

22 February 2024

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF OUTDOOR PLAY PROVISION: QUALITY AND DISTRIBUTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY

Summary

The fourth (and final) evidence-gathering session for the Committee's review of Outdoor Play Provision: Quality and Distribution, Maintenance, and Physical Accessibility will focus on external bodies associated with this scrutiny topic, the experiences of other Local Authorities in managing outdoor play provision, and the views of Stockton Parent Carer Forum on the Borough's existing offer.

Detail

1. As part of the scoping process for this review, in addition to the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) departments with oversight and involvement in the provision of outdoor play areas, the Committee identified several external organisations whose work required consideration in relation to this scrutiny topic.
2. Officers from the SBC Community Services, Environment and Culture directorate have therefore prepared a presentation which is included within these meeting papers. Information covers commentary on:
 - Play England (www.playengland.org.uk)
 - Association of Play Industries (API) (www.api-play.org/)
 - RoSPA (www.rospace.com/)
 - Disability Discrimination Act 1995
 - Information from other Local Authority officers
 - Local Authority publications

In readiness for the informal 'summary of evidence' session which will follow the completion of the Committee's evidence-gathering, a list of suggested principles / discussion points is also included for Members to reflect upon prior to this next phase of the review (scheduled to take place immediately after the formal meeting in March 2024).

3. The Chair of Stockton Parent Carer Forum (www.stocktonparentcarerforum.co.uk/) has also been invited to this meeting to provide views on the Borough's existing outdoor play offer.
4. A copy of the agreed scope and plan for this review is included for information.

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