

Telford & Wrekin Council

# Local Play Strategy 2007 - 2017



Telford & Wrekin  
C O U N C I L



2005-2006  
Integrated Children's Services  
2006-2007  
Early Intervention  
(Children at Risk)  
Culture and Sport for  
Hard to Reach Groups

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## **Local Provision Examined Appendices:**

- 1. Play Opportunities Action Plan 2007-2010.**
- 2. Existing Equipped Play and Youth Facilities – 10 Year Development Plan.**
- 3. Maps - Telford & Wrekin Council Equipped Play and Youth Facilities.**
- 4. Equipped Play and Youth Facilities Top 10 Ranked Location in Play.**
- 5. Equipped Play and Youth Facilities Top 10 Ranked Locations for Play by Clusters.**
- 6. Demographic Profile – Needs Analysis by School & Community Cluster.**
- 7. Equipped Play and Youth Facilities 3 Year Investment Plan.**
- 8. Audit of Current Play Opportunities.**
- 9. Current Free Play Provision.**
- 10. Free Play and Activities Provision 3 Year Investment Plan.**

# 1 Summary

- On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007 Cabinet approved the Local Play Strategy, including the key principles and methodology to be used for prioritising developments in play and youth facilities. A key focus for the Strategy is activities which support children and young people's free Play Opportunities. These include equipped play facilities and play and activities provision.
- Following approval of the Strategy a comprehensive 3 Year Play Opportunities Action Plan was completed and approved at Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007. This Plan builds on the Play Policy Statements agreed in the Play Strategy and outlines the Council's commitment to improving and developing Play Opportunities for all children and young people.
- Through the planning process the Council has secured £1.8m for the future development of 16 new play and youth facilities throughout the Council. The Council currently invests an annual amount of £323,000 in Services which provide Play Provision.
- In addition, a total of £936,555 is now available over three years for further investment in Play Opportunities. This includes £436,555 from a Big Lottery Fund and £500,000 from Council Capital funds (as a result of the Play Strategy).
- A 3 Year prioritised investment plan, amounting to £656,555, has been identified for play and youth facilities. This highlights 7 additional facilities, spread throughout the Council, which will be developed from 2007.
- A 3 Year investment plan, amounting to £280,000, has been identified for additional play and activities provision. Additional weekly play and activities provision plus a full programme of activities in all school holidays will be delivered in 13 areas.
- As part of the Action Plan the Council's Play and Facility Officers will also support the Parish and Town Councils to access further funding for play investment through the 'Playful Ideas' Lottery Fund, in which grants of up to £250,000 can be available.

# 2 Scope of the Play Strategy

Telford & Wrekin Council recognises the importance of providing stimulating play opportunities for children and young people (0-18 years) and is committed to enhancing the quality and quantity of current and future free play provision and equipped play and youth facilities across the Borough.

Getting Serious About Play: A Review of Children's Play (2004) suggest Play means 'what children and young people do when they follow their own ideas and interest, in their own way and for their own reasons. Play Opportunities can be a space, some facilities or equipment or a set of activities intended to give children and young people the opportunity to

play. At its most successful, it offers children and young people as much choice, control and freedom as possible within reasonable boundaries’.

For the purposes of this Strategy, free Play Opportunities include:

- Local Areas of Play (LAP) e.g. open spaces, parks, playing fields which may include a minimal amount of small pieces of play equipment.
- Equipped Play Facilities e.g. Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAP) for children up to 12 years.
- Equipped Youth Facilities or Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAP) e.g. Multi Use Games Areas, BMX Tracks and Skate Parks (also including an equipped play area).
- Play Provision e.g. play schemes and activities that supports children and young people’s free play opportunities.

All Play Opportunities will be freely accessible, free of charge and children and young people will have the freedom to come and go.

It is important to recognise other provisions, which have a focus on ‘play’ to ensure we can make links and work in partnership together. Consideration must be given to some forms of childcare, which have an element of play, for children aged 0 – 14 years (16 for disabled children). Play can be catered for in pre-schools, day care settings, nursery classes, children centres, schools providing out of school care and other environments providing out of school and holiday care.

At a national level play is increasingly recognised as being important not only in its own right but also in helping to achieve wider objectives. It makes a crucial contribution to the five outcomes in the Change for Children programme and is an important factor in the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities.

In meeting children’s play needs and aspirations, Telford & Wrekin Council will work strategically with partners and key stakeholders and take into consideration a combination of factors, including the targeting of social need, co-ordinating play opportunities, monitoring quality standards and relevant legislative requirements, promoting equality, involving children and communities in play developments, capitalising on available resources and promoting the long term sustainability of play opportunities.

The strategy aims to:

- Provide a shared understanding of the meaning of play and raise the profile of play.
- Provide more and better local and inclusive play opportunities where they are most needed.
- Develop a mechanism, based on key principles and methodology, to prioritise development of existing and new play opportunities.
- Improve children’s access to safe places to play and socialise.
- Sustain play opportunities over the long-term.
- Make effective use of funding.

- Embed within other key strategic plans and initiatives.
- Develop a Play Opportunities Action Plan based on an agreed set of Play Policy Statements.
- Develop and sustain ongoing consultation with communities and children and young people.

The Play Strategy has been informed by key outcomes and key strategies and plans. It provides an audit of the types of play opportunities that exist across the Borough and has developed key principles and a mechanism for the development of existing and new play and youth facilities and enhancement to play provision. As a result of an assessment of the Strategies key findings and consultation a number of Play Policy Statements have been agreed. Under each Policy Statement there are a range of Play Outcomes which the Council and partners will be aiming to achieve. The Policy Statements and outcomes are set out within a three year Play Opportunities Action Plan, with an agreed framework for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating its achievements.

Telford & Wrekin Council and its partners will support this vision for play by signifying its commitment to working towards meeting Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states, 'Children have the right to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to their age and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts'.

### **3 Partnerships and Consultation**

Between February 06 and February 07 a number of key consultations have taken place with stakeholders including: - Children and Young People from the Council wide Young People's Forum and Children's Group's Groups across the Council, Council Members, Parish and Town Councillors (the majority of who responded) and the Regional Play Development Officer.

In addition, 22 Service Providers and Agencies were involved including: Integrated Childcare Services, Extended Schools, Sensory Inclusion Service, Building Schools for the Future, Youth Development Service, Connexions, Integrated Disabled Children's Team, Family Learning, Primary Care Trust, Researcher into Child Obesity and Physical Activity, Transport, Policy and Planning, Community Safety, Active Involvement Service, Sports & Recreation and Landscape & Parks.

Children and Young People's Scrutiny 1 were also informed of the development of the Play Strategy in September 06 and March 07 with a full Member's briefing session and Parish Clerks meeting in November 06.

Consultations were based around:

- Development of the themes and issues within the Strategy.
- Development of Play Policy Statements.



- An invitation to highlight any particular concerns, issues or plans relating to their local area that needed to be taken into consideration in the development of the Play Strategy and the Play Opportunities Action Plan.
- The development of key principles and methodology which will provide the mechanism to begin to prioritise proposals for the development of existing and new equipped play and youth facilities.

Firstly, the Strategy, including the mechanism for prioritisation of play and youth facilities, was approved at Cabinet. The Play Opportunities Action Plan, which includes a prioritised list of play facilities and play provision (3 Year Investments Plans), was presented at a second Cabinet meeting for approval.

Timetable:

- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2006 Children & Young People's Scrutiny 1
- 14<sup>th</sup> November 2006 Full Member's Briefing
- 29<sup>th</sup> November 2006 Parish Clerks Briefing
- 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007 Children & Young People's Scrutiny 1

Play Strategy and Mechanism for Prioritisation

- 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007 Corporate Directors
- 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007 Cabinet Approval

Play Opportunities Action Plan and 3 Year Investment Plans.

- 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007 Corporate Directors
- 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007 Cabinet Approval

## **4 Consultation and Engagement**

The Council believes that the views of local people are essential to the process of decision making in the improvement, locating and design of play and youth facilities. Their involvement, and particularly that of children and young people, can help to ensure that facilities are appropriately located and equipped to meet local needs. This also helps the local community to feel a sense of ownership of play spaces. The success of any changes will depend critically on whether children and young people value and use play opportunities or not.

Children and young people commonly identify many barriers to play, recreation and enjoyment of public space. These include: fears for their safety, fear of traffic and bullying; dirty, boring or run-down play areas and parks; lack of choice; and lack of access.

Within previous corporate consultation exercises local people have emphasised the need to improve facilities for children and young people in the Borough. The Telford & Wrekin Community Plan Survey found safe maintained play areas were one of the most important issues for local people in terms of facility improvement.

There is great scope for involvement during the design and delivery of local initiatives, at the ideas stage and in construction. Consultation for equipped play and youth facilities is undertaken at every stage to ensure local needs are taken into consideration. Cabinet Members, Ward Members and Local Parish/Town Councils are informed of the proposals at each stage. Often public open meetings are held. Local community representatives are also consulted, if they are not already involved in the development of the project. Play and Youth Facility creation projects frequently involve children and young people being supported by Youth Development Service and Landscape & Recreation.

The Children & Young People's Active Involvement Service, of which the Play Development Team is a part of, will lead on all consultations with children and young people around the issues of play provision. Children and young people regularly evaluate current play provision and mechanisms are in place for children shaping service design and delivery. The Active Involvement Service works to 'Hear by Right' Local Government Association and National Youth Association Consultation Standards.

The Council will ensure, where appropriate, that closer links are formed with potential partnerships within the statutory, voluntary and private sectors to promote further development of neighbourhood based play opportunities. Such developments should, wherever possible, come from community initiatives. As such, a higher priority will be given to projects identified in the Strategy where there is community engagement.

## **5 Key Findings**

Consultation responses have enabled us to set out a number of key findings as follows:

- Play is an essential part of every child's life and vital to their development.
- Local people, including children and young people, are essential to the process of decision making in the development, improvement, locating and designing of play opportunities.
- Need to increase play opportunities and eliminate barriers to play for socially vulnerable children and young people.
- Lack of equitable Play Opportunities across the Borough/Clusters.
- Address the disparity of play and youth facilities and identify gaps in facilities and target areas for investments.
- Historically limited capital and revenue investment in play. The nature of the provision is opportunistic due to funding opportunities.
- Essential that we maximise partnership opportunities and strategically link with initiatives.
- Free play provision and equipped play facilities not strategically managed.

- There is a lack of youth provision and youth facilities in some areas of the Borough.
- Need to support for the development of the Green Space Strategy is required as part of the Local Development Framework.
- Need to raise the profile of play ensuring all publicity and information is accurate and accessible to all.
- Important that we support the training and development needs of play workers and volunteers.
- Ensure CYP are protected from all forms of bullying whilst engaged in play opportunities and ensure all children can safely access play opportunities.

## **6 Play Policy Statements**

As a result of an assessment of the key findings and thorough consultation a number of Play Policy Statements have been drawn up. Under each Policy Statement there are a range of Play Outcomes which the Council and partners will be aiming to achieve. The Policy Statements and Play Outcomes link with the Telford & Wrekin Children and Young People's Plan as well as other key strategies and plans.

The Council will partner with children and young people, parent/carers, the public, private and voluntary sector to implement the following Policy Statements:

### **6.1 Improve Opportunities**

- Establish a Telford & Wrekin Children's Entitlement to Play Charter.
- Upgrade existing play and youth facilities where required.
- Create new play and youth facilities where appropriate.
- Increase the amount of accessible play equipment within play and youth facilities.
- Compile a list of equipped play areas provided by English Partnerships, Parish Councils and private housing developers to aid the Councils knowledge of where the overall resource is strategically located.
- Review and increase current play and activities provision.
- Develop Adventure Play.
- Review future arrangements and funding for the Bridge Play Scheme.
- Promote play opportunities in schools linking with Extended Schools.

## **6.2 Work with Planners**

- Input into the Local Development Framework and its supplement documents and policies relating to quality of play/recreational facilities.
- Continue to assist in the implementation of Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) – This PPG describes the role of the planning system in assessing opportunities and needs for sport and recreation provision and safeguarding open space which has recreational value.
- Investigate the possibilities of Section 106 funding being utilised for supervised play activities.
- Work with local planning to ensure that new developments meet the 'play' needs of children and young people.
- Contribute towards the completion of a Green Space Strategy.

## **6.3 Consult and Engage**

- When necessary, consult on Play Opportunities Issues with a range of children and young people.
- Carry out monitoring and evaluation of Play Opportunities by children and young people.
- Work in partnership with children and young people, parent/carers and agencies to identify and overcome barriers that prevent children and young people from accessing and engaging in play opportunities.
- Work in partnership with children and young people in the development of their new play facilities.
- Raise the profile of Play.
- Encourage parents and carers to develop informal play opportunities for their children.

## **6.4 Promote Enjoyment, Health and Physical Activity**

- Celebrate 'childhood' through fun days and events.
- Ensure children have a balance of play opportunities that offer them an element of risk whilst keeping them safe from harm.
- Support children's wider health issues through Play.
- Link with Health Promotions to promote Sun Safety.
- Though Play encourage children to meet the recommended levels of physical activity.

## **6.5 Provide Playwork Training**

- Support the training and development needs of play workers, activity workers and volunteers.

- Raise the levels of play workers in outdoor and indoor play settings through building local capacity and encouraging volunteering.

## **6.6 Engage in Partnerships**

- Enhance the capacity of the Council's capital and revenue funding for children's play by securing additional resources and external funding.
- Link with local, regional and national organisations.
- Support Parish and Town Councils to increase the level of Play opportunities.

## **6.7 Promote Equality and Social Inclusion**

- Ensure play spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to children and young people with Disabilities.
- Ensure play spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to Black and Minority Ethnic children and young people.
- Ensure play spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to Looked After children and young people.
- Ensure Play and Activity Workers are representative of the communities they work in.

## **6.8 Increase Community Safety**

- Work in partnership with agencies to ensure that children and young people are protected from all forms of bullying and abuse whilst engaged in play opportunities.

# **7 Play Opportunities Action Plan**

A comprehensive Play Opportunities Action Plan, which takes into consideration all the issues raised throughout this Strategy and through consultations has been developed (**see Appendix 1**). The Plan builds on the Play Policy Statements and criteria for development of play opportunities. The Plan indicates a series of actions that will lead to improvement and development of play provision and facilities within Telford & Wrekin over the next three years. The Action plan has been informed by robust criteria in order for the Council to justify, prioritise and support provision for play facilities and services, both now and in the future. The Plan is a working document to guide the actions of 'lead' agencies and partners.

The Plan will be monitored by the Play Steering Group. It will take on board future consultation and dialogue with children, young people, communities and stakeholders. It will also reflect new developments and partnership opportunities including those available through the private sector, regional and national links. Each Policy Statement will identify a series of:

- Targets.
- Detailed Actions.

- Responsible Lead Officer.
- Timescale.
- Resources.
- Milestones.
- Link to an Every Child Matters outcome.
- Link to a strategy, initiative or plan.

A Risk Assessment of all activities to meet the outcomes will be carried out using the Council's Risk Management framework.

## **8 Vision**

Our vision links with the Corporate Vision: "A successful, prosperous and healthy community which offers a good quality of life for all the people of Telford & Wrekin that reflects the needs and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" and also the Community Ambition 2 "Giving children and young people the best possible start to their lives".

We will work towards increasing play opportunities and eliminating barriers for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children with specific cultural needs. Developing both inclusive and exclusive opportunities, recognising that separate provision may sometimes be valuable for particularly vulnerable children, but all mainstream services should be welcoming and accessible to all children.

Telford & Wrekin Play Vision: "All children and young people will be involved in quality play opportunities".

### **8.1 A Shared Understanding of the Definition of Play**

We appreciate children, by their nature; have the intrinsic ability to play in virtually any environmental setting. Their play opportunities can be manifested in formal, informal, supervised, unsupervised, indoors and in outdoor settings.

This strategy defines Play as follows: "Play is an essential part of every child's life and vital to their development. It is the way children explore the world around them and develop and practise skills. It is essential for physical, emotional and spiritual growth, for intellectual and educational development and for acquiring social and behavioural skills. Play is a generic term applied to a wide range of activities and behaviours that are satisfying to the child, creative for the child and freely chosen by the child. Children's play may or may not involve equipment or have an end product. Children play on their own and with others. Their play may be boisterous and energetic or quiet and contemplative, light-hearted or very serious." The Children's Play Council.

## **9 Why Play Matters**

Play is of fundamental importance for children and young people's health and well-being, their relationships, their development and their learning.

### **9.1 Play Values**

The Children's Play Council's publications, 'The New Charter for Children's Play', 'Best Play – What Play Should Do For Children' and 'Making a Case for Play- Building Policies and Strategies for School Age Children', set out a series of research based play work values and principles that have been created, endorsed and adopted by the play work field.

These publications emphasise that play is a natural, healthy activity and that providing good quality play opportunities means ensuring choice, equality of opportunity, recognising children's abilities, respecting children's needs and wishes and allowing children space, time and understanding for play, including managed opportunities for children to explore risk.

### **9.2 Play Principles -The Objectives of Play Opportunities**

Telford & Wrekin Council will work towards, as the overriding principles of its Play Strategy, the following Seven Play Objectives, which have been taken from the Children's Play Council's national publication "Best Play – What Play Should Do for Children (2000)". To be noted, the Charter is in the process of being revised.

The objectives are broad statements, which are intended to set out how the definition of play and its underpinning values and principles should be put into practice. They form the basis against which play opportunities can be evaluated.

The Seven Play Objectives:

Objective 1: The provision extends the choice and control that children have over their play, the freedom they enjoy and the satisfaction they gain from it.

Objective 2: The provision recognises the child's need to test boundaries and responds positively to that need.

Objective 3: The provision manages the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep children safe from harm.

Objective 4: The provision maximises the range of play opportunities.

Objective 5: The provision fosters independence and self-esteem.

Objective 6: The provision fosters children's respect for others and offers opportunities for social interaction.

Objective 7: The provision fosters the child's well-being, healthy growth and development, knowledge and understanding, creativity and capacity to learn.

### **9.3 Benefits of Play**

Telford & Wrekin Council recognises that:

- Play, along with the basic needs of nutrition, health, shelter and education, is vital to develop the well being of children.
- Play promotes children's development, learning, creativity and independence.
- Play keeps children healthy and active – active children become active adults.
- Play fosters social inclusion. It helps children understand the people and places in their lives, learn about the environment and develop their sense of community.
- Play allows children to find out about themselves, their abilities and their interests.
- Play is therapeutic. It helps children to deal with difficult and painful circumstances, such as emotional stress or medical treatment.
- Play gives children the chance to let off steam and have fun.
- Play facilities for older young people can provide a positive alternative to reduce boredom and possible links to anti-social behaviour and crime.
- Involving children and young people in facility creation and refurbishment of facilities increases pride in the community and environment which can increase community harmony.

### **9.4 Barriers to Play**

In today's society the pressures on children seem to be great. Schools have pressures upon them in terms of reaching targets that measure children's learning and this in turn has meant that in some schools there is less opportunity for children to learn through free play. Similarly with homework requirements, many children are finding their free time increasingly circumscribed.

Modern living has thrown up a range of barriers to children playing. More traffic, less open space, real and perceived dangers from crime, changes in family life and new patterns of work have all conspired to deny more and more children the opportunities that previous generations took for granted. The consequences are profound. Increasing childhood obesity, 'anti-social behaviour' and mental health problems have each been at least partly attributed to young lifestyles that are more sedentary and restricted than at any time in our recent history.

Although many children take part in sporting and other leisure activities, opportunities to play without adult direction and supervision have diminished. Studies show that children's independent mobility continues to be curtailed. A Home Office citizenship survey in 2003 reported that two out of three 8 to 10 year olds never went to the park



or shops on their own and 33% never played out with their friends without an adult being present. Among 11 to 15 year olds, one in ten never met their friends outside the home without an adult being present and 24% never went to the park or local shops on their own.

