
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	6 March 2014
Report By:	Acting Corporate Director Environment Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	ERC/ENV/IM/13.188
Contact Officer:	Ian Moffat	Contact No:	715910
Subject:	Play Area Investment Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the progress of the Council's play area investment programme in respect of works in progress and the outcome of recent consultations as regards the next tranche of works.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Inverclyde Council has an ongoing programme of investment in new play areas. Projects approved and being progressed are Battery Park Skatepark and play areas at Jacobs Drive, Gourock; Sir Michael Street, Greenock; Gibshill, Greenock and Fox Street, Greenock.
- 2.2 Three further sites have approval in principle with the decision to proceed being subject to the outcome of consultation regarding the proposed locations, which are Barrs Brae, Port Glasgow; Braeside, Greenock and Taymouth Drive, Gourock. Consultation has been concluded with there being a positive outcome for Barrs Brae and Braeside, but the majority of those who responded to the Taymouth Drive consultation were opposed to the proposal.
- 2.3 It is proposed to go ahead with the installation of new play areas at Barrs Brae and Braeside and to withdraw plans for a play area at Taymouth Drive and instead use the allocated funding to upgrade and expand the existing play area within Wellpark, Greenock.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee approve the installation of new play areas at Barrs Brae, Port Glasgow and Braeside, Greenock utilising funding previously approved for these projects.
- 3.2 That the Committee agree to withdraw the proposal to install a new play area at Taymouth Drive, Gourock and that the funding already approved for play area investment be utilised instead to expand the existing play area in Wellpark, Greenock.

Alan Puckrin
Acting Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration & Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 **Jacobs Drive Play Area:** Priority 1 in Inverclyde Council's Play Area Strategy is to deal with play areas that have safety issues. Earlier reports identified this play area as a priority 1 site and £75k was approved to have the old play area removed and a new one installed in its place.
- 4.2 **Battery Park Skatepark:** The existing skatepark in Battery Park is over a decade old and is in need of replacement. A sum of £175k was approved to have the old skatepark removed and replaced with a new one on the same site. The most suitable location for the new skatepark was agreed following consultation with the community council, ward members and Inverclyde Skatepark Group (ISG). ISG has also agreed to review the designs of the new skatepark once they are submitted.
- 4.3 **Sir Michael Street Play Area:** at the time of writing, legal issues as regards lease arrangements for the site remain to be concluded. Greenock Central Residents Action Group (GCRAG) was awarded £75k from Inverclyde Council's Play Area investment budget in 2010 to part fund the installation of a new play area on the site of an existing Inverclyde Council kickabout in Sir Michael Street, Greenock. In addition to the £75k award from Inverclyde Council, GCRAG was successful in securing Big Lottery capital funding of £183k.
- 4.4 It is a condition of the Big Lottery funding that GCRAG has security of tenure of the site for a minimum of 10 years. The site of the new play area is owned partly by Inverclyde Council and partly by Network Rail and the security of tenure issue is to be addressed in part by the means of leases and sub-leases between Inverclyde Council, Network Rail and GCRAG. The Environment and Regeneration Committee of 5 September 2013 approved that Inverclyde Council would stand guarantor for GCRAG as the security of tenure offered by the Network Rail lease does not meet the minimum security of tenure criteria set by Big Lottery. Inverclyde Council and Network Rail have agreed lease terms and it is expected that GCRAG will agree terms shortly. Lawyers for the respective parties are in the process of finalising the necessary documents. However, until the legal matters are finalised works on the ground cannot commence.
- 4.5 Procurement of the play area has not been undertaken by Inverclyde Council. GCRAG has already carried out the procurement exercise and have appointed an agent to oversee the project on their behalf, this is in association with Big Lottery as part of the terms of the grant awarded to GCRAG.
- 4.6 **Barrs Brae and Braeside Play Areas:** approval in principle was given to the construction of play areas on these sites with final approval being contingent on the outcome of consultations as to the suggested locations. Funding of £67k each was previously allocated to the projects. Consultations took place with the local community councils on the proposals, Port Glasgow West Community Council was consulted as regards the Barrs Brae site and Larkfield, Branchton and Braeside Community Council was consulted as regards the Braeside site. An Environmental & Commercial Services officer attended public meetings arranged through the respective community council and presented the case for play areas to be installed, on both occasions the majority of feedback was in favour of the proposal, with very few comments voiced in opposition.
- 4.7 **Taymouth Drive Play Area:** approval in principle was given for the construction of a play area on a grass plot at the end of Taymouth Drive the same plot which previously housed a play area a number of years earlier. The original play units were removed 10-15 years ago and since then the site has reverted to being a grass plot, maintained by Inverclyde Council. Final approval was contingent on the outcome of consultations with local residents as to the suitability of installing a new play area on the same plot. Funding of £67k was allocated to the project. The location was originally proposed in order to fill a gap in play provision in west Gourrock. There are no other suitable alternative sites owned by Inverclyde Council anywhere close to the location in question.
- 4.8 The consultation involved writing to all addresses in Taymouth Drive and Doune Gardens – 131 in total. The letter sent explained the Council's policy of investing in new play areas to meet recognised gaps in provision. A copy of the letter to residents is attached as Appendix 1. An illustration of the type of play area that could be built on the site was included with the letter. The

table below is a summary of the responses received:

