

---

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 May 2024</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Service - Regeneration, Planning and Public Protection</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ENV032/24/NM/KL</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Kenny Lang</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 715906</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Play Area Spend Update 2024/25</b>		

---

## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of the report is to update the Committee in respect of the proposed play area projects to be undertaken within the 2024/25 Play Area Strategy.

1.3 The available Play Area Strategy budget for 2024/25 is £236k, full spend of this amount is anticipated in the current financial year and the projects are detailed within the body of this report.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee agrees the proposed play area projects identified within this report.

**Neale McIlvanney**  
**Head of Service - Regeneration, Planning and Public Protection**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Inverclyde Council currently have 53 play areas of varying sizes. These play areas have been developed over a number of years and upgraded to improve the overall play experience and we now have over 90% of our play areas which include accessible equipment.
- 3.2 The Scottish Government identified funding of £629k for play areas from 23/24 up to 25/26 as part of the General Capital allocation. The available budget for play areas in 2024/25 is £236k which includes two elements of planning gain consisting of £15k from Oak tree Housing Association and £24k for Sir Michael Street. A recurring capitalisation cost of £30k for one of the play area fitters is also paid from the play area Capital budget and not included in the figures below.
- 3.3 The play areas are regularly checked and maintained by Council staff with ad hoc repairs being paid through the revenue account. All larger equipment, new facilities or surfacing are generally included in the Capital Spend.
- 3.4 The table below shows a priority list of identified spend for play areas, this list is taken from a longer list developed through the year by our staff.

Area	Works	Spend 000s (est)
West Glen Park Kilmacolm	Replacement of Multiplay unit	£25
Riverside Road Greenock	Refurbishment	£35
Sir Michael Street Greenock	Replace surface	£45
Jacobs Drive Gourock	Replace surface	£45
Smithston area	New play area	£86

- 3.5 Preliminary discussions with community representatives in the Smithston to identify a preferred site is ongoing.
- 3.6 If approval is given officers will engage with local representatives and nearby residents to develop a facility within this area.
- 3.7 Progress on the approved projects will be reported to this committee via the regular Capital Report.

### 4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Committee are asked to note the progress on projects and note that relevant reports will be brought back for Committee consideration as and when required.

### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		x
Legal/Risk		x
Human Resources		x
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		x
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x

Environmental & Sustainability		x
--------------------------------	--	---

## 5.2 Finance

### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
Play Area Strategy		2024/25	£197	NA	Excludes Capitalised post of £30k
Planning gain		2024/25	£39		

### Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

## 5.3 Legal/Risk

N/A.

## 5.4 Human Resources

N/A.

## 5.5 Strategic

N/A.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation will be undertaken in respect of the new play area within the Smithston area to confirm a preferred site and regarding proposals.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.