Gaps in local equipped play facilities can only be met if there is sufficient capital and revenue or if new funding can be secured, in particular, to meet the need for additional revenue for ongoing maintenance costs. There are also communities where, although there is an identified need for new or enhanced provision, a vocal minority may choose to reject the play proposal for fear of increased anti-social behaviour.

## **9.5 Risk and Challenge**

Play is a crucial element in children learning to appreciate, assess and take calculated risks, which is fundamental to the development of confidence and abilities in childhood. If children are to learn and explore then there is always the chance that they will have an accident or make a mistake. As they learn social skills and develop their intellectual capacities then there will be times when this learning leads to dealing with frustration and disappointment. Risk is a key part of play and play opportunities should offer safe environments that also provide for challenge and experimentation.

The issue of risk is even more acute for many disabled children. They are often discriminated against on misguided 'health and safety' grounds, but may have an even greater need than other children to experience risk and challenge, since they are so often denied the freedom of choice enjoyed by their non-disabled peers.

The Council believes that the best policy concerning the welfare of children should be to create a situation in which the risks associated with the physical environment of the playground is reduced as far as reasonably practicable. However, it is recognised that playgrounds involve an element of risk, which cannot be eliminated. Risk exists in all situations, especially those in which new physical skills are being acquired.

The Council will continue to work with The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) to provide stimulating play facilities where risk is effectively managed in accordance to best practice. It should be noted that the Council has now received a RoSPA Gold Award in recognition for its management of play facilities.

The Council also acknowledges the Children's Play Safety Forum position statement on 'Managing Risk in Play Provision' 2002. The Play Safety Forum brings together the main national organisations in England with an interest in safety and children's play. The aim of the Play Strategy Forum is to build consensus on issues around risk and safety in relation to play provision. It is an independent body hosted by the Children's Play Council at the invitation of the DCMS.

Parents and carers will be informed of the desire of the Council to promote a dialogue on needs and safety issues in order to provide the best possible environments for children with the lowest associated risks.

In particular, parents and carers will be:

- Encouraged to report hazardous situations in playgrounds.
- Encouraged to report injuries or serious accidents.
- Informed of the contribution which parental supervision can have in controlling risk.
- Encouraged to make suggestions on how play opportunities can continually be improved.
- Encouraged to participate in workshops and training sessions to increase their knowledge, skills and understanding of play and play work.

The Council will work with partners i.e. Police to minimise the risks children and young people may face whilst engaged in play opportunities. Incidents of crime, anti-social behaviour and bullying will be appropriately challenged in order to support children's safety, access and participation.

## **9.6 Entitlement to Play**

Play is seen as essential for children's healthy, physical and emotional development. The chief medical officer advises that 'children and young people should achieve a total of at least 60 minutes of at least moderate-intensity physical activity each day'. Free and recreational play is seen as one of the most effective ways of achieving this.

All children in Telford & Wrekin should have an equal right to access and engage in play opportunities in their local Neighbourhood, Ward and Town.

The Council will establish a measurable Children's Entitlement to Play Charter based around the School and Community Clusters.

## **10 Areas of Play**

### **10.1 Environmental Play**

The Council aims to help children understand and feel secure in their surroundings, and to care for the natural and built environment.

Environmental play is an important consideration in the Council's land use planning and development policies and activities. Opportunities for environmental play need to be included as an integral part of the design and development of an area. Using open space and the natural environment, particular for adventurous play will be explored by an Environmental Play Working Group (see Action Plan).

Play within the environment is recognised as probably the most important natural form of children's activity and one crucial to increasing their awareness of the real world. The Council will encourage the awareness of natural play using natural elements such as fire, water, wind and earth.

Adults need to understand a child's desire to experiment with things around them. Children need to experience opportunities to take risks whilst playing and the chance to influence their environment. The Council will endeavour to provide opportunities for this legitimate experimentation by children in ways that can be understood and encouraged by adults.

The Council recognises that developing an awareness of and feeling of ownership in the environment is a particularly important aspect of play and will seek to provide a diversity of opportunities to meet this part of play activity.

## **10.2 Open Green Spaces**

The Council will actively encourage the right of children's informal play particularly in the landscape of open green spaces.

As part of the Local Development Framework process, a Green Space Strategy/supplementary planning document will be produced. Part of this document will consider a balanced approach for providing open space for informal play opportunities. We will work with CABI (who promote thinking holistically about green space and what it means for residents in terms of access and recreation through play and sport) to achieve this.

Consultation on the Green Space Strategy is planned for May-October 2007 with the final document being adopted in February 2009.

We will promote the importance of open green space as a resource which has the potential to facilitate rich play in the environment.

## **11 Equipped Play and Youth Facilities**

Community Services – Landscape & Recreation, are responsible for strategic development of new play and youth facilities and overseeing maintenance on equipped facilities in a sustainable way. This is determined by National Guidelines, local assessment and Health and Safety requirements.

In 1996, Landscape & Recreation commissioned Gillespies (Consultants) prepared a working document relating to equipped play areas throughout the District. The document was based around providing the right types of provision, where provision is deficient and also where there is over provision - as per National Playing Fields Association Guidelines. This strategy was approved by the Leisure and Community Services Committee – 21 November, 1996.

Based on National Guidelines Gillespies categorised play areas into:-

**LAPs** Local Areas of Play – A minimal amount of play equipment (often single item doorstep provision) of play equipment or even no play equipment i.e. informal/formal open space.

**LEAPs** Local Equipped Play Areas – offering at least 5 types of play activities for children up until 12 years of age.

**NEAPs** Neighbourhood Equipped Play Areas – offering at least 8 types of play activities and also other facilities such as a kick about area or multi-use games area (MUGA) and wheeled play opportunities for children and young people.

The strategy provided Landscape & Recreation with a series of maps indicating where existing LAP/LEAP/NEAPs were located and where new provision should/could be developed if at all possible.

The Gillespies report was then followed by RoSPA being commissioned to undertake an inspection and risk assessment of all Telford & Wrekin Council's existing play areas. RoSPA made a number of recommendations based on:

- Safe surfacing requirements.
- General health and safety issues.
- Removal of low play value sites.

There were other issues to be addressed of much lower risk throughout sites, e.g. fencing, footpath linkages and seating etc.

Further to an audit of equipped play and youth facilities and the findings of the RoSPA report and the Gillespies plan, a strategic report was prepared - 'Review of Equipped Play Area Provision'. This was presented before a cabinet committee on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2002 for endorsement. The aim of the report was to determine a rationalisation and upgrading process to improve the overall equipped play and youth facilities resource. The report involved the following three stages.

#### **2002 – 2003 : Stage 1 (complete)**

- Removal of small often isolated pieces of play equipment that do not meet standards, have limited play value, are without safe surface and are of extremely low community benefit.
- Removal of a number of other play sites that also fail to meet standards, have limited play value or are poorly located. Decisions to remove followed public consultation to determine community feeling on the worth of these facilities.
- Investigation into the options to replace and upgrade the Plastic Omnium equipment and the sandpit area within the Town Park.

#### **2003 – 2006 : Stage 2 (complete)**

- To provide all existing play areas with a safe surface in compliance to current standards.

- **2006 – onwards : Stage 3 (currently implementing)**
- To upgrade the remaining play area resource, in compliance with National Guidelines and the latest European standards.
- To provide strategically identified play areas to meet current and future needs.

## **11.1 Developments to Existing Equipped Play and Youth Facilities**

The Council currently manages over 100 play areas ranging from small single pieces of play facility equipment for young children to large neighbourhood areas of play for teenagers.

As part of the Play Strategy, all existing and proposed play facilities have been audited and geographically mapped. A proposed 10 year development plan has been produced (**see Appendix 2**). A visual appreciation of Appendix 1's current and potential level of provision can be seen as 'Maps' (**see Appendix 3**).

The proposed play facilities 10 year development plan is clearly restricted by both capital and revenue funding. The Big Lottery Fund and Council Capital Fund will only provide a contribution to achieving the full development plan. Therefore, it is essential that the Council maximise partnership opportunities e.g. Section 106 contributions, English Partnerships, Parish Councils and Community Groups, in addition to securing further opportunities for Council Capital funding. The Council will also ensure links are also made with Building Schools for the Future, Children's Centres and Extended Schools.

From the audit and analysis of all Borough play facilities key issues have been identified:

- Gaps in local provision.
- Prioritise youth facility provision.
- Modernisation and refurbishment issues.

In order to prioritise, a model has been agreed enabling each facility location to be ranked against the following criteria:

### **Primary Criteria:**

- National Playing Fields Association guidelines, these relate to maximum walking times to play areas, size of activity zone, characteristics of play area and age range of children to be catered for.
- ROSPA and DDA National Guidelines.
- Sustainability (revenue secured for at least 15 years to maintain facilities).
- Suitability of location and site (ground conditions/access etc.)

### **Secondary Criteria:**

- Children and Young People's demography/local population (current and projected through planned housing developments).
- Levels of deprivation (that may hinder CYP's play and active recreational opportunities).
- Age and condition of current play facilities.
- Levels of anti-social behaviour (linked to CYP).

Following the agreed criteria the Top 10 Telford & Wrekin locations for play facilities were identified (**see Appendix 4**). From analysis of Appendix 4, it can be seen that the majority of these play facilities do not require any investment at present, due to being:

- New or in good condition.
- Facilities that will be developed through external funding.
- Small play areas that are in the vicinity of larger proposed or actual provision.

Therefore, only 1 of the Top 10 locations has been recommended for inclusion in the Councils 3 year Investment Plan for Equipped Play Facilities.

A similar analysis has taken place at a Telford & Wrekin Community Cluster level and the Top 10 ranked sites for each cluster are identified (**see Appendix 5**). The facilities, highlighted in bold, are those which have been included in the Councils 3 year Investment Plan.

## **11.2 Demographic Profile**

Telford & Wrekin's first needs analysis by School & Community Cluster (2006) provides census, health, educational and social care information to describe the needs of both pupils and young residents (0-19 years) in each School & Community Cluster (**see Appendix 6**). For the purpose of this Strategy this analysis has been used to provide the information needed for the Secondary Criteria.

## **11.3 Facility Gaps**

From the Council wide analysis of the play facilities and production of a 10 year preferred position, as shown in Appendix 2, it has been identified that there are a number of areas where there are difficulties with siting new play facilities in the foreseeable future. Therefore, these areas, namely Shawbirch, St. Georges, The Rock and Boughey Road in Newport, will require additional free play and activities provision as an alternative to a standard facility.

In addition, with regard to The Rock, an area of current open space should be enhanced to allow some informal play use. With regard to St. Georges; in relation to the enforced loss of the Gower Street youth building due to further high repair costs, any planning developments

on that site or in that area should take into account the need to secure funding and a location for a youth facility.

#### **11.4 Investment in Play and Youth Facilities**

It is proposed that a total of £656,555 will be available for the development of Play and Youth Facilities. Council Capital Funds of £500,000 will ensure new builds and refurbishment and upgrading of current provision. Big Lottery Funding, amounting to £156,555 will ensure upgrading of provision which will add significant value, including additional risk elements to youth facilities. A 3 Year Investment Plan (**see Appendix 7**) highlights 7 additional facilities, spread across the Council, which will be developed from 2007.

#### **11.5 Town Park**

Town Park is clearly a Borough wide facility and also is visited by tourists from much further afield (approx. 1 million visits per year).

It cannot (from a play area point of view) be seen as falling within any of the previously identified categories for play areas, as it offers a large play facility resource and is quite unique in nature.

Currently there are 3 distinct areas where play equipment is located and each area serves a specific age range:

##### **1) Adjacent to Spout Farm House**

This play equipment is especially suited to toddlers or very young children and is very accessible, particularly for families coming into the park from a southerly access point. In time some of the equipment in this area due to age and usage will require replacing.

##### **2) Area opposite the fairground with rubber wetpour safety surface**

This area is extremely popular with parents of younger children (3-6 primarily) as it is enclosed and has a good range of equipment types that suit the age range. There is a current issue with this area in the fact that the safety surfacing now needs replacing in its entirety. Also, given the age and condition of the majority of the equipment in this area, it would be prudent to change the equipment for new at the same time as the safe surface is replaced for economic reasons.

##### **3) Area with the Dalben Tower (Rocket Slide)**

This area is generally for older children 6-12+ and offers the most unique of play facilities. There is also the large spiders web and more physically challenging wooden play equipment opposite. Again, due to this area's particularly high usage, maintenance, repair and replacement are an ongoing issue.

The Town Park is lacking in facilities for young people who have often outgrown using play areas and play equipment.

Within the Scott Wilson Strategic Framework Document for Telford Town Park, recommendations for Play and Youth facilities include:

Address the shortfall in youth recreation provision.

Develop the play areas to be part of series of interlinked spaces catering for a wide range of ages and to be accessible to all.

To ensure both play areas and youth areas provide unique experiences of different types of play.

## **11.6 Proposed New Equipped Play and Youth Facilities**

Telford is currently a regional growth point. The following development proposals have been based upon plans for new residential development available to us at this time. Changes to these plans or windfall residential sites will need to be individually assessed until such time as the Local Development Framework is approved.

Although the Authority currently manages a significant number of play sites, there are gaps in facility provision across the Borough. Some of these gaps are already identified within existing settlements, and where possible opportunities will be sought to improve the levels of provision in these areas.

If, through a variety of reasons, the building of a play area is impractical in location of identified need, then creative options will be considered to provide alternative play and activity opportunities, through partnership working. Options may combine better use of open space, play scheme deployment, youth service activities and sports development programming.

Wherever possible, if new play area needs have emerged through planned housing developments, new sustainable play and youth facilities have been negotiated on the basis of robust gap analysis.

The implementation and provision of the facilities are clearly restricted by both capital and revenue funding being in place.

Section 106 planning agreements can be unpredictable at times, regarding when capital and revenue funding is made available to the Authority. Equally, Section 106 agreements usually have a time limit of approximately 3-5 years in which any monies are legally required to be spent or returned to the developer, but with the exception of commuted sums for maintenance.

Other means of obtaining new play provision is through adoption from a third party such as English Partnerships via community related assets. This is where the third party often builds the provision and manages it themselves for a period of time before transferring both the facility and a commuted sum, or community related asset which generates income to the Authority for continued future management of the facility.

Community groups, Parish Councils and Police also approach the Authority with a view to improving or providing a local facility. Community Groups are often a welcome vehicle who are able to obtain external funding that otherwise is not usually available to a local authority. Where possible, community groups are supported and



encouraged by the Authority particularly when the aim is to meet the strategically identified play needs within the Borough.

## **11.7 Local Play Provision Guidance**

“The six acre standard” (minimum standards for outdoor playing space) produced by the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) recommends the provision of different types of play areas for a range of age groups and appropriate needs. Most frequent, and therefore closest to home are small (unequipped) areas for younger children. Less frequent, and further away are larger (equipped) areas for older children. It is recognised that this strategic planning for facility location may (particularly in urban areas) cross over perceived community boundaries.

The National Playing Fields Association, originally developed this code. These standards are widely accepted nationally and a number of Local Authorities adhere to this code for guidance and planning. Although the guidelines are currently under review and may be modified or updated in the near future.

The Council recognises that certain play spaces could be considered unsuitable due to criminal and anti-social activity if they are poorly located. The Council will consider the siting of play equipment and provision from a crime and disorder perspective. The Council aims to meet the NPFA quality design criteria for location and design on new developments where practically possible.

Equally, the Council also implements numerous recommendations published by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) which relate to both children’s play and youth facilities.

The standards outlined specifically focus on the quality, content and location of provision. They examine the implications for siting provision and provide guidance on the design, layout, and installation of provision. The standards outlined have helped put into place inspections, maintenance, and operation assessments.

This is in addition to the ongoing sustainable repair and maintenance of play areas. Also new play areas built as a strategic demand through new housing and other external funding opportunities will be incorporated into the Implementation plan. This will ensure continuity in managing the equipped play area resource.

## **11.8 Developing Accessible Play Space: A Good Practice Guide**

Improving access to public play spaces for disabled children and other groups who currently under use them is central to the development of sustainable and inclusive communities. In the past there has been little recognition that disabled children are entitled to the same play opportunities as other children. As a result their interests have not been fully considered when planning and designing public play spaces. The essential ingredient for making play space accessible is a

willingness to seek out and remove disabling barriers. The (non statutory) good practice guide provides examples of how careful attention to design can help to ensure that play spaces are inclusive, comfortable and appealing to disabled children and their families.

All children do not need to access play spaces in the same way but they are all fundamentally entitled to go out to play. Good design of public play spaces is needed in order to make this possible. Each child is different – not every piece of equipment in a play space needs to be accessible to every child but access to the social experience of play is key. The key recommendation of the guide is that developers should concentrate on making the environment fit the child. There is no need to focus on impairment specific issues – rather identify the obstacles to play for any child who might wish to access the play space and think about ways to circumvent them.

The Council uses the Good Practice Guidelines in conjunction with the NPFA guidelines and RoSPA standards. All new play areas are specified to be DDA compliant, including taking account of any access issues leading up and into the play area/facility. Also, inclusive play items are to be included where possible.

## **11.9 Monitoring of Safety**

- The Council will monitor playground safety and information periodically to assess the need for policy modifications.
- The Council will keep a central record of all injuries and serious incidents reported on its playgrounds by members of the community and Council employees.
- The Council will also request health practitioners and local accident and emergency departments to assist in the provision of information on playground accidents.
- This information will be considered in the light of European directives on health and safety.
- The Council will liaise with the Police, reporting incidents relating to crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour.

## **11.10 Equipment**

Equipment will be selected on the basis of quality, best value, safety, durability, play value and visual attractiveness. Children, young people and parent/carer's choice will also be taken into consideration. Wherever possible, equipment on the same site must be selected to cater for a range of physical experiences. All play equipment must be manufactured and installed to either BSEN 1176/7, PAS30, PAS35, RoSPA guidelines for BMX construction and any other relevant standards. Paint must have the lowest lead content possible (lead free is preferred) and not exceed 0.25% lead in the dry film.

### **11.11 Maintenance and Inspection**

The Council will apply the highest standards of maintenance and inspection to ensure that all formal play areas are safe and continue to meet the needs of children.

In line with national guidelines, the Council inspects all of its play areas on a twice weekly basis. This is primarily a visual inspection (all play area inspectors must be RoSPA certificated) and obvious defects are looked for. Any significant issue is reported immediately to the Play Area Manager for action and less significant issues are recorded within the play area inspection books for action in the near future.

Equally, all sites receive a litter pick within the play/youth facility at the time that they are inspected.

A detailed six weekly inspection is also undertaken. This inspection is a very careful check of all equipment, fixings, moving parts, chain wear and sundry items. All issues are recorded in the 'six weekly' play inspection book for action.

An annual, independent inspection is undertaken by RoSPA and is a very helpful health check. All issues highlighted are then categorised as a risk value and will form the basis of an improvement programme to minimise unacceptable safety risks to users of facilities. All high risks are dealt with immediately (budget allowing), followed by medium risk etc.

During the summer period, Telford Town Park (given its high usage) is inspected on a daily basis.

### **11.12 Installation of New Equipment and Repairs to Existing Equipment.**

All equipment and installations are to conform to the current standards. No equipment is to be operational until a competent person appointed by the Council has inspected it and agreed to its use and/or a post installation inspection report has been produced and finds the installation satisfactory.

Prior to a new facility opening for use, a RoSPA post installation report and risk assessment is to be provided to identify conformity to the relevant standards. Where appropriate safety signage is to be provided.

