

Action Plan

Children's Play Programme Outcomes



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Getting Serious About Play defines children's play as "what children and young people do when they follow their own ideas, in their own way and for their own reasons". The Big Lottery have listed the following outcomes as vital to the delivery of the play fund portfolio. Although this strategy is not entirely based around this, the outcomes assist in the 'scene setting' for our action plan.

We have listed the outcomes numerically and then allocated them to the various actions in the plan.

The Big Lottery outcomes are:

1. More children will take part in a wider range of good, inclusive and accessible play experiences.
2. Children will have more choice and control over their play.
3. Children will develop greater well-being through play (including healthy growth, knowledge and understanding, creativity and capacity to learn).
4. Children will achieve greater independence and self-esteem through play.
5. Children will acquire greater social skills and respect for others through play.
6. Children will be able to test boundaries, be challenged and take risks through play, while kept safe from harm.
7. More children experiencing barriers to free play will be included in mainstream play provision (for example, girls, children and young people from ethnic or religious minorities, children in care, children of refugees and homeless families and those living in rural areas).
8. Local communities, especially children, will have greater involvement in designing, planning and running play projects.

Objective	What is going to be done?	How will it be measured?	Lead body & partners in delivery	By date	Cost
<p>Increase the impact that the play partnership has in the district.</p> <p>OUTCOME: 2, 8</p>	<p>Invite other representative, to join the play partnership, which may have influence/input into areas that have a direct link to play.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Partnership Development Managers (PDM'S) • Planning Officers • Community Activity Network • Children & Young People • Parents & Carers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of attendees increases • Play strategy to be included as a link document with other plans/strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play partnership members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2007 • On-going 	<p>Officer time</p>
<p>Develop inclusive play options within the districts play spaces.</p> <p>OUTCOME: 7</p>	<p>Accessible play equipment to be added to all play spaces.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment to be added as part of the rolling programme and with the possible additional Parish funding. • Case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Parish Councils • Play Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 • On-going 	<p>£50,000 pa rolling programme budget allocation</p>
<p>Increase 'play value' at all the districts fixed play spaces.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the age, ability range and views of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of fixed play spaces • Introduction of additional equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 • On-going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer time • £31,000 pa

<p>OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</p>	<p>children and young people when developing the play spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confer with specialists regarding educational development. • Ensure that locality and district is considered with design. • Apply for Big Lottery funding. 	<p>as per the consultation results with young people and parents/carers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the play spaces annually. • Case study • Number of visits to play spaces (benchmark will need to be developed initially) 	<p>Councils</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Partnership • PDM/Schools 		
<p>Ensure play spaces are considered when proposed housing areas are being developed.</p> <p>OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</p>	<p>Ensure that the planning department are part of the Play Partnership.</p>	<p>The number of play spaces/open spaces included in developments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Housing Developers • Play Partnership 	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Officer time</p>
<p>Increase the opportunity for children, young people and families to take part in large-scale activities that are not normally accessible in this</p>	<p>'Buy in' expert external services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of activities offered. • Consult with residents. • Number of visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Play Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 • On-going 	<p>£18,000pa</p>

district. OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7					
Ensure that children and young people have an increased input into play provision. OUTCOME: 8	Increase consultation and collation of qualitative & quantitative data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite children and young people to be part of the Play Partnership. • Ensure that 'play' is considered whenever consultation is taking place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Play Partnership • Essex County Council Youth Service • Early Years & Childcare • Children Young Peoples Strategic Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 • On-going 	Officer time
Address the problem of location of facilities. OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Develop links with schools to keep facilities open for public use outside of school hours. Investigate cost/funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of schools allowing use. • Case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Extended Schools • PDM • Play Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 • On-going 	Unknown at this time.
Develop an Essex wide play policy OUTCOME: 8	With the other 11 local authorities we will write a policy on play that will underpin the ethos of the play strategy.	Final production of policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essex Play leads • Play Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2007 	Officer time
Create an independent charitable play	Working with the 11 other local authorities we will create a play	Creation of constituted group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essex Play leads • Play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2008 	Officer time

body. OUTCOME: 8	body that will continue to increase the play offer across Essex.		Partnership		
Develop Essex wide play indicators for targeted development.	The Essex play leads will develop meaningful play indicators that will allow the measurement of play in the County. Chelmsford Borough Council are part of the nationwide pilot and will feedback to the group.	Creation of local indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essex Play Leads Play Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 2008 	Officer time
Develop an outside play leader scheme in partnership with leisure management contractor. OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Introduce a play ranger type service in the parks and open spaces across the district during holiday periods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of parks Number of visits Consultation/Evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virgin Active Rochford District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer 2008 On-going 	£17,000pa
To develop the rolling programme of replacement to ensure that play is considered in its widest sense. OUTCOME: 7,8	Ensure that the Play Partnership members are consulted on proposals and that the community has a greater involvement in the planning process.	Meeting with Engineers and Play Partnership Members each year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rochford District Council Engineers Play Partnership Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2008 On-going 	Officer time
To apply for and receive the funding allocation from Big	Portfolio funding application to be made to Big Lottery in	Funding for projects received. Programme of works developed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rochford District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer time £3,500

<p>Lottery for Rochford District Council to develop Play, and to utilise the subscription by Rochford District Council to GrantFinder for further funding options.</p> <p>OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</p>	<p>August 2007.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Partnership 		<p>pa</p>
<p>To review and develop the action plan to reflect the changing opportunities around play.</p> <p>OUTCOME: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Play Partnership meetings to discuss opportunities. • Continued membership of the Essex Play Leads Group to highlight best practice and new opportunities. 	<p>Review and achievement of actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Play Partnership • Essex Play Leads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going until 2012 	<p>Officer time</p>
<p>To produce a Children & Young Persons version of the strategy</p> <p>OUTCOME: 7,8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With a group of children & young people re-write the strategy in a language that they will 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to development group. • Development of strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochford District Council • Play Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2007 	<p>Officer time</p>

	understand and in a way that will show them the value of the document.				
To ensure that the strategy is available to download from both the Rochford District Council website, the Essex Play website and the Play Partnership members sites. Also to ensure that it is available, if requested, in alternative formats/languages OUTCOME: 7,8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links to document are publicised in all relevant publications and on the relevant web pages 	Document on sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Partnership • Rochford District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2007 	Officer time

Monitoring & Evaluation of Strategy

With Rochford District Council as the lead body in the development of this strategy, the Leisure Team will undertake monitoring and evaluation of the overall strategy. Meetings of the Play Partnership will be convened to ensure that that timelines are met and projects are being developed in accordance with the ideology set out in this document. The Leisure Team, with the Play Partnership will monitor the impact of the portfolio application to the Big Lottery and the general impact of the other initiatives listed in the action plan. This review will completed on an annual basis by the Leisure Team and action plans amended if necessary.