

APPENDIX 1
ACTION PLAN: Review of Outdoor Play Provision

No.	Recommendation	Proposed Actions / Progress	Success Measures	Responsibility	Due Date
1	SBC ensures both revenue and renewal considerations are an intrinsic part of any existing and future outdoor play space proposal within the Borough to maximise the long-term sustainability of such sites.	Calculate estimated costs for inspections, maintenance and renewal/replacement of equipment and surfacing - for all SBC play areas and informal sport facilities (e.g. MUGAs).	Estimated costs identified to ensure SBC can ensure long-term sustainability of sites.	Tony Raine (with support from Steve Bowerbank / Keith Jackson)	30 December 2024
2	To encourage a greater sense of community ownership, consideration be given to approaching relevant Town / Parish Councils and the local business community within the vicinity of existing outdoor play spaces to potentially support the development / maintenance of a site.	Approach Town and Parish Council to determine whether they are willing to provide additional financial support to maintain / develop play provision in their local area. Business sponsorship / involvement to be discussed with individual organisations and within forum opportunities.	Third parties contribute towards costs of maintaining, renewing or developing outdoor play provision.	Neil Mitchell	At draft Strategy stage (see 7)
3	Regarding future proposals by developers for new outdoor play spaces, SBC does not adopt any site installed by a developer which contravenes the key outcomes from this review.	Liaise with Planning to ensure developers are aware of these requirements (<i>note: SBC currently would request a commuted lump sum to cover maintenance and replacement after 25 years, but timber equipment may need replacing in 15yrs</i>).	Terms for adoption agreed via strategy.	Graham Clingan / Keith Mathews	At draft strategy
4	SBC considers support of existing play areas before any additional outdoor play spaces are agreed / approved.	To be discussed with Planning in the Stakeholder Group which is to be established as part of this review process.	Principles agreed via strategy.	Graham Clingan / Neil Mitchell	At draft strategy
5	Regarding inequality of outdoor play provision across the Borough, SBC clarifies where it is deemed there is little / no provision and possible steps to address these inequalities (including, in exceptional cases, the provision of new play spaces).	To be addressed through the proposed Strategy (see 7).	Principles agreed via strategy.	Graham Clingan	At draft strategy

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6	<p>As part of a required rationalisation process in relation to the existing outdoor play offer:</p> <p>a) Informed by the recent (March 2024) RoSPA assessments and an analysis of the distribution of existing outdoor play provision, proposals for the removal / repurposing of sites be developed with the aim of reducing pressure on the overall parks budget.</p> <p>b) Complementing sub-section a), SBC undertakes a piece of work around those sites requiring more urgent attention to ascertain costs of either removing the play area or raising it to an appropriate standard.</p> <p>c) Further detail be provided around the anticipated longer-term maintenance requirements of the new Stockton waterfront park and the impact that this may have on the available funds for maintaining other existing outdoor play spaces.</p> <p>d) With due regard to the SBC <i>Powering Our Future</i> initiative, appropriate consultation (particularly with Stockton Parent Carer Forum and SBC Ward Councillors) is conducted around any proposed changes to existing outdoor play provision.</p>	<p>Recommendations to be formulated on the basis of that analysis and to form part of the proposed strategy (see 7).</p> <p>List of sites requiring urgent attention to be compiled (and note of sites already earmarked for refurbishment, e.g. Newham Grange Park).</p> <p>Costs to be identified and potential impact on other play spaces to be assessed.</p> <p>Appropriate consultation to be carried out in relation to current planned developments.</p> <p>Consultation process for changes identified in proposed strategy to be developed as part of the process for strategy delivery.</p>	<p>Analysis of distribution.</p> <p>Overlay financial breakdown.</p> <p>List compiled which feeds into analysis and strategy development.</p> <p>Provision of information which clearly demonstrates long term maintenance obligations including warranty consideration.</p> <p>Ongoing, fully developed process.</p> <p>Process confirmed as part of strategy development.</p>	<p>Graham Clingan</p> <p>Steve Bowerbank</p> <p>Town team</p> <p>Keith Mathews</p> <p>Graham Clingan</p>	<p>31 July 2024</p> <p>31 December 2024</p> <p>Compiled list by 30 June 2024</p> <p>Compiled and submitted by September 2024</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Dec 2024 - Feb 2025</p>

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7	<p>Reflecting the main outcomes from this review, SBC develops and publishes an outdoor play provision strategy which includes the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's aims in relation to the provision of outdoor play spaces. • The locations and assessments of existing and outdoor play provision, as well as any planned developments. • The key challenges associated with providing these spaces. • How the Council will seek to address these key challenges (including guiding principles). • Timelines for action and who will be accountable. 	<p>Develop draft strategy for internal consultation.</p> <p>External consultation / engagement regarding any major changes to play area provision.</p> <p>Final strategy published.</p>	<p>Draft strategy circulated for comment.</p>	<p>Graham Clingan</p>	<p>28 Feb 2025</p> <p>31 March 2025</p> <p>31 May 2025</p>
8	<p>This final report be shared with the SBC Planning Committee for information only.</p>	<p>Share final Action Plan and Strategy with SBC Planning.</p>	<p>Circulated strategy document.</p>	<p>Gary Woods</p>	<p>June 2024</p>