### **11.13 Fencing**

All new equipped play areas will be enclosed sympathetically to provide a safe and dog-free environment and sense of enclosure without hiding the area from view or isolating it. All existing sites currently without fencing will be programmed to be fenced as budgets allow. Facilities for young people will be individually assessed for safety (through the involvement of RoSPA) to identify if fencing is required.

## **11.14 Surfacing**

All new play areas will be surfaced in a variety of materials or natural coverings as appropriate to the landscaping and equipment of the scheme and with maximum regard to safety. The Council generally uses either wetpour safe surface, play grade bark chips or sand (this is found in Telford Town Park). All safe surfacing will comply with BSEN 1177. The surfacing of other facilities will be suitable for the intended purpose of use and in accordance with the relevant standard for the material / use. It is important to note that loose surfacing is not good for wheelchair users. However, some locations known to suffer from excessive vandalism may rule out the (expensive repair) option of wetpour safe surface in preference for more vandal resistant loose fill.

## **11.15 Landscaping**

The Council recognises that sensitive landscape treatments can contribute significantly towards producing a rich environment conducive to children's physical, social and psychological development.

Any required landscape maintenance within play areas will be included within the Council's general Grounds Maintenance Contract.

## **11.16 Protection of Existing Play / Youth Facilities**

Where play spaces are proposed to be lost through development, a suitable replacement facility or feature (to the satisfaction of the Council) of equal or greater quality and accessibility is required to be provided, unless highlighted in the Implementation Plan as to be surplus to requirement.

# **12 New Developments**

## **12.1 Developers Contributions Section 106 Planning Obligations**

Government guidance on the use of Section 106 Planning Obligations is set out in Circular 05/2005. Policies in the current local plan provide the basis for seeking contributions. Examples include:

- Contributions towards the protection, enhancement and maintenance of open spaces and landscaping e.g. important ecological, archaeological and wildlife sites affected by the development. Also includes the replacement elsewhere of recreation or sports facility lost through development (Policy OL12).
- Commuted sums for the long term maintenance of open spaces and landscaping provided for the benefit of the new development (usually estimated costs for 15 years) (Policy OL12).
- Contributions (of both land and money) to achieve the National Playing Fields Association minimum target of 2.43 ha per 1000 population (Policy LR4). English Nature are now also seeking

contributions towards fulfilling their Nature Green Space Standard such as improvements to accessibility, contributions to management, footpath improvements, fencing etc. in areas such as Granville & Wrekin and Limekiln Woods.

- Provision of or contributions towards outdoor recreational provision such as LEAPs and NEAPs and sports/recreation provision and maintenance thereof (Policy LR6).
- New employment developments may be required to provide a contribution to open space or sports facilities on a pro rata basis of 1.5 ha per 1000 employees (Policy LR7).

These policies will be in place until the formation / adoption of the new LDF policies which will replace them.

In the near future a Development Plan Document dealing specifically with Section 106 / developer contributions is to be prepared as part of the Local Development Framework.

To ensure the continuation of new provision arising out of the need created by new development, the proposed S106 LDF document will require policies in relation to requirements to meet this need. More particularly a policy will be required which relates to when the council will expect developers to contribute to on site play provision.

Supporting policies (e.g. within the proposed development control and / or design documents) in regards to the provision of on site requirements for children's play on new developments may also be required.

Planning obligations under S106 agreements / developers contribution policies are unlikely to be able to address this issue alone (e.g. No housing adjacent / overlooking the proposed play area will be marketed or sold prior to completion of the play area). This is to ensure that potential residents and neighbours to the play facilities are aware of the exact nature of the surrounding environment at the time of purchase.

It will be anticipated that all new development will contribute to meeting children's play needs arising from the development proposal. In areas identified within this strategy as deficient in provision or on large developments which generate a new need from the development itself (with no other coverage), on site provision will be sought.

Specific triggers for this obligation will be required within the LDF to make clear to developers what the council policy is. The council proposes to amend the current planning policies to link to this strategy and enable a strategic approach to the request for provision.

Development proposals will first be assessed against whether existing equipped provision (LEAP's / NEAP's) serve the development. If the development is served by existing provision then an off site contribution may be sought if the existing provision is identified as needing improvements.

Should new off site facilities which would serve the development be proposed (as part of this strategy), an off site contribution for capital and revenue will be sought. If the development is not currently served by existing or proposed facilities on site facilities will be sought for large developments. The triggers for on site provision (where no existing or proposed coverage is identified) are recommended as:

To require an on site LEAP: - 75 – 200 child bed spaces. Child bed spaces are defined as a dwelling (not for the elderly) where bedrooms with the potential to accommodate children are confirmed (e.g. a 2 bedroom dwelling will provide 1 child bed space).

To require an on site NEAP: - 200+ child bed spaces.

In cases of major new developments where coverage of the development will not be entirely met by an individual new facility, several new facilities may be sought.

Where on site provision is proposed the council will expect the council's approved design criteria to be adhered to. It will be anticipated that developers will carry out this work to a design / timeframe agreed by the local planning authority.

Where on site provision is proposed by the developer to be adopted by the local authority, the council will not accept the provision if an appropriate commuted sum for maintenance cannot be agreed and / or the facility does not meet the design criteria (including RoSPA Post Installation Inspection and Risk Assessments).

All of these elements must be agreed by the local authority before any play facility contract / works instructions are issued and a timetabled programme of implementation and transfer is also agreed by the authority. It should be noted that immediately prior to transfer, the council will make an inspection (following receipt of the RoSPA PII from the developer) in order to check conformity.

A list of remedial work to be undertaken by the developer may then be required prior to transfer. These obligations (particularly the commuted sum for maintenance) are likely to be within a S106 agreement although the new system has yet to be identified.

Where the stewardship of the proposed play space is not confirmed within the S106 or is proposed to be managed by other than the Borough Council, the Borough will seek a condition of planning permission which requests the provision of an agreed landscape management / maintenance plan. The plan will provide a policy of retention of play facilities and accessibility during the management plan period. The plan will also need to confirm the intention of the steward in regard to the open space following this period.

Where it has been identified that there is already sufficient play coverage for the development there may be a need to extend or refurbish existing facilities serving the proposed development to maximise its usage, rather than provide additional play facilities on the development.

## **12.2 Equipped Play Facilities**

The planning policy within the Local Development Framework recognises the importance of children's equipped play provision within the Borough, and seeks the provision of children's play space as part of, or close to, new residential development. In appropriate circumstances the Council will seek commuted sums for maintenance of local play facilities (it is expected that developers are to provide the facilities to a design / installation time agreed by the Local Planning Authority).

Where children's equipped (LEAP or NEAP) play space is to be provided by the developer the Local Planning Authority may request that the provision be installed prior to the sale of new overlooking properties to ensure that potential residents and neighbours to the play facility are aware of the exact nature of the surrounding environment at the time of purchase.

In some cases there may be a need to extend or refurbish existing facilities to maximise their usage, rather than provide additional play facilities on the development.

## **12.3 Community Open Green Space**

Quality Community Open Space is seen as an integral part of quality living space, and should be provided as part of new housing developments. Where such spaces are not available within easy access of the development or where provision locally is adequate in terms of quantity, greater emphasis will be placed on improving the quality of existing nearby Community Open Space.

Developers will be required to ensure that there is sufficient good quality open space provided to meet the needs of the people arising from the new housing development. There may, however, be cases where a more flexible approach (if agreed between the Council and a developer) would provide a more satisfactory solution whilst meeting the needs for open space arising from the development.

Where new community open space is provided, the developer will be required to make provision for its ongoing future maintenance within a landscape management / maintenance plan. The developer must, in these circumstances, be fully aware of the 'duties of care' (particularly with equipped children's play) which is implicit within relevant legislation. In cases where the developer wishes the council to adopt the open space a commuted sum for maintenance will be required. A legal contract will be drawn up for this purpose. The Telford & Wrekin Council reserves the right not to adopt facilities if the sum is insufficient for purpose.

New housing developments bring new demand for Community Open Space. It is important that open spaces are appropriately located and designed to meet the particular requirements of the residents of the development. In the case of small developments, it may not be useful to incorporate open space provision within the development. Some

larger developments, particularly those located in areas already well provided with open space, may be better served by appropriate enhancements to a nearby open space - by providing sports / recreation facilities or play equipment, for example. In these cases the Council will require the developer to make an equivalent contribution in lieu of provision. The level of contribution will be agreed through negotiation. A legal contract will be drawn up for this purpose.

## **12.4 Provision of Equipped Play Facilities and Open Space**

The following design criteria (not inclusive) in addition to the NPFA design standards and detailed in the Local Development Framework should be taken into account when locating and designing playing spaces for children:

- It is important that play spaces are part of the design of an area and not just an after thought.
- All play spaces should be accessible by safe, practical routes.
- All play spaces should be sited in welcoming, open areas, not on backland or land that is un-developable for other purposes.
- Play spaces should be accessible from pedestrian routes and away from major vehicle movement.
- Play spaces should be sited on land that is suitable for the type of play space identified. For example, equipped or kick about areas on slopes are inappropriate.
- Play spaces should not have an adverse impact upon the character or amenity of the local area. For example, they should not be built upon environmentally sensitive land.
- Play spaces should, where possible, be over-looked by houses or well-used pedestrian routes, but also be far enough away from houses to reduce the likelihood of general disturbance. A buffer of a minimum of 20 metres from the edge of LEAP fence to residential property and in the case of a NEAP 30 metres away from the equipment to the nearest residential property.
- Play spaces should be linked with other open spaces, play spaces and footpath systems etc.
- Psychological, as well as physical, barriers should be avoided. Such barriers could include territorial barriers of having to move from one housing area to another, or the fear of having to use a bridge to cross a busy road.
- A wide a range of play opportunities should be provided. Playgrounds should include unobstructed appropriate open space to kick or throw a ball, as well as natural opportunities to play for creative development.



- Play spaces need to be attractive and safe to encourage children to play there, as well as meet the needs of the wider area, particularly of those people living nearby.

## **12.5 Traffic Calming**

The Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 policy E4 states a package of measures will be introduced that will help tackle a range of road safety issues across the Borough.

In residential areas, vehicles tend to travel too fast and create conflict with pedestrians, parked cars and children playing. This creates both safety and environmental problems and reduces the overall quality of life of residents. A range of measures known collectively as “traffic calming” have been developed to deal with these problems. These include road humps, narrowing of roads, pedestrian refuges, road closures and modern technology including safety cameras and high visibility electronic signs. 20 mph zones incorporate a range of traffic calming features so that low speeds can be achieved through engineering rather than police enforcement.

The Council has implemented a number of such schemes, notably through the introduction of Safer Routes to School projects, which seek to address road safety issues and promote travel by walking, cycling and public transport. The Council also tackles speed related issues on urban roads through the promotion of road safety publicity campaigns. Private developers have also been required to incorporate speed reduction measures into housing schemes.

The Council's priority will be to deal with areas of the Borough where there are major road safety and/or traffic problems, particularly near schools. Developers will be required to consider the needs of pedestrians and cyclists and plan traffic calming measures into schemes where appropriate.

## **13 Free Play Provision**

Telford & Wrekin provides a rich and diverse range of play opportunities across the Borough. This strategy focuses on facilities and provisions that support children and young people's free play opportunities. However, it is important to recognise other provisions, which have a focus on 'play', to ensure we can make links and work in partnership together (**see Appendix 8**).

### **13.1 Play Development Team**

The Council's Play Development Team (part of the Active Involvement Service) has two main elements to its work.

Provision of free play throughout the Borough:

- There are fifteen play schemes running each week during term time. Their focus is to give local children safe yet exciting play opportunities in a friendly, child led environment.

- Summer provision operates at 23 sites across the Borough.

Training:

- Training for people working with children and young people. The courses focus on the value of play, practical ideas for sessions and positive communication with children and young people.
- Training Play Team staff, including one full week of summer play scheme training.
- Making Choices – A session “An Introduction to Play” is delivered as part of a one week course designed to help people who wish to begin a career with children.
- Two courses for schools aimed at improving play in lunchtimes, one for lunchtime supervisory staff and one for year 5/6 children. These focus on teaching the importance of play and how games can help with behaviour on the playground.

An audit of current free play provision in term time and school holidays has been developed (**see Appendix 9**).

Consultation with children highlights the need for play and activity sessions in localised areas. Children want to meet and have fun with their peers in a place they consider safe and with workers they trust. They want trips and activities away from home to stimulate their imaginations and show them new places. There is also a need for adventures, such as camps and outward bound activities, which will stretch their capabilities and develop their independence and understanding of the world.

Trips would be organised for children on their own with play workers and for families to a wide variety of places both locally and further a field. Overnight camps would be delivered, with trained staff.

## **13.2 Children with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities**

The Access 2 Activities project is a service which provides fun and leisure opportunities for disabled children and young people (age 0-19) that live in the Telford & Wrekin Council.

There are two aspects to the project. We ensure there is support for children and young people to access existing leisure and out of school opportunities as well as specific opportunities for children and young people with shared experiences to meet and have fun together. The project does this by:

- Supporting children and young people through the Link Project to take part in activities in their local area.
- Providing information and signposting to parents, carers and disabled children and young people to out of school opportunities.
- Developing and providing a leisure programme throughout all school holidays for disabled children, their siblings and families.

- Developing after school opportunities for disabled children and young people to meet up and have fun with peers who have similar experiences.
- Ensuring that disabled children, young people and their families can develop their skills and confidence so they can effectively support service developments across the Borough.
- Training of children and young people who attend play and out of school provision in disability awareness.

### **13.3 Bridge School Summer Playscheme**

This provision is open to all children and young people who attend the Bridge School from the ages of 3 – 16 years. The scheme aims to provide a safe and secure environment in which children and young people with complex needs can participate in a range of play activities. It encourages them to develop skills associated with leisure and informal activities within different settings and with different people.

### **13.4 Looked After Children**

A Leisure & Fun Project for Looked After Children & Young People is well established within the Council. This Project identifies all LAC leisure, recreation and play needs and develops a plan for each individual child. The Project also provides two youth clubs and a range of workshops, one off events and trips.

### **13.5 Black and Minority Ethnic Children**

The Play Development Team identified Play for BME children as a key target. Provision was provided to ensure good access to play. Specific groups have been set up for Asian Young Women and a drop in play session targeting BME children.

### **13.6 Young Carers**

A Young Carers Project, funded by the Council and delivered by a voluntary organisation, provides a range of support for Young Carers. As part of their contract they deliver a wide range of play and activities throughout the year. The Project also facilitates a Young Carers Forum (Caring Kidz) who inform service planning, delivery and evaluation.

## **14 Investment in Play and Activities Provision**

Currently, the Council delivers both universal and targeted free play provision across the Borough. Free provision has traditionally been located in priority wards. During the summer, the Council works in partnership with parish and town councils to provide schemes in non-priority wards. More recently, as a result of a number of consultations and targeted funding, play provision is also provided for specific groups e.g. BME Children and Young People, Looked After Children, Disabled Children and Young People and Young Carers.

The Councils Play Team and Access 2 Activities for Children and Young People with Disabilities are managed within the Active Involvement Service. The team delivers:

- Work with 5,447 individual children and young people aged 5-10 years (per year).
- A total number of contacts with 16,834 children and young people (per year).

The Strategy aims to build upon this range of provisions in order to ensure synergies are maximised and intrinsically link with existing and future play facilities or opportunities. It is also important to link closely with the Youth Offer through the work of the Connexions 4 Youth Service (Youth Development Service and Connexions amalgamation in April 2007). Future planning and investment in play provision will follow similar criteria as outlined for that of play and youth facilities, taking into account other criteria such as venue availability.

It is proposed to deliver play and activities for 10-13 year olds. The gap in provision for this age range is highlighted within the Telford & Wrekin Children & Young People's Plan.

An Activities Team will form part of the Play Development Team. Their remit will be to work with 10-13 year olds to deliver junior play and activity clubs, projects and trips in both term time and school holidays.

The team will deliver activities identified by children and young people themselves. Through summer activities the team will bring together children and young people from different wards. The programmes will offer new opportunities, help develop friendships, support young people's confidence and self esteem and support breaking down barriers between different areas in Telford.

A 3 Year Investment Plan, amounting to £280,000, has been identified for play and activities provision (**see Appendix 10**). Additional weekly play and activities provision plus a full programme of activities in all school holidays will be delivered in 13 areas.

## 15 Equality and Social Inclusion

The following points summarise the Council's position on promoting equality in play and how it aims to work towards more inclusive play opportunities for all children and young people. The Council recognises that certain children and young people are not given an equal chance to engage in quality play experiences and will seek to address this issue by:

- Challenging barriers that deprive children and young people of access and engagement in play opportunities.
- Targeting play opportunities to socially vulnerable children.
- Increasing play opportunities for children with individual needs.
- Meeting equal opportunities legislative requirements.

- Using quality assurance standards as a means of monitoring equal opportunities.
- Providing appropriate training to workers and volunteers delivering play.

It is important to note that accessible play and inclusive play are not the same things. Removing environmental barriers helps make play spaces accessible, whilst social barriers have to be dealt with to make them inclusive. Not every piece of play equipment needs to be accessible to every child, it is important that all children are able to access the social experience of play.

We will work towards the DCLG (Department for Culture, Media and Sport) guide 'Developing Accessible Play Spaces – A Good Practice Guide'. The guide emphasises the importance of assessing the existing provision of public play space and of consulting disabled children and their families.

The Council celebrates the diversity of its many communities and is committed to a culturally appropriate play service to all of its children. We will take steps to ensure services and activities are responsive and appropriate to the changing needs and aspirations of all sectors of the community.

## **16 The Monitoring of Quality Standards**

The Council will regularly monitor and evaluate play provision to ensure that changing local needs continue to be met.

We will work to The Children's Play Council seven Play Objectives (Refer to 1.3) as the basis against which play opportunities will be monitored and evaluated.

### **16.1 Ofsted National Childcare Standards**

The Council will comply with Ofsted's 14 National Childcare Standards in all of its facilities that require registration and inspection. The Ofsted standards place a strong emphasis on values and principles that promote children's safety and protection, care, learning, equality and quality of play opportunities.

We will need to demonstrate registered to unregistered OFSTED Day Care Standards. For provisions operating under 2 hours no OFSTED registration is required.

The Childcare Act 2006 sets out provisions to reform the regulation and inspection regime for childcare in England, thus meeting a commitment set out in the Governments 10 year strategy for childcare 'Choice for Parents', the best start for children.

The Government are presently seeking views on proposals for an 'OFSTED Childcare Register'.

## **16.2 Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)**

Any adult, whether employed by the Council or a volunteer directly engaged in children's provision either in an informal or formal play setting will be required to undertake a CRB check in line with the Children Act 1989 and Ofsted's 14 National Childcare Standards.

## **16.3 Commission for Equality and Human Rights (CEHR)**

The Council will monitor and review its play provision in line with the values and principles outlined in the CEHR standards.

## **16.4 Quality Assurance Schemes**

The Council will research some national systems and adopt best practice, ensuring a robust system to measure quality i.e. Quality in Play – London Play and Kids – Local Authority Checklist for Inclusive Play.

Hear by Right – National Standards for Active Involvement of Children and Young People is adopted by the Council and will therefore guide this work.

Integrated Childcare Services work towards providing support and guidance to provisions through 'Quality in Action' (National Children's Bureau - Investors in Children) and works towards Quality Assurance Schemes in 'out of school' childcare provision to provide inclusive play opportunities.

# **17 Workforce Development**

The Council will be guided by the Telford & Wrekin Children & Young People's Workforce Development Team. In particular, there will be agreement on standards and training. The Play Opportunities Action Plan highlights outcomes related to workforce development.

## **17.1 Playwork National Occupational Standards**

The Council will encourage play providers to consider the Playwork National Occupational Standards in their service delivery to children. These standards have been based on a number of assumptions and values that underpin good practice in playwork. The standards bring together aspects of other studies of Play and have been developed by people within playwork and other related fields.

