p>Could the service be provided through a different mechanism</p>	<p>Support from Strategic Manager Children &amp; Young People (one of a number of areas of responsibility).</p> <p>Office accommodation</p> <p>The Strategic Manager for Children &amp; Young people is responsible for the management of the Play Partnership and implementation of the Play Strategy and associated action plan.</p> <p>Grant funding from the Big Lottery Fund has been awarded to Futurity Tees Valley to provide a mobile Play Scheme for the borough. The local authority through the Strategic manager Children &amp; Young People allocates the grant funding as the responsible body, but the recipient of the grant allocation is Futurity.</p> <p>The management of the Play Strategy and Action Plan is not required to be provided via Children &amp; Young People’s Strategy, however currently the responsibility for children’s play is with the Director of Children’s Services.</p>
<p><b>Customer Baseline</b></p>	<p>Who are the customers what are their needs now</p> <p>How are service users consulted and how do their views shape delivery</p> <p>How satisfied are the customers</p>	<p>No direct provision of service from C&amp;YP Strategy. The focus of the work is through the Play Partnership, and ensuring that there is an up to date Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>The Customers are The Big Lottery (in relation to the required project monitoring, quarterly / annual reporting. And the recipients of grant allocations Futurity Tees Valley. Note in the last 2 years this has also included the Borough Council (Development and Neighbourhood Services), and community based projects. The grant funding that was centrally available through the DCSF (now DfE) ends in March 2011, and is no</p>

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	<p>How do you communicate with your users</p> <p>How are these services promoted / marketed</p> <p>What do Viewpoint Surveys/ internal audit reports tell us about the service?</p>	<p>longer ring fenced, and the grant allocation from the Big Lottery ceases on 30 September 2011 (3 years funding).</p> <p>No direct provision of service from C&amp;YP Strategy.</p> <p>No direct provision of service from C&amp;YP Strategy.</p>
<p><b>Customer Challenge</b></p>	<p>Are there customers who could use the service but don't</p> <p>Are there customers using the service who shouldn't be</p> <p>Who are the customers of the future and what are their needs</p> <p>What is likely to impact on demand for these services in the future</p> <p>What do complaints/ compliments tell you about these services</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Aims &amp; Objectives Baseline</b></p>	<p>Is the service required by statute</p>	<p>Not in relation to the role of the Children &amp; Young People's Strategy Team.</p>

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Challenge	<p>Is there a statutory level of service</p> <p>Is the service responsive or proactive or a mixture</p> <p>Is the service needed</p> <p>What would happen if the service was not provided either in whole or part</p> <p>How would the service react to new pressures what capacity would be required to deal with additional / new demands</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Mixture in that it reacts to government’s guidance on children’s play and then sets a strategy for local implementation.</p> <p>In line with the Government guidance and the requirements of the national Play Strategy, the local authority it is good practice to have locally devised Play Strategy.</p> <p>No direct provision of service from C&amp;YP Strategy</p> <p>No direct provision of service from C&amp;YP Strategy</p>
<b>Aims &amp; Objectives</b> Challenge	Who provides a similar service to this using a different delivery mechanism e.g. external partnerships, shared services etc	No direct provision of service from C&YP Strategy
<b>Relevance / Context</b> Baseline / Challenge	How does the service fit with the overall aims of the Council	It is not possible to separate out the Service form that provided by Countryside and Greenspace, so the contribution is the same in that it contributes to all 8 strands of Sustainable Community Strategy and many aspects of the Council Plan.

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	<p>How does the service contribute to key policy areas</p> <p>What policies, plans and strategies impact on the service e.g. statutory, policy, function , other services</p> <p>Are there any political judgements / decisions involved in determining the level of service</p>	<p>The Play Strategy contributes to several policy areas, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regenerate the Borough through the delivery of major local and sub-regional projects</li> <li>• Improve and promote a sustainable transport network</li> <li>• Make the Borough a cleaner, greener and more attractive environment</li> <li>• Increase participation in sport and active leisure</li> <li>• Reduce health inequalities by adding 'life to years and years to life'</li> <li>• Reduce levels of obesity in children, young people and adults</li> <li>• Further develop Community Engagement infrastructure and activity</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockton on Tees Play Area Strategies</li> <li>• Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy</li> <li>• Draft Stockton-on-Tees Green Infrastructure Strategy</li> <li>• Sport &amp; Active Leisure Strategy</li> </ul> <p>The current Play Strategy is endorsed by Cabinet (see attached).</p>
<p><b>Financial / Resource Considerations</b> Baseline</p>	<p>What are the costs of the service</p> <p>Capital and revenue costs</p> <p>What is the level of 3<sup>rd</sup> party</p>	<p>Costs associated with officer time</p> <p>No capital budget (outside of the grant allocations).</p>

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	<p>expenditure</p> <p>What contracts or other arrangements are in place (spend analysis)</p> <p>What is the Councils commitment to contracts / other arrangements</p> <p>Do you have any charging policies</p> <p>How have Gershon efficiency savings impacted on the service and how where the service planning to meet future Gershon efficiency targets?</p> <p>How will the current financial climate affect the service?</p>	<p>Contract with Futurity Tees Valley (via Big Lottery Grant Funding; £200,000 over 3 year ring fenced).</p> <p>Above contract to 30 September 2011.</p> <p>None, the strategy is about free Play for children &amp; young people.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>The ring fencing of funding may be removed, or funding could be reduced or removed.</p>
<p><b>Financial / Resource Considerations</b> Challenge</p>	<p>How can you demonstrate that the service is cost effective overall?</p> <p>Do external contracts offer value for money?</p>	<p>The project is monitored by the local authority on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund.</p> <p>The contract for the mobile play scheme is monitored within the guidelines stipulated by the Big Lottery Fund. There is currently 14 left out of a total of 36 months to run on this contract.</p>