## **17.2 Training**

The Council will identify a range of training and development opportunities for staff and volunteers to develop their skills in playing with children. Specific training will be provided for working with children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The adult role in play provision is to enable rather than to direct.

The Council will support play workers and volunteers in gaining the relevant and appropriate skills and training necessary in order to enable children to have the most enjoyable and appropriate play

experiences possible. Instructors of special activities should be suitably qualified, in line with the Council's regulations for the organisation of educational off-site activities.

The Council will promote funding opportunities enabling childcare providers to access training.

## **18 The National Context**

The need to improve the provision that is made for children to play is acknowledged in a range of national policy areas: from planning, open spaces and transport to health, education and childcare.

### **18.1 Every Child Matters**

The benefits of children's play are closely linked to the five outcomes.

Being Healthy – Good play opportunities give children the chance to try out and experience a range of emotions in a 'safe' way. It allows them to learn and develop emotionally by promoting resilience and fostering self-esteem.

Staying Safe – Good play provision protects children through reducing unacceptable levels of danger, while allowing them the opportunity to challenge themselves, take risks, think through decisions and gain increased self-confidence and greater resilience.

Enjoying and Achieving – Children's enjoyment through play is linked to the control and choice they are able to exercise. Giving children the chance for free, uninhibited play allows them a psychologically safe space in which to try out new roles and experiences and enhances their enjoyment of life.

Making a Positive Contribution – Children's involvement in the development of their own play is fundamental. Respecting and incorporating children and young people's views into plans and provision helps develop motivation and, potentially, participation in society.

Economic Well-being – Good play provision enables parents to work or train and allows them to feel their children are happy, safe and enjoying themselves. The creative and social skills that children and young people develop through play help them to develop lateral thinking and emotional intelligence.

To note, each of the five outcomes specifically highlight children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and looked after children.

### **18.2 Big Lottery Funding for Children's Play**

In November 2005 the Big Lottery Funding announced the amount of funding available for Telford & Wrekin will be £436,555 over three years. The programme will create, improve and develop children and young people's local play spaces and raise the value and status of children's play. The programme targets children and young people who do not have access to good play opportunities e.g. disabled

children, girls of school age, children in care and BME children. The programme has a suggested menu of provision that they would consider. Application to the Lottery will be in November 2006.

### **18.3 Ten Year Childcare Strategy**

This National Strategy sets out a long term vision to provide high quality, affordable, accessible and sustainable childcare. There have been significant programmes since the Strategy was published, in particular an action plan 'Choice for parents, the best start for children: making it happen'. This aims to transform expectations and work with childcare providers on delivery of the vision.

### **18.4 Childcare Act 2006**

This Act sets out a framework of local responsibilities, of which Integrated Childcare Services will implement. It is the first legislation ever to be dedicated to Childcare and Early Years. It will provide the framework for delivering on the objectives of the 10 Year Strategy.

### **18.5 Department of Health (DH)**

The aim of the Department of Health is to improve the health and well-being of people. DH recognises that play is important for keeping children healthy and has a place in the delivery of their key objectives. The National Healthy Schools Programme promotes physical activity across the school day, including play. DH is producing guidance for schools on how they can meet the National Healthy School Standard physical activity core theme. This will include the promotion of free play.

DH shares a public service agreement target with DCMS and DfES to halt obesity among children under 11 years. The 'Obesity Care Pathway' (April 2006) guide for health professionals in management of obesity highlights the need to discourage sedentary behaviour among children and encourages families to play together. The Public Health White Papers 'Choosing Health' (2004) and 'Delivering Choosing Health and Choosing Activity' (both 2005) all identified the contribution that play can make to improving children's fitness, health and well-being.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is producing guidance on the prevention and management of obesity. This document will promote the provision of active play in pre-school and childcare settings to minimise risk of weight gain among young children. NICE will also be producing guidance in 2007 on how the NHS, local authorities and others can meet the Chief Medical Officer's recommendations on physical activity.

### **18.6 National Service Framework**

The National Service Framework (NSF) is very much in line with the general approach of Every Child Matters; targeting the most vulnerable groups of children and young people within a preventative



ethos, and will have an impact across all the key agencies which deliver services to children and young people. Particular links will be made with:

- Standard 3 – CYP and family centred services.
- Disabled CYP and those with complex health needs.

## **18.7 Cleaner, Greener, Safer Agenda**

The Government's 2002 report 'Living Places: Cleaner, Greener, Safer' stated that 'high quality green spaces go a long way to encouraging people to pursue healthier lifestyles through exercise such as walking and cycling. The need for developing accessible play space good practice guidance was also highlighted in the report.

## **18.8 Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)**

Since 1996, the DDA has made it unlawful for service providers to treat disabled people less favourably and, since 1999, there has been a duty to make reasonable adjustments in certain circumstances. From 2004 this covered adjustments in relation to physical features that create a barrier for disabled people, and will help in the drive to make open public play spaces fully accessible.

## **18.9 National and Regional Organisations**

Telford & Wrekin Council seeks to forge links with national and regional organisations that promote children's play opportunities. The following agencies are responsible for play developments:

- Play England.
- Children's Play Council.
- Children's Play Information Service.
- Children's Play Policy Forum.
- Kids
- SkillsActive
- Learning Through Landscapes.
- National Playing Fields Association (NPFA).
- CABI Space.

# **19 The Local Context**

## **19.1 Corporate Priorities**

Corporate Vision: "A successful, prosperous and healthy community which offers a good quality of life for all of the people of Telford & Wrekin that reflects the needs and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

Play fits in with the Community Ambition 2 'Giving children and young people the best possible start to their lives.'

## **19.2 Telford & Wrekin Community Plan**

The Local Strategic Partnership's Community Strategy (June 2002) sets out six broad 'Community Ambitions' for the Borough over the medium term, and the key priorities and actions needed to help bring these about. Raising the achievement and aspirations of young people and enabling them to fulfil their expectations, within and beyond school, is a key priority, as is the improvement in young people's health, through lifestyle change, and the quality of the living environment, particularly in the Borough's 'priority neighbourhoods'. The Play Strategy, in focusing on improving the quality of life for all young people, is a key element in helping achieve these 'Ambitions'.

## **19.3 Children & Young People's Plan**

The Strategy links with the Children & Young People's Plan 2005 - 2010, which has been developed by the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership Board (Children's Trust). As Play is a major part of the duty to co-operate in the provision for the enjoyment of play and recreation it will be led by the Enjoying and Achieving subgroup of the Partnership Board.

## **19.4 Joint Area Review**

This strategy will help meet the requirements of the Joint Area Review of the Ofsted Children's Services Inspection Framework, in particular the following key judgements in relation to children's enjoyment of play and recreation:

- Parents and carers receive support in helping their children to enjoy and achieve.
- All children and young people can access a range of recreational activities, including play and voluntary learning provision.

## **19.5 School & Community Clusters**

Clusters have been developed as the organisational and planning framework for the future delivery of Children's Services. We have services located in five geographical areas across the Borough working together to deliver joined-up services for children and families and help others shape services to meet local needs. The clusters are primarily aimed at preventative intervention, but it is the intention to enable complex and acute services to be more easily accessed within communities.

All children in Telford & Wrekin should have an equal right to access and engage in play opportunities in their local Neighbourhood, Ward and Town.

The Council will establish a measurable Children's Entitlement to Play Charter based around the School and Community Clusters.

## **19.6 Youth Offer**

The Government's Youth Green Paper 'Youth Matters' sets out a vision for youth and a radical reshaping of services for young people. Key to realising its ambition to improve the opportunities and outcomes for all teenagers is a requirement upon local authorities to develop a local offer to provide more 'Things to Do, Places to Go' and to ensure for young people more choice and more influence. The importance of providing positive activities for young people is reinforced by the Government's Respect Action Plan published in January 2006.

A more coordinated approach to the development of things to do and places to go for young people, equipped play and youth facilities and play provision is a key target within the Action Plan of this Strategy.

The Government are developing national standards but they are likely to include:

- Access to 2 hours per week of sporting activity.
- 2 hours of other constructive activities in clubs/youth groups.
- Opportunities to volunteer.
- A wide range of other cultural, sporting and enriching experiences.
- A range of safe and enjoyable places to spend time.

A searchable database on the range of activities by cluster and area will be part of the new Youth Zone website for Telford & Wrekin.

Extending the local offer, Telford & Wrekin has combined the themes of Youth Matters to develop a more wide ranging holistic Youth Offer, which includes improving: information, advice and guidance, volunteering opportunities, targeted support for young people with additional needs and the 13-19 learning entitlement. A new integrated youth support service will support this.

## **19.7 Extended Schools**

Extended Schools will play a vital role in creating and improving opportunities for outdoor play and informal recreation. The DfES Extended Schools document states, 'Funding is available to schools to improve the use, design and management of schools playgrounds, particularly in disadvantaged areas. Schools can work in partnership to maximise children's opportunities for learning and enjoyment. Where possible, schools can also be actively encouraged to open up their playing fields to provide open space for play, particularly in areas where there is limited playing fields or open space provision'. It is important that providing play provision and opportunities for children is not diverted by the childcare or educational agendas.

SkillsActive has produced a leaflet on play and extended schools.

## **19.8 Building Schools for the Future**

Building Schools for the Future Programme has the aim of rebuilding or renewing every secondary school in England over the next 15 years and a target to rebuild or refurbish at least half the primary schools and primary-age special schools over a 15 year period. Although this programme is focused on school premises, children will benefit from having more and better access to good quality play provision during the school day (and with extended schools, beyond the school day).

Ensuring a coordinated joint approach of play opportunities and schools is a key target within the Action Plan of this Strategy.

## **19.9 Parenting Strategy**

The Parenting Strategy – ‘Parenting with confidence through respectful relationships’ is built on the rights and responsibilities of parents (i.e. anyone acting in the parental role), children, young people and practitioners. The aim of the strategy is to support parents in achieving the five outcomes for their children and young people through universal and targeted services. The emphasis will be on providing needs led support, information, advice and guidance.

One area for development is to ensure that a central point of access to comprehensive information through the Children’s Service Directory will be available to all. The second key development will be to extend the successful Webster Stratton Parenting Programme which has been available to parents in local Sure Start areas. This Programme focuses on improving relationships and behaviour within families through the importance of play activities.

## **19.10 Telford & Wrekin Integrated Childcare Services**

Integrated Childcare Services sets out a business plan based on the 10 Year Childcare Strategy and the Childcare Act 2006. The plan aims to promote play opportunities through various initiatives, which include supporting voluntary after-school groups through training, qualifications and resources.

The philosophy underpinning the Birth to Three Matters and the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage is that learning should be carefully planned, with an emphasis on activities that are fun, relevant and motivating for each child. The Government plans to create a single quality framework to support children’s learning and development from birth to five. We will be required to deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage from September 2008. The single, coherent document will recognise the importance of play in young children’s learning and development.

## **19.11 Sport & Recreation**

The aim of the Council strategy was to establish a framework for Sport and Recreation in Telford & Wrekin during the period 2002 to 2011. It raised the important issues facing Sport & Recreation and set out

targets within documents that followed its publication in 2002. They included those associated with Playing Pitches, Outdoor Recreation and Play.

Ambitions for Sport and Recreation within the overall strategy include:

- To promote opportunities for the whole community to participate in sport and physical recreation, and in particular encourage participation of defined target groups with special emphasis on children and young people.

The strategy highlighted the importance the Council places on Outdoor Playing Space for Children, Outdoor Recreation for Young People and Parks, and stressed the need to secure the development of appropriate sustainable outdoor recreation and play opportunities, to serve the growing communities within the district.

## **19.12 Cultural Strategy**

The first Council wide Cultural Strategy was prepared, after extensive consultation, in 2003. The document was called Heart and Soul and provided a framework for the development of cultural activity in the town. As part of the document there was a comprehensive action plan with realistic targets.

It was realised in 2005 that many of the activities and actions in the Borough's first Cultural Strategy had exceeded expectation. This resulted in a review of the current strategy. The new document celebrates the achievements made and sets out what we wish to achieve in the next two years before the second Cultural Strategy in 2008.

## **19.13 Local Development Framework**

The LDF is a draft spatial planning document. It goes beyond traditional land use planning, bringing together and integrating policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they can function. Sustainable development is the core principle underpinning planning with the aim of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone now and for future generations. The provision of open space and play facilities is recognised as having a key role to play in achieving these aims.

Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG17) on Open Space, Sport and Recreation provides the national planning policy framework for the protection of existing children's play-spaces which are required to meet the needs of local communities.

Planning authorities are expected, through their local development frameworks, to set standards of provision for all types of open space, including play space for children.

## **19.14 Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies**

Led by the Department of Community and Local Government (DCLG) and the Home Office, Government wants to see improvements in neighbourhoods everywhere. The approach expected to achieve this, is that services and local people work together, giving local people more influence over what is delivered and how.

The Council is committed with partners to develop Neighbourhood Management.

The vision within the Council is to work in partnership to build a cohesive Borough, with neighbourhoods that are safe, healthy and vibrant, where residents are well informed, satisfied and enabled to both shape and access high quality services. Health, education, policing, and Council services need to be more responsive to the wishes and priorities of local communities.

We will support Neighbourhood Management and work with local people to address the issues of opportunities for play.

## **19.15 Safer and Stronger Communities**

Groups of children or young people 'hanging out' in the public domain are often characterised as posing a threat or a nuisance, even when they are simply enjoying being together. Research commissioned by CABE Space shows that 'place making' – improving the design, maintenance and supervision of parks and other public spaces – is a more effective solution to 'anti-social behaviour' than simply increasing security measures.

The Play Strategy supports and promotes the Safer and Stronger Communities agenda by:

- Providing positive play experiences for children and young people, who have been victims of crime and bullying.
- Involving communities in the regeneration of their environment (particularly play and youth facilities).
- Providing additional and alternative play opportunities for children and young people as a means of reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour.
- Bringing communities together through family fun days and play events.
- Using play as a medium of celebrating diversity and promoting equality for all members of the community, e.g. through inter-generational play activities, creativity sessions, e.g. arts and crafts, music, dance, drama and poetry and finally celebrating religious events and festivals.

## 20 Resources and Sustainability

Through the planning process the Council has secured £1.8m for the future development of 16 new play and youth facilities throughout the Council. The Council currently invests an annual amount of £323,000 in Services which provide Play Provision. In addition, a total of £936,555 is now available over three years for further investment in Play Opportunities. This includes £436,555 from a Big Lottery Fund and £500,000 from Council Capital funds (as a result of the Play Strategy).

A 3 Year prioritised investment plan, amounting to £656,555, has been identified for play and youth facilities. This highlights 7 additional facilities, spread throughout the Council, which will be developed from 2007.

A 3 Year investment plan, amounting to £280,000, has been identified for additional play and activities provision. Additional weekly play and activities provision plus a full programme of activities in all school holidays will be delivered in 13 areas.

As part of the Action Plan the Council's Play and Facility Officers will also support the Parish and Town Councils to access further funding for play investment through the 'Playful Ideas' Lottery Fund, in which grants of up to £250,000 can be available.

One aim of this strategy is to make best use of allocated Lottery funding increasing the face to face delivery of Play Opportunities and ensuring it is additional to what we already have. However, the Big Lottery Fund will only provide a relatively small contribution to achieving the full Strategy and further resources will need to be secured. It is essential that we maximise partnership opportunities e.g. Section 106 contributions, English Partnerships, Parish Councils and Community Groups, in addition to securing opportunities for Council capital funding. We will also make links with Building Schools for the Future, Children's Centres and Extended Schools.

The Council will work with budget holders and fundraisers to develop long-term maintenance, development and sustainability of local play opportunities, which meet the needs of all children and young people. The Council will ensure that available resources for play are allocated equitably and effectively, supported by the robust criteria developed to justify, prioritise and support development of facilities and provision. The DCMS guide on 'Playing on – sustaining play provision in changing times' will be useful for advice and guidance on sustainability issues and we will also utilise the regional infrastructure for Play.

It is important to note that the Council currently funds a Landscape & Parks Team who is responsible for Parks and Play and Youth Facilities. We also have a Play Development Team (part of the Active Involvement Service) who delivers free Play Provision across the Council. The Council aims to increase play provision and raise the levels of play workers in both outdoor and indoor play settings across the Borough through building local capacity and encouraging volunteering.

## **21 Monitoring, Reviewing and Evaluation Arrangements**

The Children's Play Council is currently developing a small number of strategic indicators. We will consider these indicators as a way of assessment of performance in ensuring the availability of quality facilities for all children's play. They will have potential for use within the culture block of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) and in the Joint Area Reviews.

A Play Steering Group will take responsibility for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the Play Strategy and Play Opportunities Action Plan. The Steering Group consists of:

- Children & Young People's Active Involvement Service.
- Play Development.
- Landscape & Parks.
- Sports & Recreation.
- Extended Schools.
- Community Safety.
- Primary Care Trust.
- Finance Officer.
- Risk Management Officer.

The group will meet quarterly to assess the position on the Plan. The assessment will include:

- Identifying progress against the objectives outlined in the Action Plan.
- Monitoring the risks attached to the Action Plan.
- The views of children, young people and their families and local people.
- The numbers and diversity of users involved.
- Value for money and sustainability.
- Quality of Play Opportunities.
- The amount of additional funding secured.
- Monitoring against relevant national, regional and local targets.

The Steering Group will report annually to the Enjoying and Achieving Subgroup and to the two Play Champions, Lead Cabinet Member for Youth Affairs and Lead Cabinet Member for Leisure & Culture.

Play is also part of the monitoring of the Children & Young People's Plan and has two key judgements within the Joint Area Review (May 2008).

The Strategy will have a comprehensive review in 2010.



Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy  
Play Opportunities Action Plan 2007 – 2010

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
Policy Statement 1 - Improve Opportunities							
1a	Establish a Telford & Wrekin Children's Entitlement to Play Charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research other authorities /charities Entitlement to Play Charters i.e. Play Council</li> <li>Draft BTW Charter</li> <li>Consult on draft Charter with key stakeholders and CYP including families/children with sensory impairments</li> <li>Seek endorsement at CYPSPB</li> </ul>	Ann Mansell  Andy Challenor  Audrey Atkinson and Tracy Hollyhead  Andy Challenor	March 07  April 07  May 07  June 07	Completed Consultation  Distribute poster of Charter across the Council in key locations	Play Team and SIS Budget  £2,000	<b>5.6</b> <b>13.5</b>  Enjoying & Achieving  Making a Positive Contribution
1b	Upgrade existing play and youth facilities where required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agree key principles and methodology to be used for prioritising developments in play and youth facilities</li> </ul>	David Ottley	Jan 07	Agreed at Cabinet on 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 07	Support from Policy Team	<b>7</b>  Enjoying & Achieving

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete gap analysis supported by GIS mapping</li> <li>Confirm priorities plan for development of play and youth facilities</li> <li>Continue to review and assess the adequacy of facilities</li> </ul>	David Ottley  David Ottley  Derek Owen and John Stevens	Feb 07  Feb 07	Completed Maps  Agree at Cabinet on 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 07	Support from Policy Team  Staffing Time  Staffing Time	Making a Positive Contribution
1c	Create new play and youth facilities where appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agree key principles and methodology to be used for prioritising developments in play and youth facilities</li> <li>Confirm priorities plan for development of play and youth facilities</li> <li>Agree critical areas for investment with lottery and Council capital funding</li> <li>Actively secure capital &amp;</li> </ul>	David Ottley  David Ottley  David Ottley  Derek Owen	Jan 07  Feb 07  Feb 07  Ongoing	Agreed at Cabinet on 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 07  Agree at Cabinet on 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 07  Agree at Cabinet on 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 07  Annual Business	Support from Policy Team  Staffing Time  Staffing Time	7  Enjoying & Achieving  Making a Positive Contribution

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		revenue funding for creation of facilities through the planning process  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate external funding opportunities</li> <li>Develop and gain endorsement of principles relating to play opportunities through the LDF</li> </ul>	/John Stevens  Derek Owen /John Stevens  Dave Ottley	Ongoing  LDF timescale	Plan performance  Annual Business Plan performance  Secure favourable agreement within LDF for Play	Staffing Time  Staffing Time  Staffing Time	
1d	Increase the amount of accessible play equipment within play and youth facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply RoSPA and DDA recommendations for each existing site being developed/upgraded</li> <li>All newly provided facilities to have DDA principles applied</li> </ul>	Derek Owen / John Stevens  Derek Owen / John Stevens	Ongoing  Ongoing	Compliance to guidelines  Compliance to guidelines	Staffing Time  Staffing Time	<b>12.8</b>  Staying Safe
1e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compile a list of equipped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a comprehensive audit. Contact external organisations to determine the</li> </ul>	John Stevens	March 2008	Completed Audit of Facilities	Parks & Recreation Budget	<b>7</b>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	play areas provided by English Partnership, Parish Councils and private housing developers to aid the Councils knowledge of where the overall resource is located	extent of currently unidentified play provision					Enjoying & Achieving
1f	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and Increase Current Play and Activities Provision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit current play and activities provision delivered by Play Team and Activities Team</li> <li>Identify gaps in provision and areas that have limited or no free play opportunities</li> <li>Agree critical areas for investment with lottery and Council capital funding</li> </ul>	<p>Audrey Atkinson</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p> <p>Andy Challenor</p>	<p>January 07</p> <p>January 07</p> <p>February</p>	<p>Completed Audit of Provision</p> <p>Action Plan for future development in Play Provision</p> <p>Agree at Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 07</p>	<p>Staffing Time</p> <p>Staffing Time</p> <p>£???</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p> <p>Making a Positive Contribution</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restructure Play and Activities Team to ensure maximum delivery of Play and Activities across the Council</li> <li>Seek to develop and expand positive activities for young people with visual impairments</li> <li>Ensure that partners within the local authority consider existing provisions such as breakfast clubs, out of school/holiday provision – Ofsted registered and unregistered when assessing adequacy</li> </ul>	<p>Andy Challenor</p> <p>Sensory Inclusion Service Tracey Hollyhead</p> <p>Integrated Childcare Services</p> <p>Cheryl Morris</p>	<p>07</p> <p>April 08</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2007</p>	<p>Deliver Restructuring of Team</p> <p>3 occasions annually during school holiday periods</p> <p>Sufficiency Audit and Assessment 2007</p>	<p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p> <p>SIS Budget</p> <p>Family Information Service</p>	
1g	Develop Adventure Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with children about what adventurous activities they</li> </ul>	Audrey Atkinson and	October 07	Recommendations and Action Plan	Play Team Budget	<b>6.19</b>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<p>would like to undertake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a programme of suitable overnight and activity camps</li> <li>Set up a working group to explore issues related to environmental and natural elements play</li> </ul>	<p>Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p>	<p>April 07</p> <p>September 07</p>	<p>for Delivery</p> <p>Participation Rate 46 YP per year</p> <p>Report of recommendations and solutions</p>	<p>Activities Team Budget</p> <p>Costings attached to the report</p>	<p>Making a Positive Contribution</p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>
1h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review future arrangements and funding for the Bridge Play Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convene a multi-agency meeting to review the Scheme and consider ways forward</li> <li>Take recommendations to the Change for Disabled Children Board</li> </ul>	<p>Sarah Mulcuck</p> <p>Sarah Mulcuck</p>	<p>February 07</p> <p>March 07</p>	<p>Proposals agreed</p> <p>Paper accepted by Board</p>	<p>Funding streams to be confirmed</p>	<p><b>9.2</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>
1i	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote play opportunities in schools linking with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead on Section 11 of the Childcare Act 2006 - Assessing Sufficiency (parental demand – v- supply of informal and formal childcare provisions providing</li> </ul>	Cheryl Morris	2007	Sufficiency Assessment Duty and Audit	External Consultants	<p><b>13.7</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	Extended Schools	<p>play opportunities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of toy library and equipment library for older children</li> <li>To ensure relevant guidance information is disseminated to all schools – ‘Skills Active Playwork in Extended School Services’</li> <li>To promote play activities through related extended school literature i.e. Holiday Brochures</li> <li>Support schools to develop after school play provisions</li> <li>Identify relevant funding to promote and develop play opportunities within extended schools</li> </ul>	<p>Wendy Harris</p> <p>Paul Wiseman</p> <p>Paul Wiseman</p> <p>Paul Wiseman</p> <p>Paul Wiseman and Wendy Harris</p> <p>Gillian</p>	<p>April 2007</p> <p>December 07</p> <p>June 07</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing Review</p>	<p>Progress Report</p> <p>All schools have access to the guidance</p> <p>Distributed to all CYP</p> <p>Play provision in 50% of schools</p> <p>External funding secured</p> <p>Training Directory</p>	<p>Integrated Childcare Services Budget Extended Schools Budget</p> <p>£8000 from Extended Learning</p> <p>Workforce Develop-</p>	Economic Well-Being

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure adequate training is available to those running after school clubs, holiday clubs and breakfast clubs</li> </ul>	Sanderson and Helen Bowes			ment	
Policy Statement 2 – Work with Planners							
2a	Input into the Local Development Framework and its supplement documents and policies relating to quantity/quality of play/recreational facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively contribute to the LDF programme</li> </ul>	David Ottley	Ongoing	Completion of LDF policy	Staffing Time	<b>8</b> <b>13.3</b> Enjoying & Achieving
2b	Investigate the possibilities of Section 106 funding being utilised for supervised play activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly comment upon the weekly planning application list</li> <li>Actively contribute to large scale development proposals</li> </ul>	David Ottley	January 2008	Confirmation of practicality	Staffing Time	<b>8</b> Enjoying & Achieving
2c	Work with local planning to ensure that new developments meet the “play” needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly comment upon the weekly planning application list</li> <li>Actively contribute to large scale</li> </ul>	Derek Owen Derek Owen	Weekly Ongoing			<b>8</b> <b>12.8</b> Enjoying &



Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	of children and young people	development proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure planning reflect DDA/accessibility requirements</li> </ul>	Derek Owen	Ongoing			Achieving
2d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute towards the completion of a Green Space Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To link and reinforce policies within the LDF and this strategy relating to the quantity/quality of recreational facilities</li> </ul>	David Ottley / Derek Owen	TBC	Completion of Strategy	Staffing Time	<b>6.28</b> Enjoying & Achieving
Policy Statement 3 – Consult and Engage							
3a	When necessary, consult on Play Opportunities Issues with a range of children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation through Children's Groups (7 across the Council)</li> <li>Access 2 Activities for Disabled Children - Children and Young People's Steering Group</li> </ul>	Vanessa Postle  Siobhan Lloyd	When required  When required	Recommendations and Solutions from Children  Recommendations and Solutions from Children	Staffing Time  Staffing Time	Making a Positive Contribution
3b	Carry out monitoring and evaluation of Play Opportunities by children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit and train a group of children and young people as evaluators</li> <li>Develop and deliver a programme of Evaluations for a</li> </ul>	Vanessa Postle  Vanessa Postle	March 08  May – December 08	8 CYP Evaluators  Individual reports for each provision	Staffing Time  Play and Activities Budget	

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		range of Play Opportunities					
3c	Work in partnership with children and young people, parent/carers and agencies to identify and overcome barriers that prevent children and young people from accessing and engaging in play opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult in imaginative and original ways with children and young people, specifically those not accessing existing opportunities, to identify real and perceived barriers</li> <li>Organise opportunities for parents and carers to articulate their concerns and barriers and find solutions</li> <li>Create links and offer support to overcome barriers for CYP with sensory impairments</li> <li>Work with out of school care providers, attending out of</li> </ul>	<p>Audrey Atkinson /Siobhan Lloyd</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson /Siobhan Lloyd</p> <p>Sensory Inclusion Service</p> <p>Wendy Harris</p>	<p>May to July 07 and September to December 07</p> <p>May to July 07 and September to December 07</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>2 sessions with CWD in special schools 2 sessions in mainstream provision</p> <p>2 open sessions to parents/carers of CWD</p> <p>SIS Client Survey completed April 07 to inform Tracey Hollyhead's role</p> <p>Minutes of Out of School Network</p>	<p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p> <p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p> <p>SIS Budget</p> <p>ICS Budget</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>5.4</b> <b>14</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		school network meetings held by childcare development mentors  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write a report based on recommendations and solutions for overcoming barriers to play</li> </ul>	and Helen Stanley  Audrey Atkinson	December 07	Meetings  Report presented to the Enjoying & Achieving Subgroup	Costings attached to the Report	
3d	Work in partnership with children and young people in the development of their new play facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively consult with children &amp; young people and local residents on their choice of design</li> <li>Engage children &amp; young people to take a lead in managing projects</li> </ul>	John Stevens and Derek Owen	On each new site.			<b>14</b> Making a Positive Contribution
3e	Raise the profile of Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devise and distribute an information booklet on 'What is Good Play'</li> <li>Deliver School Training</li> <li>Organise play roadshows offering play activities and information for adults and children around play</li> </ul>	Audrey Atkinson  Audrey Atkinson	January 08  October 07	Distributed across Council  4 schools per year  3 roadshows per year	Play Team Budget  Play Team Budget  Play Team Budget	<b>1</b> Making a Positive Contribution

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote play opportunities provided within out of school childcare provisions</li> <li>Create a moveable Play Opportunities display</li> <li>Ensure all publicity and information is accurate and accessible to all</li> <li>Ensure 'Families First' Information Service database is current and up to date to ensure appropriate signposting to play opportunities within registered and unregistered provisions</li> </ul>	<p>Childcare Development Mentors</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson and Family Information Service</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>February 07 and Ongoing</p>	<p>8 venues per year</p> <p>Offer a range of publicity materials in a variety of languages and mediums</p> <p>Check every two months</p>	<p>ICS Budget</p> <p>Play Team Budget</p> <p>Play Team Budget</p>	

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
3f	Encourage parents and carers to develop informal play opportunities for their children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver play activity workshops for parents, grandparents and carers with their children to play and have fun together (linking with the Family Learning Team)</li> <li>Use existing children centres as a venue for activity workshops / links with existing out of school care providers on and off school sites</li> </ul>	<p>Audrey Atkinson and Carol McClusker</p> <p>Wendy Harris and Helen Stanley</p>	<p>September 07</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>2 sessions per quarter</p> <p>Minutes of Children Centres Network meetings</p>	<p>Family Learning Team Budget</p> <p>ICS Budget</p>	9 Enjoying & Achieving
Policy Statement 4 - Promote Enjoyment, Health and Physical Activity							
4a	Celebrate "childhood" through fun days and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link with Parish and Town Councils to support their local fun days</li> <li>Promote National Play Day</li> </ul>	<p>Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p>	<p>April 07</p> <p>Every August</p>	<p>Deliver 4 per year</p> <p>Article in Insight and Article in Integrated Childcare Services</p>	<p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p> <p>Active Involvement Service Budget</p>	9 Enjoying & Achieving

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Time scale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide play facility opening events to promote children's play</li> </ul>	Sport & Active Recreation	Ongoing	Newsletter  Event held on each new significant play facility development	Staffing Time	
4b	Ensure children have a balance of play opportunities that offer them an element of risk whilst keeping them safe from harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply RoSPA DDA recommendations for each existing site being developed/upgraded, but ensure that the design of the provision is challenging where appropriate</li> <li>Provide safe but challenging positive activities for those young people requiring more demanding play opportunities</li> <li>Deliver training to play workers and activity workers on the importance of risk and challenge. Include practical ideas</li> <li>Develop and diversify the Street</li> </ul>	John Stevens/ Derek Owen   Vanessa Postle   Vanessa Postle   Joe Bates	Ongoing   April 07   February 08   Ongoing	   Deliver 4 residential camps per year.   All staff attend training   Street Sport	Staffing Time   Activities Team Budget   Play and Activities Team Budget   Existing budget and	<b>5.5</b>  Staying Safe  Enjoying & Achieving  Staying Safe  Enjoying & Achieving

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Time scale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		Sport Programme to continue to offer targeted sport and activities including wheeled sport			Business Plan Review April 07	external sources of funding	
4c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support children's wider health issues through Play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playschemes and Junior Activities Clubs to promote Healthy Eating i.e. cooking and tasting sessions. –</li> <li>Using Health Eating Guidance (PCT/Integrated Childcare Services) train Play workers to deliver sessions on healthy eating</li> </ul>	Vanessa Postle and Audrey Atkinson  Kate Comaish	January 07  June 07	20 sessions per year  Delivered in summer induction training	Play and Activities Team Budget  ICS and PCT Budget	<b>12.5</b> <b>12.7</b> Promoting Health
4d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link with Health Promotions to promote Sun Safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To incorporate a sun safety awareness briefing within the existing training programme for play leaders</li> <li>To deliver a series of planned road shows during week 1 of the summer play schemes that are fun and interactive promoting the key messages for sun safety</li> </ul>	Emma Vaughan and Bally Kaur  Outreach Health Information Assistants	July 07, 08, 09  July 07, 08, 09	Briefing Delivered  Delivered at each playscheme	PCT Staffing Time  PCT Staffing Time	<b>12.5</b> <b>12.7</b> Promoting Health

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
4e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through Play Encourage children to meet the recommended levels of physical activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To explore opportunities to extend the existing Busy Breaks training and resources to include play opportunity providers. community play scheme provision (Busy Breaks is currently a resource used by education to encourage active play during break time)</li> <li>To raise awareness of YW8 Project and to encourage staff whom have concerns for children who are overweight for their height to make contact with the service for support</li> <li>Raise awareness of “Topstart” &amp; “Kids Active” physical programmes to play workers and assistants in play provisions</li> </ul>	<p>Vicki Pike Physical Activity Coordinator</p> <p>Vicki Pike and Helen Pittson</p> <p>Wendy Harris and Helen Stanley</p>	<p>April 08</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Deliver training to 20 staff</p> <p>Increase participation to the YW8 Project</p> <p>Delivered in summer induction training</p>	<p>PCT Staffing Time</p> <p>PCT Staffing Time</p> <p>ICS Budget</p>	<p><b>12.5</b> <b>12.7</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p> <p>Promoting Health</p>



Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
Policy Statement 5 - Provide Playwork Training							
5a	Support the training and development needs of Play Workers, Activity Workers and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver a planned programme of regular training sessions</li> <li>Provide additional training for play workers and activity workers on how to facilitate environmental and natural elements play</li> <li>Deliver Making Choices Course in partnership with Children's Workforce Development Team</li> </ul>	<p>Audrey Atkinson and Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson and Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p>	<p>Annually</p> <p>March 08</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Include First Aid, Child Protection, Practical Ideas, Risk &amp; Challenge, Disability Awareness</p> <p>2 training sessions per year</p> <p>Deliver 2 per year</p>	<p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p> <p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p>	<p><b>11.5</b> <b>11.6</b></p> <p>Economic Wellbeing</p>
5b	Raise the level of play workers in outdoor and indoor play settings through building local capacity and encouraging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To plan to advertise locally and using original and accessible methods to encourage local people to become involved in working with children and</li> </ul>	Audrey Atkinson and Vanessa Postle	November 07	Deliver 4 open access information sessions per year	Play and Activities Team Budget	<p><b>14</b> <b>17</b></p> <p>Economic Wellbeing</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	volunteering	young people					
Policy Statement 6 – Engage in Partnerships							
6a	Enhance the capacity of the Council's capital and revenue funding for children's play by securing additional resources and external funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help secure external funding for out of school provision</li> <li>Identify play opportunities in new developments in Children Centre Services</li> </ul>	<p>Pam Marshall</p> <p>Allison Bill</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Funding secured</p> <p>Link with Children Centre Strategy</p>	<p>ICS Budget</p> <p>ICS Budget</p>	<p><b>17</b> Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>
6b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link with local, regional and national organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work in partnership with NCB</li> <li>Attended regional Play meetings</li> <li>Attend funding workshops/briefings and determine strategy for supporting bids for resources from local external agencies and groups</li> </ul>	<p>Andy Challenor</p> <p>Andy Challenor and Dave Ottley</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 2007</p>		<p>Staffing Time</p> <p>Staffing Time</p>	<p><b>12.9</b> Making a Positive Contribution</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
6c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Parish and Town Councils to increase the level of Play Opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Playful Ideas Lottery Funding</li> <li>Deliver a presentation at the Parish Clerks Meeting on Playful Ideas</li> <li>Work with Parish and Town Councils to apply for funding</li> </ul>	Andy Challenor and David Ottley and Audrey Atkinson	April 07  May 07  May to December 07	  Successful Applications	Staffing Time  Staffing Time  Staffing Time	<b>14 17</b>  Making a Positive Contribution  Enjoying & Achieving
Policy Statement 7 – Equality and Social Inclusion							
7a	Ensure play spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to CYP with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Link Project which supports CYP to access play and leisure services</li> <li>Deliver after school clubs at Haughton, Southall and the Bridge Schools</li> <li>Deliver full programme of activities in school holidays</li> <li>Fully involve CYP in the</li> </ul>	Siobhan Lloyd  Siobhan Lloyd  Siobhan Lloyd	Ongoing  September 06 Bridget April 07  September 06  January	Support 21 CYP per year  Successful continuation of clubs  Increase in participation rates  Access 2	Access 2 Activities Budget  Access 2 Activities Budget  Access 2 Activities Budget  Access 2	<b>9.3 10</b>  Enjoying & Achieving  Making a Positive Contribution

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<p>planning, delivery and evaluation of play opportunities for CWD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to promote existing mainstream play opportunities and services to CWD and families and support in making appropriate links</li> <li>Link with voluntary and community groups working with CWD</li> <li>Explore the use of the KIDS local authority Inclusion Checklist</li> <li>Raise awareness of and advise on the needs of CYP with hearing and visual impairments when participating in play</li> </ul>	<p>Siobhan Lloyd</p> <p>Siobhan Lloyd</p> <p>Siobhan Lloyd</p> <p>Sensory Inclusion Service</p> <p>Siobhan Lloyd and Tracey</p>	<p>07</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 06</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 06</p>	<p>Activities CYP Steering Group</p> <p>Increase of CWD in mainstream provision</p> <p>Deliver 3 joint activities per year</p> <p>Quality Assurance Check on Supervised Play</p> <p>Annual INSET delivered to providers by SIS. Bespoke access facilitated according to client need</p>	<p>Activities Budget</p> <p>Access 2 Activities Budget</p> <p>Staffing Time</p> <p>SIS Budget</p> <p>Access 2 Activities Budget</p> <p>£1,500</p>	

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue Disability Awareness Training</li> <li>Produce a series of posters highlighting positive images of local CYP with disabilities in play, leisure and sport</li> <li>Develop a kitemark system which indicates accessibility of play provision for families and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	Hollyhead  Siobhan Lloyd and Every Day Swim Project  Siobhan Lloyd	May 07  September 08	Deliver 6 sessions per year in Play and Activity Sessions  Posters in relevant venues across the Council  Booklet distributed to families and available in relevant venues	£3,000	
7b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to fund and support</li> </ul>	Audrey	Ongoing	PCT continued	PCT	9.6

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Time scale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to Black and Minority Ethnic CYP	<p>the Urban Girlz project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish BME girls group in Hadley</li> <li>Review and relaunch the Saturday Club in College/Arleston</li> </ul>	<p>Atkinson and Vicki Pike</p> <p>Vicki Pike</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson</p>	<p>January 07</p> <p>May 07</p>	<p>funding</p> <p>Increase in membership of BME C &amp;YP</p> <p>Increase in membership of BME C &amp;YP</p>	<p>Budget and Staffing Time</p> <p>PCT Budget and Staffing Time</p> <p>Play Team Budget</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>
7c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure play spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to LAC &amp;YP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver a range of different after school groups in partnership with PCT and Arts Team</li> <li>Deliver a full programme of holiday activities for LAC&amp;YP</li> <li>Establish appropriate provision for pre-school LAC</li> <li>Create and implement new Leisure &amp; Fun Plans for all</li> </ul>	<p>Jenny Cockcroft</p> <p>Jenny Cockcroft</p> <p>Jenny Cockcroft</p> <p>Jenny Cockcroft</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>April 07</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Increase in participation rates</p> <p>Increase in participation rates</p> <p>Deliver a pilot project</p> <p>To have a plan with a review</p>	<p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p>	<p><b>9.4</b></p> <p><b>10</b></p> <p>Enjoying &amp; Achieving</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
		<p>LAC&amp;YP to identify need and real and perceived barriers to access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to promote existing mainstream play opportunities and services to LAC and Carers and support in making appropriate links</li> <li>Create and implement training in partnership with LAC Therapeutic Services about importance of play specifically for LAC and Carers and related professionals</li> </ul>	<p>Jenny Cockcroft</p> <p>Jenny Cockcroft and Sally Seymour</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 07</p>	<p>process for every LAC&amp;YP</p> <p>Increase of LAC in mainstream provision</p> <p>2 Training Sessions per Year</p>	<p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Fun Budget</p>	
7d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Play and Activity Workers are representative of the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advertise locally, using original and accessible methods to encourage local people to apply for vacancies</li> </ul>	Vanessa Postle and Audrey Atkinson	During Vacancies	Increase in local people applying for posts	Play and Activities Team Budget	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Economic Wellbeing</p>

Policy No.	Target	Activity	Lead	Timescale	Milestone	Resources	Link to Play Strategy and ECM
	s they work in						
Policy Statement 8 - Increase Community Safety							
8a	Work in partnership with agencies to ensure that children and young people are protected from all forms of bullying and abuse whilst engaged in play opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with the Anti Bullying Task Group to establish in non schools settings a benchmark level of bullying and discrimination</li> <li>Provide anti bullying and positive behaviour training to play and activity workers</li> </ul>	<p>Audrey Atkinson and Vanessa Postle</p> <p>Audrey Atkinson and Vanessa Postle</p>	<p>September 07</p> <p>.</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Ensure all incidents are recorded and dealt with satisfactorily</p> <p>Part of the annual training programme</p>	<p>Staffing Time</p> <p>Play and Activities Team Budget</p>	<p><b>8.5</b></p> <p><b>13.5</b></p> <p>Staying Safe</p>



## APPENDIX 2

### Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Existing Equipped Play and Youth Facilities

#### 10 Year Development Plan

Key to terms used in tables:

LAP- Local Area of Play

MUGA- Multi Use Games

Area

LEAP- Local Equipped Area for Play

BMX- Bicycle Motorcross

Track

NEAP- Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play

SHELTER- Youth

Shelter

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP- NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
Donnington DO1	North	Broadoaks – LEAP (play area,muga, shelter)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Donnington DO2	North	Donnington Rec – NEAP (play area, bmx, shelter, roller hockey/basket ball/tennis)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Hadley & Leegomery HAL3	North	Hurleybrook Way – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be re-developed
Hadley & Leegomery HAL2	North	End Haybridge Av, Hadley – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Hadley & Leegomery HAL4	North	Whimbrel Close – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Hadley & Leegomery HAL1	North	Hadley Rec (Learning Village) – NEAP (under construction)	NEAP – site to be retained
Hadley & Leegomery HAL7	North	Off Caldera Road, Hadley – LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	NEAP – site to be developed
Hadley & Leegomery HAL6	North	Off Warwick Way – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be developed
Hadley & Leegomery HAL5	North	Adj. Millstream Way – NEAP (play area, skate park, muga, shelter, bmx)	NEAP – site to be retained
Ketley & Oakengates KO4	North	Off 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue – LEAP (play area, muga)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Priorslee PR1	North	Off Teece Drive – LEAP (play area, muga)	NEAP – site to be refurbished
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench WT2	North	Adj. Comm. Centre, Gibbons Road – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be upgraded/ developed

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP- NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
Ketley & Oakengates KO1	North	Off Wedgewood Cr, Ketley – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Ketley & Oakengates KO5	North	Hartshill Park – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Ketley & Oakengates KO7	North	Wombridge Skate Bowl – NEAP (play area, bmx, shelter, skate bowl, basket ball post	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Priorslee PR2	North	Priorslee Flash – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be developed
Priorslee PR3	North	St Georges Rec – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
St. Georges SG1	North	Freeston Avenue – LEAP (play area, muga)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench WT4	North	Parrots Beak, off Wombridge Road – LAP (play area)	Poss.NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench WT1	North	Stratford Park – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be upgraded/ developed
Ketley & Oakengates KO2	North	Ketley Rec Playing Field – LEAP (to be constructed)	LEAP – site to be retained
Ketley & Oakengates KO3	North	Off Bank Way, Ketley – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be developed
Ketley & Oakengates KO6	North	Newlands Road – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
St. Georges SG2	North	Gower Street – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench WT5	North	Off Capewell Road – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Muxton MX1	North	Off Saltwells Drive – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Muxton MX2	North	Sutherland Gate, Pembridge Close – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Muxton MX3	North	Adj. Lifelong Learning Centre – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Apley Castle AC1	North	Adj. Leegomery CC – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Brookside BR2	Central	Brindleyford – LEAP (play area, muga, shelters)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Malinslee ML1	Central	Prince Edward Cr – LEAP (play area, kick about area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Malinslee	Central	Adj. Shropshire Lad Pub	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP- NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
ML2		– LEAP (play area, shelter, kick about area)	
Malinslee ML3	Central	Spout Way – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Brookside BR1	Central	Beaconsfield – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	NEAP – site to be retained
Brookside BR3	Central	Beckbury Drive – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Brookside BR4	Central	Burford – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Dawley Magna DM10	Central	Webb Youth Centre – LAP (muga)	LAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM9	Central	Rednal Fields – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Malinslee ML4	Central	Lancaster Avenue – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
The Nedge TN1	Central	Daddlebrook – LAP (play area, field goals, bmx, kick about area with basket ball posts)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
The Nedge SO1	Central	Off Brookside roundabout – LAP (bmx, shelter)	LAP – site to be refurbished
The Nedge TN12	Central	Cornbrook – LAP play area)	LEAP – site to be developed
Lawley & Overdale LO2	Central	Adj. Poachers Pocket – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM5	Central	Blews Hill Court – LEAP (play area, field goals)	LEAP – site to be retained
Dawley Magna DM8	Central	Horsehay Field – LEAP (play area, field goals)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM1	Central	Pageant Dr – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Dawley Magna DM2	Central	Pageant Dr – LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM3	Central	Pageant Dr – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM4	Central	Pageant Dr – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Dawley Magna DM7	Central	Off Portley Road (play area, field goals)	LEAP – site to be retained
*Malinslee ML5	Central	Telford Town Park – LEAP (play areas)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed *Town Park is a Borough wide facility and should be seen in isolation regarding its requirements/facilities to serve Borough residents/children
The Nedge TN2	Central	Dallamoor – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP-NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
The Nedge TN3	Central	Downmead – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
The Nedge TN4	Central	Dudmaston – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
The Nedge TN5	Central	Doddington – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
The Nedge TN6	Central	Brands Farm Way – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
The Nedge TN8	Central	Boulton Grange – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
The Nedge TN9	Central	Dodmoor Grange – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Lawley & Overdale LO1	Central	Princes End – LAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Lawley & Overdale LO4	Central	Off The Rock – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Lawley & Overdale LO3	Central	Overdale PF – LAP (play area, muga, shelter, bmx)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dawley Magna DM6	Central	Dawley Park – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Horsehay & Lightmoor HOL1	Central	Shirefields Way – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
The Nedge TN7	Central	Randlay Centre – LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	NEAP – site to be developed
The Nedge TN11	Central	Culmington – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	NEAP – site to be retained
Horsehay & Lightmoor HOL2	Central	Lawley PF – LAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Woodside WS1	South	Opp. Abraham Darby School – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Woodside WS2	South	Off Woodside Avenue, Opp. Weybridge (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Woodside WS4	South	End of Park Lane, Woodside – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Woodside WS3	South	Adj. Spar Shop, Woodside – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Cuckoo Oak CO1	South	Hills Lane Dr – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, bmx)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Cuckoo Oak CO2	South	Sutton Park, Sutton Hill – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP- NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
Cuckoo Oak CO3	South	Smallwood – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Cuckoo Oak CO4	South	Smallwood – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be retained
Cuckoo Oak CO5	South	Sutton Hill centre – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	NEAP – site to be retained
Cuckoo Oak MA4	South	Prince Street – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Madeley MA1	South	Tweedale Cres – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Madeley MA2	South	Upper Road – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Madeley MA3	South	Coronation Cres – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Ironbridge IB1	South	Sunnyside – LEAP (play area, field goal)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Ironbridge IB2	South	Dale End Park – LAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Ironbridge IB3	South	Cherry Tree Hill – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Arleston AR1	Wellington	Windsor Road – LAP (play area, muga, shelter)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Arleston AR2	Wellington	Off John Broad Avenue – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Arleston AR3	Wellington	Watling CC – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Shawbirch SB1	Wellington	Brockwood Copse – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Wrockwardine WR1	Wellington	Pemberton Rd – NEAP (play area, muga, bicycle trail)	NEAP – site to be retained
Wrockwardine WR2	Wellington	Adj. Village Hall, Roddington – LAP (play area)	LEAP - site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Wrockwardine WR3	Wellington	Off Meadow Drive, Walcott – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
Park PK1	Wellington	Deer Park road – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Park PK2	Wellington	Crescent Rd PF – LEAP (play area, field goals)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Dothill DH1	Wellington	End of Severn Dr – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Ercall ER1	Wellington	Bowring Park – LEAP (play area, field goals)	NEAP – site to be refurbished/ developed
Ercall ER2	Wellington	Wrekin Pub, Union Rd – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/ upgraded
College CG1	Wellington	End of Victoria Av – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
College CG2	Wellington	Off Millfields Rd – LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	LEAP – site to be refurbished

<b>WARD &amp; SITE REFERENCE</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP- NORTH</b>	<b>CURRENT PROVISION</b>	<b>GAP ANALYSIS POTENTIAL LEVEL OF PROVISION (Subject to securing capital and revenue funding)</b>
Ercall Magna EM1	Wellington	Off Shrewsbury Rd, High Ercall – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Ercall Magna EM3	Wellington	Off Manor Place, Crudgington – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Ercall Magna EM4	Wellington	Rear of Old Smithy, Great Bolas – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Haygate HG1	Wellington	Grooms Alley – NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, bmx)	NEAP – site to be retained
Ercall Magna EM2	Wellington	Off Marlebrook Way, Roden – LEAP (play area, field goals)	LEAP – site to be retained
Edgmond ED1	Newport	Off Shrewsbury Road, Edgmond – LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Edgmond ED2	Newport	Off Maslan Crescent, Tibberton – LEAP (play area, basket ball posts)	LEAP – site to be refurbished
Newport North SO2	Newport	Beechfields Way – LAP (muga, shelter)	LAP – site to be retained
Newport North NN2	Newport	Newport Showground – LEAP (play area, goal end)	LEAP – site to be retained
Newport East NE2	Newport	Off Daniels Cross – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Newport East NE1	Newport	Norbroom Park – LEAP (play area, bmx, field goals)	NEAP – site to be developed
Newport South NS1	Newport	Shukers Field – LAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be developed
Newport West NW1	Newport	Gravelly Drive – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Newport West NW2	Newport	Wrekin Av – LAP (play area)	LAP – site to be refurbished
Church Aston & Lilleshall CL1	Newport	Off Wallshead Way – LEAP (play area)	NEAP – site to be developed
Church Aston & Lilleshall CL2	Newport	Adj. Lilleshall Primary School – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be retained
Newport North NN1	Newport	Broomfield Road – LAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished/upgraded
Newport East NE3	Newport	Victoria Park, off Water Lane – LEAP (play area)	LEAP – site to be refurbished

The facilities listed exclude open spaces, other areas not officially recognised by NPFA as LAPS, LEAPS or NEAPS and unauthorised free play areas.

## APPENDIX 4

### Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Equipped Play and Youth Facilities Top 10 Ranked Locations For Play

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CLUSTER GROUP	CURRENT PROVISION	JUSTIFICATION FOR PLAY AREA INVESTMENT
Brookside BR1	Central	Beaconsfield NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	Play area approx 8-10 years old. Youth provision is new and partnership was formed with parish to provide new youth facility. Parish undertake inspections at no cost to us. No significant investment required
Woodside WS4	South	End of Park Lane NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	New play area recently provided behind community building. Youth facilities to be removed soon and replaced as part of Woodside regeneration. No investment should be required from us
Brookside BR4	Central	Burford LAP (play area)	Small lap site to be retained. Difficult to expand due to proximity issues. Current equipment is acceptable
Brookside BR2	Central	Brindleyford LEAP (play area, muga, shelters)	Facilities to be removed as part of a new housing development. Play area will be replaced within the development or off site. No investment required
The Nedge TN8	Central	Boulton Grange LAP (play area)	Site in good condition. No investment required
Donnington DO2	North	Donnington Rec NEAP (play area, bmx, shelter, roller hockey/basketball/tennis)	Equipment in very poor condition (over 15 years old). However, the doctors surgery planning application should pay for replacement facilities. So no further investment should be required
Cuckoo Oak CO2	South	Sutton Park LEAP (play area)	Play area is a little dated (over 15 years old) and would benefit from refurbishment. Approx. 25K required. However, this site is not seen as a high priority given good LEAP and NEAP coverage in this area
<b>Hadley &amp; Leegomery HAL3</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>Hurleybrook Way LAP (play area)</b>	<b>Play equipment over 20 years old and very poor, investment required.</b>
The Nedge TN11	Central	Culmington NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	All facilities are new and were provided in partnership with the Parish. No further investment is required
Woodside WS3	South	Adj. Spar shop LEAP (play area)	Site recently refurbished. No further investment required

## APPENDIX 5

### Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Equipped Play and Youth Facilities Top 10 Ranked Locations For Play by Cluster

#### Telford North

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CURRENT PROVISION	INFORMATION
Donnington DO2	Donnington Rec, off School Rd NEAP (play area, bmx, shelter, roller hockey/bball/tennis)	Equipment in very poor condition (over 15 years old). However, Doctors surgery planning application should pay for replacement facilities. So no further investment should be required
<b>Hadley &amp; Leegomery HAL3</b>	<b>Hurleybrook Way LAP (play area)</b>	<b>Play eqpt. over 20 years old and very poor. Residents want new play area and a tarmac area turning into grass with a 5 a side post to create new LEAP. Priority recommended</b>
Hadley & Leegomery HAL4	Whimbrel Close LEAP (play area)	Play area in need of refurbishment at a cost of approx. 25K to upgrade LEAP. Also the old kick about area and bmx track need to be removed at some stage. However, this site is not included as a location for investment given that the adj. Millstream Way facilities has now been provided (play area, a new muga, skate park and bmx track) Approx. 8K to remove old facilities
Hadley & Leegomery HAL5	Adj. Millstream Way, opp. Aintree Close NEAP (play area, skate park, muga, shelter, bmx)	Site in good condition and no further investment is required
Apley Castle AC1	Adj. Leegomery CC, off Leegate avenue LEAP (play area)	Site in relatively poor condition and in need of refurbishment at an approx. cost of 25K to upgrade LEAP. S106 monies are likely to be available toward this project via proposed nearby devt.
Muxton MX3	Adj. Lifelong Learning Centre, off St. Matthews Road LEAP (play area)	Site in good condition and no further investment required
<b>Wrockwardine Wood &amp; Trench WT2</b>	<b>Adj. Community Centre, off Gibbons/Trench Road LAP (play area)</b>	<b>Poor play area – virtually no equipment left. Land is currently leased. Priority recommended. Approx. 45K required to create a new LEAP</b>
Ketley & Oakengates KO3	Ketley PF, off Bank Way LEAP (play area, field goals)	Have been recent football pitch improvements and new changing room facilities provided at this site to complement the LEAP
Ketley & Oakengates KO1	Off Wedgewood Crescent LEAP (play area)	Old and tired site in need of refurbishment. Approx. 30K required to upgrade LEAP
Wrockwardine wood & Trench WT1	Stratford Park LEAP (play area)	Site in need of minor upgrading. However, if the Comm. Centre site is developed then this area would also be a part of the CC play area catchment. Approx. 25K required to upgrade LEAP

#### Telford Central

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CURRENT PROVISION	INFORMATION
Brookside BR1	Beaconsfield, adj. Primary school NEAP (play area, muga, shelter, skate park)	Play area approx 8-10 years old. Youth provision is new and partnership was formed with parish to provide new youth facility. Parish undertake inspections at no cost to us. No significant investment required
Brookside	Burford	Equipment is a little dated yet satisfactory for



BR4	LAP (Play area)	doorstep provision. No further investment required at this time
Brookside BR2	Brindleyford LEAP (play area, muga, 2 shelters)	Facilities to be removed as part of a new housing development. Play area will be replaced within the new development or off site facility to be provided
The Nedge TN8	Boulton Grange LAP (play area)	Site recently upgraded. No further investment required
The Nedge TN11	, Culmington NEAP (play area, skate park, muga, shelter)	All facilities are new and were provided in partnership with the Parish. No further investment is required
Brookside BR3	, Beckbury Drive LAP (play area)	Site recently upgraded. No further investment required
The Nedge TN12	Cornbrook LAP (play area)	Site requires upgrading. However area is served by new NEAP at nearby Culmington. Approx. 35K required to provide a LEAP
Dawley Magna DM3	Pageant Drive LAP (play area)	Site requires upgrading. Proposed created NEAP would serve this area. Approx. 35K required to provide a new LEAP
<b>Dawley Magna DM2</b>	<b>Pageant Drive LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)</b>	<b>Site requires a replacement muga and some form of wheeled facility to create the NEAP. Priority recommended.</b>
Malinslee ML5	Town Park, off St. Quentins Gate (play areas)	Kompan wetpour area in need of replacement due to its age and high usage. Also no youth provision. Serves a Borough wide catchment. Approx. 200K required to replace play area

## Telford South

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CURRENT PROVISION	INFORMATION
Woodside WS4	End of Park Lane NEAP (play area, skate park, muga, shelter)	New play area recently provided behind community building. Youth facilities to be removed soon and replaced as part of Woodside regeneration. No investment should be required from us
Cuckoo Oak CO5	Sutton Hill Centre, off Southgate (through alley way) NEAP (play area, skate park, muga, shelter)	Facilities in fairly good condition (approx. 5 years old). No further investment should be required at this time
Woodside WS3	Adj. Spar shop, off Waverley LEAP (play area)	Site recently refurbished. No further investment required
<b>Woodside WS1</b>	<b>Opp. Abraham Darby school, adj. 71, Westbourne LEAP (play area)</b>	<b>Poor quality site with dated equipment and maintenance/repair issues. A total refurbishment for the LEAP is needed. Priority recommended</b>
Cuckoo Oak CO3	Smallwood LEAP (play area)	Site approximately 10 years old and in need of a refurbishment/upgrade. Approx. 25K required to refurbish LEAP. However provision in the area is currently good.
Cuckoo Oak CO4	Smallwood LAP (play area)	Very small doorstep site with no room to expand. Recently upgraded with new safe surface and a springy animal. No further investment required
<b>Cuckoo Oak CO1</b>	<b>Hills Lane, Rear of 108, Hills Lane Drive NEAP (play area, muga, bmx)</b>	<b>Poor site in need of major refurbishment. Also, constantly requiring maintenance and repair work. Priority recommended. Approx. 150K required to refurbish NEAP</b>
Madeley MA2	Upper Road LEAP (play area)	Play area in need of minor upgrade. However, no youth facilities are currently provided. Approx. 130K required to provide new NEAP
Madeley MA1	Tweedale Crescent LAP (play area)	Site in need of upgrading to full LEAP. Approx 30K required
Madeley MA3	Coronation Crescent LAP (play area)	Small localised play area. Only minor refurbishment needed. Approx. 15-20k required to refurbish LAP

## Wellington

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CURRENT PROVISION	INFORMATION
Arleston AR3	Watling CC, off St. Giles Close LEAP (play area)	Site in fairly good condition and currently no additional funding is required
Shawbirch SB1	Brockwood Copse LEAP (play area)	Site relatively new and in very good condition. No investment required.
Arleston AR2	Off John Broad Avenue LEAP (play area)	Site in reasonable condition but would benefit from a refurbishment. Approx. cost 20k to refurbish LEAP. However, if a NEAP is provided shortly at Windsor Road, then this area will also be served by that facility
Dothill DH1	End of Severn Drive LEAP (play area)	Play area in reasonably good condition. Youth provision required in the vicinity to complete the NEAP. A muga should be provided through a S106 relating to the re-development of the nearby flats
Park PK1	Deer Park Road LEAP (play area)	Play area in relatively poor condition and in need of refurbishment. Approx. 25K required to refurbish LEAP. However, if NEAP is provided shortly at end of Severn Drive, then this area will also be served by that facility
College CG2	Off Millfields Road LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	Play area in good condition. Also shelter is ok. However, old style muga could be programmed to be replaced at a later date. Approx. cost 40K to refurbish LEAP
<b>Arleston AR1</b>	<b>Windsor Road LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)</b>	<b>New muga and shelter but play area is very poor and needs totally replacing. Wheeled provision also required to create NEAP. Approx. Priority recommended</b>
Ercall ER2	Rear of Wrekin Pub, off Union Road LEAP (play area)	Play area in need of minor upgrade. Approx. 20K required to upgrade LEAP
Park PK2	Crescent Road PF LEAP (play area)	Play area in need of upgrade and youth facilities required. Approx. 150K required to create NEAP
Ercall ER1	Bowring Park LEAP (play area)	Play area in need of upgrade and no dedicated youth facilities are yet provided. Approx. 100K required. However, 25K S106 money is currently attached to this site

## Newport

WARD & SITE REFERENCE	CURRENT PROVISION	INFORMATION
<b>Newport East NE1</b>	<b>Norbroom Park, end of Vineyard Road LEAP (play area, bmx, field goals)</b>	<b>Play area and bmx in good condition. Requests for a skate park and a MUGA for this location (by Parish and residents) to create full NEAP. Priority recommended</b>
Newport East NE3	Victoria Park, off Water Lane LEAP (play area)	Play area in decline. Refurbishment required at a cost of approx. 35K to refurbish LEAP. However, should Norbroom Park NEAP be completed, then this location will also part fall within the NEAP catchment area
Newport North DO3	Beechfields Way LAP (muga)	Muga provided recently and is in good condition. No investment required
Newport East NE2	Off Daniels Cross/Ploughmans Croft LEAP (play area)	Play area in good condition. No investment required

Newport West NW2	Wrekin Avenue LAP (play area)	Play area with dated equipment and in need of refurbishment. Approx. cost 20K to refurbish LAP
Newport West NW1	Gravelly Drive (through alley way) LAP (play area)	Play area with dated equipment. Approx. 25k required to refurbish LAP
Newport South NS1	Shukers Field LAP (play area)	Play area in need of upgrading and no youth facilities currently exist. Approx. 140K required to create NEAP
Church Aston & Lilleshall CL1	Off Wallshead Way LEAP (play area, field goals)	Play area is currently in good condition. However, no dedicated youth facilities are provided in this area. Approx. 110K required to create NEAP
Newport North NN1	Broomfield Road LEAP (play area, field goals)	Play area in need of upgrade. Approx 35K required to refurbish LEAP
Edgmond ED1	Edgmond PF, off Shrewsbury Road LEAP (play area, muga, shelter)	Play area in need of upgrade. Approx 30K required to refurbish LEAP

**Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy**  
**Demographic Profile**  
**Needs Analysis by School & Community Cluster**

Telford & Wrekin's first needs analysis by School & Community Cluster (2006) provides census, health, educational and social care information to describe the needs of both pupils and young residents (0-19 years) in each School & Community Cluster.

Three of the five clusters (North, Central and Wellington) have populations considerably larger than the other two. Partly due to this and the diversity of the smaller communities within each cluster, there is known to be considerable variation in levels of need within each cluster. Nonetheless there are some common themes.

**Summary of Key Data by Cluster**

**North**

- Largest proportion of children and young people 0-19 years (11966) – 29%. Along with Central significantly larger than other 3 Clusters.
- Largest relative population 5-9 year olds
- Largest number of pupils on school roll
- Higher than Telford average rate of pupils not speaking English as first language (6.5%)
- 29% of all single parent households in Telford
- 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of children living in poverty and pupils receiving free school meals
- Rate of teenage birth significantly higher than national rate

**Newport**

- Smallest proportion/number of children & young people 0-19 years (4792 – 11%) Along with South Cluster significantly smaller than the 2 biggest Clusters (North and Central)
- Higher proportion of 10 years plus and lower proportion of under 10's than other Clusters.

**Wellington**

- 7865 children & young people 0-19 years (19%) – 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Cluster
- Higher relative proportion of 10-15 years compared to Telford and nationally lower proportion 0-4 years
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest number of pupils on school roll
- Higher than average Telford rate of pupils not speaking English as first language (6.7%)
- 4 of 13 wards with rates of teenage birth are entirely or partly in Wellington Cluster

**Central**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest proportion of children & young people 0-19 years (27% - 11322) along with North Cluster significantly more children & young people than remaining 3 Clusters
- Largest relative population 0-4 years
- At 25.9% of households with dependent children the percentage of lone parents is high and over National and Telford rate
- 30% of all single parent households in Telford live in Central Cluster
- Central Cluster has the highest number of children & young people living in poverty
- Rate of teenage births significantly above national rate
- Almost 45% of children & young people becoming looked after over a 12 months period were living in Central Cluster. This was almost double the Cluster with the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest number (South). These children are disproportionately young (1-4 years). And adolescent (10-15 yrs) Reasons for becoming looked after when young tend to be due to abuse and when adolescent due to behaviour/relationships
- Rate of children on the Child Protection Register is variable but consistently well above the national rate

### **South**

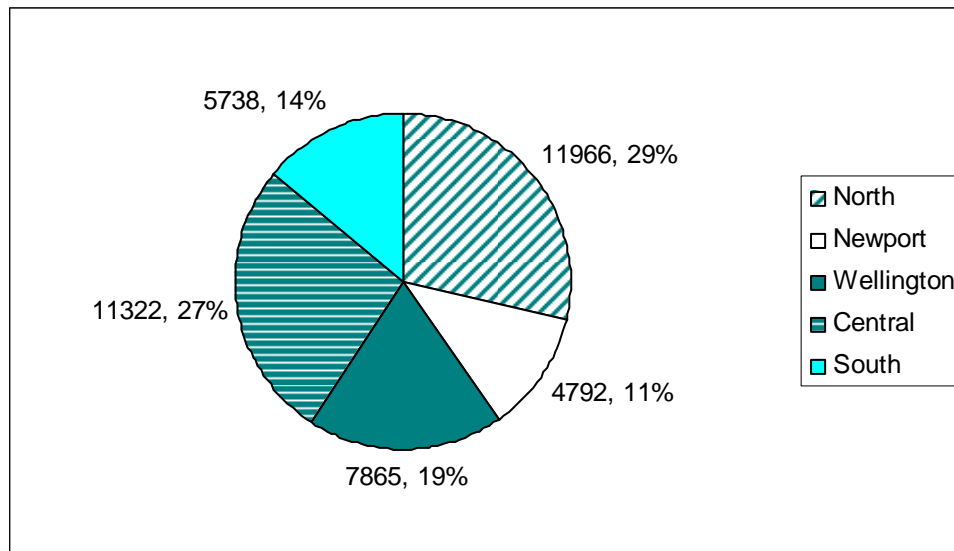
- Second smallest number of children & young people ages 0-19 years (5738 – 14%). Along with Newport significantly smaller than two biggest Clusters (North and Central)
- At 32.2% percentage of lone parents heading households with dependent children is much higher than Telford and national rate.
- South Cluster has by far the highest percentage living in poverty (At 37.6% this is the significant minority of children & young people) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of SOA's in the top 10% nationally for multiple deprivation
- Taking into account different population size total rate of children & young people becoming looked after in a 12 month period were as high as Central Cluster, but with relatively more adolescents (10-15) who tend to become looked after due to behaviour/relationships
- Rate of children on Child Protection Register is variable, but consistently well above the national rate

## Clusters Needs Analysis

### Demographic data; Children & Young People 0-19yrs living in each Cluster,

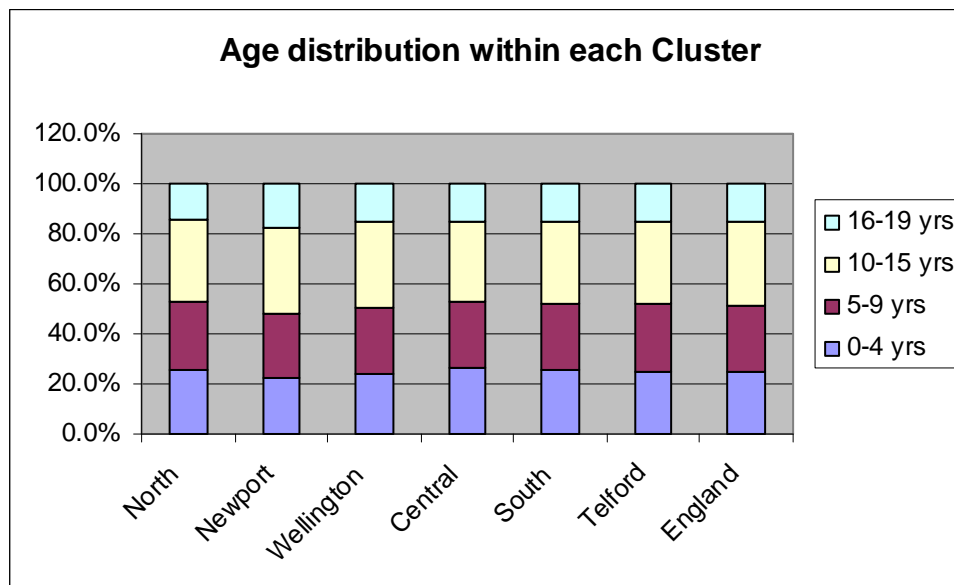
In 2005 there were 41,683 children and young people aged 0-19 (ie birth to one day before their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday) living in Telford & Wrekin, The numbers of children and young people living in each of the 5 Clusters varies considerably from 11996 to 4792 with 56% of Telford and Wrekin's 0-19 population living in Clusters North and Central alone *see diagram 1*

**Diagram 1 Number/Percentage of residents 0-19 years by Cluster**



The distribution of children & young people across the age bands in Telford and Wrekin is similar to the national picture. However the age profile of the whole population is not – Telford & Wrekin's age structure is younger. The age profile for children and young people within each Cluster is broadly similar with the exception that, compared to the other Clusters, Newport has a higher proportion of older children (10-15 yrs and 16-19 yrs) and lower proportion of younger children (0-4yrs and 5-9 yrs). Central cluster has the largest relative population of 0 to 4 year olds, North the largest relative proportion of 5-9 year olds *see diagram 2*.

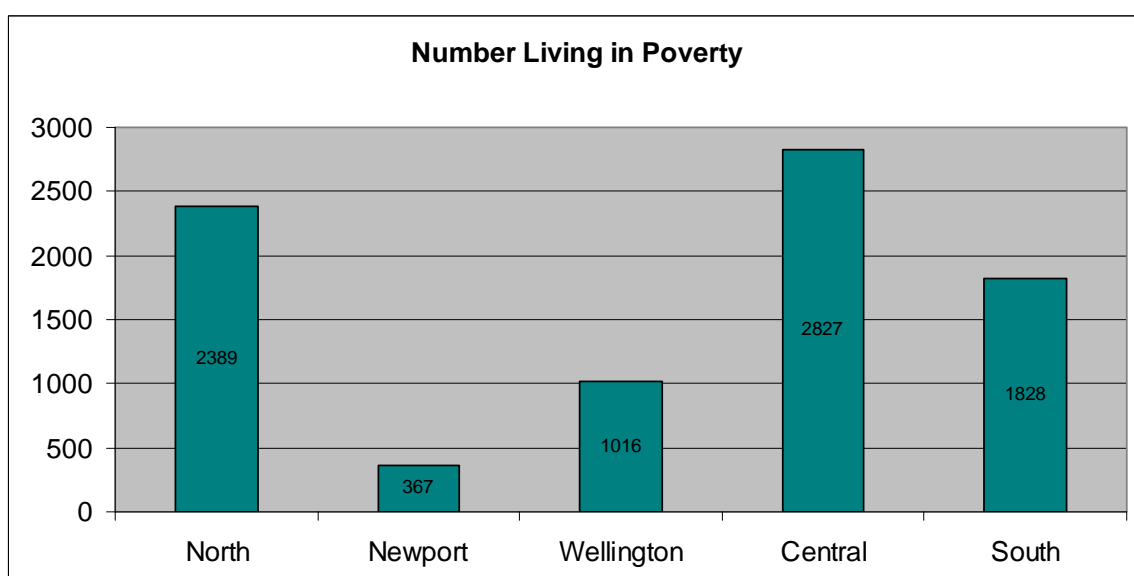
**Diagram 2 Age distribution by Cluster (2005)**



## Poverty and Multiple Deprivation

In 2005, at 23.9% Telford as a whole has higher *percentage* of children living in poverty than the England average of 19.9%. Cluster South and Central have higher rates than both the England and Telford rates. Cluster South has by far the highest *percentage* of children living in poverty (37.6%) followed by Clusters Central (29.4%), North Central (23.3%), Wellington (15.3%) and Newport (9.3%) respectively. However it is Cluster Central that has highest *numbers* of children and young people living in poverty followed by Cluster North Central, South, Wellington and Newport see **diagram 3**.

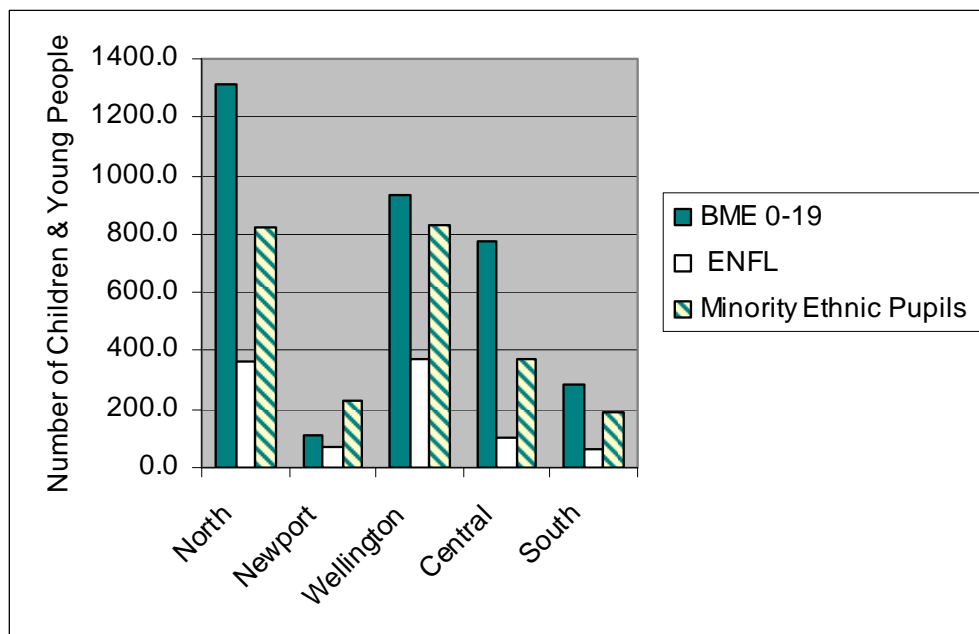
**Diagram 3 Number Living in Poverty**



**Ethnicity** (Data not significantly affected by St Marys and St Lukes Pupils data being counted in Wellington Cluster)

Children and young people from (a range of) Black Minority Ethnic background comprise 7.8% (3,417) of the population aged 0-19 years. (Extrapolated from Census data in 2005). 9.4% pupils in Telford & Wrekin come from (a range of) Minority Ethnic backgrounds. 4.3 % of pupils attending Telford & Wrekin schools do not speak English as their first language. (PLASC Data 2005). Table 5 shows that a larger proportion of children and young people from Minority Ethnic backgrounds live and go to school in North Central and Wellington Clusters. These two Clusters also have the highest proportions of pupils whose first language is not English see **diagram 4**.

**Diagram 4 Numbers of pupils/ Children and Young People; Minority Ethnic backgrounds and English not first Language.**





## Looked After Children

During the calendar year 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004-31<sup>st</sup> July 2005 124 children and young people became looked after by Telford & Wrekin Borough Council. Of these 55 (44.4%) were living in Central Cluster at the time they became Looked After. South Cluster had the next highest numbers of children and young people that became looked after but significantly fewer than Central Cluster. Overall the number of boys that became looked after in Telford as a whole after was higher than girls (74:50). With the exception of Wellington, each Cluster also has more boys than girls that become LAC; this is what would normally be expected.

**Diagram 5**

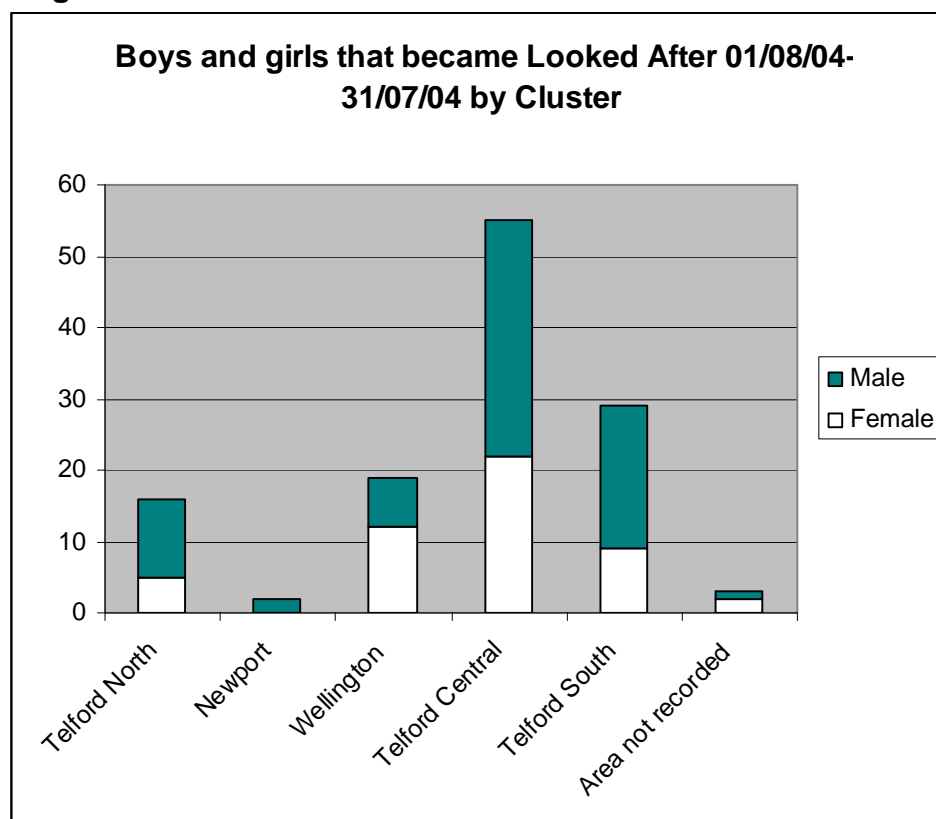


Table 3 below shows the age distribution of those who became looked after between 01/08/04 and 31/07/05. For Telford as a whole there are disproportionate numbers of children and young people who become looked after when they are young (0-5 years) and when they are teenagers (10-15 years). This also tends to be true for each Cluster with the exception of Newport where the numbers are too small to draw any conclusions.

**Table 3; Children and young people who become looked after between 01/08/04 and 31/07/05 by Cluster and age.**

<b>Area</b>	<b>0 years</b>	<b>1 - 4 years</b>	<b>5 - 9 years</b>	<b>10 - 15 years</b>	<b>16+ years</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Telford North</b>		6		4	6	<b>16</b>
<b>Newport</b>	1		1			<b>2</b>
<b>Wellington</b>	1	2	3	8		<b>19</b>
<b>Telford Central</b>	3	14	7	24	7	<b>55</b>
<b>Telford South</b>	1	8		20	5	<b>29</b>
<b>Area not recorded</b>	2			1		<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>124</b>

### **Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Audit of Current Play Opportunities**

## **1 Audit of Current Play Opportunities**

Telford & Wrekin provides a rich and diverse range of play opportunities across the Borough. This strategy focuses on facilities and provisions that support children and young people's free play opportunities. However, it is important to recognise other provisions, which have a focus on 'play', to ensure we can make links and work in partnership together.

### **1.1 Play Development Team**

The Council's Play Development Team (part of the Active Involvement Service) currently provides the following:

- There are fifteen play schemes running each week during term time. Their focus is to give local children safe yet exciting play opportunities in a friendly child led environment.
- Summer provision operates at 23 sites across the Borough.

### **1.2 Activity Workers Team**

The Activities Team (part of the Active Involvement Service) has three area based Activity Workers who organise junior youth clubs, activities, projects, workshops clubs and trips throughout the year, for 10 to 14 year olds.

The Team delivers activities identified by the children and young people themselves. Through summer activities the project brings together young people from different wards. The programmes offer new opportunities, helps develop friendships, supports young people's confidence and self esteem and supports breaking down barriers between areas within Telford.

### **1.3 Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities**

The Access 2 Activities project is a service which provides fun and leisure opportunities for disabled children and young people (age 0-19) that live in the Borough of Telford & Wrekin.

There are two aspects to the project. We ensure there is support for children and young people to access existing leisure and out of school opportunities as well as specific opportunities for children and young people with shared experiences to meet and have fun together. The project does this by:

- Supporting children and young people through the Link Project to take part in activities in their local area.
- Providing information and signposting to parents, carers and disabled children and young people to out of school opportunities.

- Developing and providing a leisure programme throughout all school holidays for disabled children, their siblings and families.
- Developing after school opportunities for disabled children and young people to meet up and have fun with peers who have similar experiences.
- Ensuring that disabled children, young people and their families can develop their skills and confidence so they can effectively support service developments across the Borough.
- Training of children and young people who attend play and out of school provision in disability awareness.

#### **1.4 Bridge School Summer Playscheme**

This provision is open to all children and young people who attend the Bridge School from the ages of 3 – 16 years. The scheme aims to provide a safe and secure environment in which children and young people with complex needs can participate in a range of play activities. It encourages them to develop skills associated with leisure and informal activities within different settings and with different people.

#### **1.5 Looked After Children**

A Leisure & Fun Project for Looked After Children & Young People is well established within the Council. This Project identifies all LAC leisure and recreation needs and develops a plan for each individual child. The Project also provides two youth clubs and a range of workshops, one off events and trips.

#### **1.6 Black and Minority Ethnic Children**

The Play Development Team identified Play for BME children as a key target. Provision was provided to ensure good access to play. Specific groups have been set up for Asian Young Women and a drop in play session targeting BME children.

#### **1.7 Equipped Play Facilities**

Children's Play Areas are focal points for children to engage and develop a range of physical, social, emotional, intellectual, educational and behavioural skills.

Play areas, to be attractive and of benefit to children, must carry a variety of levels of challenge and difficulty. Children are able to explore solutions to these challenges and to practice their newly acquired abilities in carefully designed settings where levels of risk have been assessed and managed.

Target age 3 to 12 years.

#### **1.8 Parks and Open Green Spaces**

Provision in Parks and Open Green Spaces is situated in diverse locations, providing free locally accessible opportunities for children

and young people to take part in positive recreational activity. We have five formal parks across the Borough.

The Street Sport Coordinator provides supervised street sports in numerous areas of local open space across the Borough. These activities can be linked to sports development opportunities for sports coaching and links to voluntary sports clubs.

## **1.9 Telford Town Park**

The Town Park is a centrally located open space which includes a large amount of children's play equipment, over and above what can normally be described as a large LEAP. This effectively acts as a central venue for children and young people's equipped play opportunities, often linked as a day out for parents and children alongside a shopping trip to the nearby Telford Shopping Centre.

Proposals to further enhance these facilities, including the provision of youth facilities, is currently being investigated as part of the Town Centre Development Programme.

## **1.10 Multi-Use Games Areas**

Currently there are 29 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA) across the Borough. Multi Use Games Areas are purpose built, hard surfaced, fenced facilities which provide at least two sports activities e.g. football and basketball. These facilities cater for older children but can be used by younger children or adults. Frequently these are accompanied by seating and litter bins and other youth facilities.

The facilities are usually small to meet local needs, but there is a need to provide a larger central venue for formal activities. These facilities are frequently requested to be floodlit.

Being facilities for young people, residents can have a negative perception of this type of provision, based on fear of anti-social behaviour.

All recent MUGA's are accessible to wheelchair users. However, some of the more historic sites do not i.e. Telford Development Corporation kick about areas/MUGA's transferred to us in the past.

## **1.11 Skate Parks**

Currently there are 6 Skate Parks across the Borough. Skate Parks are areas that are designed to meet the needs of skateboarders, in-line skaters and BMX freestylers.

There are a variety of materials which could be used to create a skate park such as concrete, wood and steel. Many steel framed ramps are now surfaced with an appropriate covering e.g. 'skatelight pro'. Wood is many users favoured surface but it is extremely vulnerable to vandalism. Concrete skate parks can come as pre-fabricated ramps or be created as bowls or plazas (street scene).

Proposed projects need to specifically involve 'skaters' in the design of the facility to ensure the specific local needs are met. These facilities are usually small to meet local demand but there is a specific need to provide a larger, central venue which can provide more challenging activities for the more experienced.

Being facilities for young people, residents can have a negative perception of this type of provision, based on fear of anti-social behaviour.

### **1.12 Youth Shelters**

Currently there are 24 Youth Shelters across the Borough. Youth Shelters are purpose built seats with a roof. Guidance recommends these facilities are associated with a recreational activity area e.g. multi use games area.

New build shelters should consider ensuring a hard surface, signage and a litter bin.

### **1.13 BMX Tracks**

Currently there are 12 BMX Tracks across the Borough. BMX Tracks and Trails are mounded lanes of dirt mounds/berms and obstacles. They are becoming increasingly popular. Small BMX Tracks offer opportunities for younger riders where larger tracks cater for all ages. Trails areas are particularly popular with older children. Where possible both tracks and trails should be built to prevent tracks being tampered with by the more experienced. Where possible, tracks should provide a start gate mechanism to provide for informal/formal competition and stimulate community interest.

Trails should provide opportunities for beginners through to the more experienced. The West Midlands currently does not have either a regional or national sized BMX Track. There is a current local demand for such a track in this area.

BMX is a sport and there are opportunities to link with the governing body to assist in the formation of BMX sports clubs in the area.

### **1.14 Leisure Centres**

The Council owns and operates 9 sports & leisure sites. The Council run community use facilities provided at these sites across the Borough include;

- 4 Sports Halls
- 4 Swimming Pools
- 2 Gymnasiums
- 4 Squash Courts
- Golf Course
- Ski Slope

- Ice Rink
- An Athletics Track
- 4 Aspirations Fitness Suites
- 2 outdoor All Weather pitches
- Tennis courts
- Playing Fields/Pitches

The facilities offer a wide range of sports and leisure activities for juniors and are the home to a wide variety of voluntary sector junior sports clubs and societies. The facilities aim to provide a balanced programme of activities including informal participation options and structured sports development and learning opportunities.

In addition to the operation of the nine facilities the service works with a range of partners to develop and promote physical activity across the Borough.

The Council operates a concession scheme which aims to afford equal access to all residents, whatever their circumstances, to Council owned leisure facilities. The scheme is administered through the Flex card. The concession scheme Flex cards are free to junior Borough residents.

### **1.15 Sport and Leisure External Providers**

Wrekin College provides community access, including for juniors, to its significant sports and leisure facilities based in Wellington. Opportunities for junior activities are offered throughout the school year and school holidays. It boasts a Sports Hall, Swimming Pool, synthetic turf pitch and playing fields for community use.

Telford College of Arts & Technology has recently received funding from the Football Foundation and Learning Skills Council to build a double sized sports hall and sports dome. These facilities are available for hire by informal groups as well as junior clubs.

The Hadley (PFI) Learning Community opened in September 2006. Its community use facilities include an impressive range of wet and dry sports and leisure provision as well as library and arts complexes. It is expected that its community programme will be fully functioning by the end of 2007.

In addition to this, a variety of school sites now offer Junior group/club opportunities that complement the current provision. Supporting children and young peoples participation in sport, leisure and play.

### **1.16 Informal Sports Provision**

The Street Sport Coordinator provides supervised street sports in numerous areas of local open space across the Borough, including the use of youth facility areas. These activities can be linked to sports

development opportunities for sports coaching and links to voluntary sports clubs.

### **1.17 Holiday Play Schemes**

Four leisure centres offer sports & physical activity holiday schemes. The schemes operate from Wellington, Oakengates, Madeley and Stirchley and provide supervised activities for children between the ages of 5-12 years.

More sports specialist provision is offered at Horsehay Village Golf Centre through Junior Golf Academies during some school holidays, and the Ice Rink offers Hockey Schools.

In addition, the Sports Development Unit provides regular holiday Football schemes for 5 to 14 year olds, at Council run Madeley Court, Phoenix and Oakengates centres as well as on other sites such as Burton Borough School and Telford College of Arts & Technology.

### **1.18 Events**

Newly created play and youth facilities are often opened for use to the community with an opening event. This acts as a celebration for those involved in the process and makes the community aware of the availability of the new resource.

Specific community events to promote activities such as skateboarding and BMX racing at existing locations, as well as football and basketball through the Street Sport programme, are also provided.

### **1.19 Youth Provision**

Youth provision tends to operate in a range of indoor and outdoor settings catering for young people aged from 13 to 25 years. Facilities include youth projects, schools, community centres, leisure centres, churches, temples and other places of worship. The Youth Development Service is responsible for delivering the Council's youth provision primarily to 13 to 19 year olds. This provision is supported and complimented by the Private Sector and Voluntary and Community organisations.

Youth Work strives to enable young people to learn through experience. This happens best when the learning opportunities are interesting, enjoyable, fun and challenging. Youth Development Workers use a variety of methods to engage young people, such as:

- Arts Work.
- Summer Activities (U Projects) and Positive Activities for Young People.
- Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Scheme.
- Advice, Information and Counselling.
- Life and Social Skills Work and Healthy Lifestyles.
- Citizenship and Accreditation.



Youth provision utilises NEAPs particularly where young people have been involved in providing the facility. Coordination between the Youth Development Service and Landscape & Recreation, working with young people, has enabled a number of quality projects to come to fruition. Where this has occurred young people have had a greater sense of pride in their community.

## **1.20 Schools**

Children benefit from the space and opportunity to play during the school day, with particular gains for SEN children. The use of school grounds is a component of the Extended Schools Agenda.

## **1.21 After School Clubs**

There are 34 OFSTED registered After School Clubs (including holiday provision) across the Borough. They primarily aim to offer affordable, flexible, high quality childcare and a wide range of play opportunities which meet the needs of children aged 4 – 11 years.

A Childcare Development Mentor provides support and guidance and has recently enabled clubs to access a newly established support network to share good practice when delivering play opportunities for children and young people.

## **1.22 Breakfast Clubs**

Breakfast Clubs (in schools) are a safe and healthy place to leave children before they go to school. The clubs provide play and learning opportunities and a place to catch up on homework. Their primary aim is to provide a healthy balanced breakfast.

## **1.23 Day Care Nurseries**

Day Care Nurseries provide childcare and education for children aged 0 – 5 years. Some nurseries may offer a before and after school facilities.

## **1.24 Pre Schools and Play Groups**

Pre Schools and Play Groups provide early years education and care for children up to the age of five. They aim to provide learning experiences through structured play and give children the opportunities for mixing with other children and adults.

## **1.25 Childminders**

A registered childminder is a self-employed day care provider who works from home, caring for and providing stimulating activities for children from birth upwards within a family environment.

## **1.26 Crèches**

A crèche is usually a service attached to a shopping centre, leisure facility, or training establishment, where children are looked after for a

short spell of time to allow their parents/carers to participate in the associated activities.

### **1.27 Parent and Toddler Groups**

A parent/carer and toddler group offers informal play sessions for children from birth up to 5 years of age. The parent/carer must remain with the child and in charge of their child/children at all times. Parents/carers and toddler groups are not only for parents but also for grandparents, friends and childminders (anyone involved in caring for children).

## APPENDIX 9

### Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Current Free Play Provision

WARD	CLUSTER GROUP	CURRENT WEEKLY PLAY SCHEMES - TERM TIME	CURRENT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION
Donnington	North	Playscheme Lifelong Learning Centre Donnington	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 days per week for 4 weeks Lifelong Learning Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Donnington	North	Playscheme Turreff Hall Donnington	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 days per week for 4 weeks  (Turreff Hall 1.5 days per week Broadoaks Field .5 detached play)  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Donnington	North	Refuge Playscheme	
Hadley & Leegomery	North	Playscheme Castlefarm Community Centre Hadley	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Castlefarm Community Centre Hadley  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Hadley & Leegomery	North		Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Leegomery Community Centre
Ketley & Oakengates	North	Playscheme Ketley Parish Building	Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week Ketley Community Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Ketley & Oakengates	North		Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week Hartshill Park Oakengates (Detached Play)
St Georges	North		Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week

WARD	CLUSTER GROUP	CURRENT WEEKLY PLAY SCHEMES - TERM TIME	CURRENT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION
			St Georges Primary School
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench	North		Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week Wrockwardine Wood Infant School
Newport	Newport		Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Burton Borough School
Brookside	Central	Playscheme Brookside Community Centre	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Brookside Community Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Dawley Magna	Central	Playscheme Webb Youth Centre - Dawley	Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week Webb Youth Centre – Dawley  Summer Holiday Detached Playscheme 2 weeks Dawley Park (mornings)  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Lawley & Overdale	Central	Playscheme Carpenter Centre -Overdale	Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week The Carpenter Centre – Overdale  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Malinslee	Central	Playscheme Malinslee Community Centre	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Langley School (mornings)  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Malinslee	Central		Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks St Leonard's Church Malinslee (afternoons)
The Nedge (Randlay)	Central		Summer Holiday Playscheme 1 week Randlay Community Centre

WARD	CLUSTER GROUP	CURRENT WEEKLY PLAY SCHEMES - TERM TIME	CURRENT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION
The Nedge (Hollinswood)	Central	Playscheme Hollinswood Community Centre	Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Hollinswood Community Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme
The Nedge (Stirchley)	Central		Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Stirchley Youth Project
Arleston	Wellington	Playscheme Watling Community Centre Arleston	Summer Holiday Playscheme 4 weeks Watling Community Centre Arleston (afternoon)  1x Half Term Playscheme
Arleston	Wellington	Saturday Club Watling Community Centre Arleston	1 x Half Term Playscheme
College	Wellington	Urban Girls Group - New College Wellington	Urban Girls Group 1 session 1 week - New College Wellington  1 x Half Term Playscheme
College	Wellington		Summer Holiday Detached Playscheme 4 weeks Regent Street Park Wellington (mornings)
Ercall (Bowring)	Wellington		Summer Holiday Playscheme 2 weeks Bowring Pavilion Wellington
Cuckoo Oak	South	Playscheme Sutton Hill Community Centre	Summer Holiday Playscheme 4 weeks Sutton Hill Community Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme
Madeley	South		Summer Holiday Playscheme 4 weeks John Randall School (mornings) Hills Lane Detached Playscheme
Woodside	South	Playscheme	Summer Holiday Playscheme

WARD	CLUSTER GROUP	CURRENT WEEKLY PLAY SCHEMES - TERM TIME	CURRENT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION
		Woodside Community Centre	4 weeks Woodside Community Centre  1 x Half Term Playscheme

## APPENDIX 10

### Telford & Wrekin Local Play Strategy Free Play and Activities Provision 3 Year Investment Plan

WARD	CLUSTER GROUP	ADDITIONAL WEEKLY PLAYSCHMES TERM TIME	ADDITIONAL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION
Donnington	North	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Hadley & Leegomery	North	Junior Youth Club Hadley	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Hadley & Leegomery	North	Playscheme Leegomery Community Centre	1 x Half Term Playscheme
Hadley & Leegomery	North	Junior Youth Club Leegomery Community Centre	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Hadley & Leegomery	North	Children's Consultation	

<b>WARD</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL WEEKLY PLAYSCHEMES TERM TIME</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION</b>
		Group Meet Monthly	
St Georges	North	Playscheme St Georges	1 x Half Term Playscheme
Newport	Newport	Junior Youth Club Newport	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Brookside	Central	Brookside Junior Youth Club	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Brookside	Central	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Lawley & Overdale	Central	Junior Youth Club Carpenter Centre - Overdale	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Malinslee	Central	Junior Youth Club St Leonard's Church	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Malinslee	Central	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Arleston	Wellington	Junior Youth Club	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
College/ Arleston	Wellington	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Dothill	Wellington	Playscheme	1 x Half Term Playscheme
Shawburch	Wellington	Junior Youth Club	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme

<b>WARD</b>	<b>CLUSTER GROUP</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL WEEKLY PLAYSCHEMES TERM TIME</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROVISION</b>
Cuckoo Oak	South	Sutton Hill Junior Youth Club	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Cuckoo Oak	South	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Woodside	South	Woodside Junior Youth Club	Programme of Activities in each Half Term  Summer Holiday Programme
Woodside	South	Children's Consultation Group Meet Monthly	
Council Wide		Raise Your Voice Increase Your Choice Council Wide Children's Consultation Group	



# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 1

### Play Opportunities Action Plan 2007-2010.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 2

### Existing Equipped Play and Youth Facilities 10 Year Development Plan.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 3

### Maps Telford & Wrekin Council Equipped Play and Youth Facilities.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 4

Equipped Play and Youth  
Facilities Top 10 Ranked  
Locations in Play.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 5

Equipped Play and Youth  
Facilities Top 10 Ranked  
Locations for Play by  
Clusters.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 6

### Demographic Profile Needs Analysis by School and Community Cluster.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 7

### Equipped Play and Youth Facilities 3 Year Investment Plan.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 8

### Audit of Current Play Opportunities.



# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 9

Current Free Play Provision.

# Local Provision Examined Appendices

## Appendix 10

Free Play and Activities  
Provision  
3 Year Investment Plan.