Road	No. Delivered	No. Responses	% Response	No. In Favour	No. Against	% In Favour	% Against
Taymouth Drive	62	15	24%	5	10	33%	67%
Doune Gardens	69	4	6%	3	1	75%	25%
Total	131	19	15%	8	11	42%	58%

- 4.9 The number of responses received is disappointing; however the majority of those who responded were against the proposal to install a new play area on this site. All responses received are attached as Appendix 2. Names and addresses have been omitted as has any information which may identify the respondent or their address.
- 4.10 Inverclyde Council owns the land in question and although this was challenged during the consultation by a nearby resident, it was confirmed as being in Council ownership. However, a further issue arose during the consultation process in that the public road on Taymouth Drive leading to the Council site actually falls short of connecting with it. Some residents who own properties also own parking spaces and the land occupied by the parking spaces separates the potential play site from the public road. Access to and from the Council land and any future play area installed on it could therefore be prevented by the residents who own the parking spaces. Access to and from the Council plot is most often and most easily taken via the Taymouth Drive route and there is a history of access being taken via this route ever since the site was developed for housing and the original play area was constructed. Nonetheless, access via Taymouth Drive could be prevented at any time in the future.
- 4.11 An alternative access is available from Doune Gardens over Council land and without the risk of future impediment, but it is by way of a steep grassy banking and not at all suitable in its current form. The upgrade of this access route is not feasible in terms of likely cost and its proximity to adjacent properties.
- 4.12 In summary, there were a very limited number of responses to the consultation letter, but the outcome is a small majority against the installation on the proposed site. In addition, if Inverclyde Council were to install a play area it could no longer rely on the tacit agreement of landowners to allow access to the play area over their land. A formal access agreement would be required and all eight landowners would have to agree to it. Based on responses to the consultation letter it is unlikely that such an access agreement would be agreed to by all eight individual landowners.
- 4.13 **Wellpark Play Area:** Inverclyde Council has an approved priority for the investment in play areas:
- i. Invest in current stock to meet safety standards.
 - ii. Invest in current stock to modernise/refurbish.
 - iii. Invest in new provision to meet quantity and quality standards. This may take the form of increasing the size and varying the content of existing play areas, or the construction of new play areas on new sites.
- 4.14 Jacobs Drive play area, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, is the last site to be dealt with under the priority 1. The second and third priorities continue to be advanced and the current position with the play area investment programme is the subject of this report.
- 4.15 Under the third priority the Wellpark play area is a high profile site that requires attention. There is already a play area located on the north side of the park, but it is a small site in comparison to the overall park having been designed for only five units, some of which are themselves quite small. Five units is the minimum recommended for a local play area and two of the five units within Wellpark require to be replaced due to their current condition.

- 4.16 This small play area replaced a much larger one in the same vicinity over a decade ago. In its current condition the play area is not up to the same standard in terms of play value as some other play areas, this based on feedback we have had from children and parents. It is a flat location and there is adequate space to expand onto the larger footprint that the previous play area enjoyed. New modern equipment installed on this site would encourage visitors to the park.
- 4.17 **Fox Street:** committee of 16 January 2014 approved funding of £180k to upgrade Fox Street play area and kickabout.
- 4.18 **Gibshill Play Area:** committee of 16 January 2014 approved funding of £20k as a contribution towards a new play area in Gibshill. A further £30k will be contributed by a local housing developer to meet its obligations under planning consent. There is a noted gap in play area provision in the Gibshill area. The site originally proposed for the play area was rejected by the Gibshill Residents' Association (GRA) and the preferred alternative site is on River Clyde Homes (RCH) land. Further consultation will require to be carried with local residents via the GRA prior to the alternative site being confirmed as acceptable, and if it is confirmed then the matter of ownership will be discussed further with RCH. Initial discussions as to what is being proposed have already taken place between Inverclyde Council and RCH, but agreement has not been reached.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 **Jacobs Drive Play Area:** a contractor was appointed in early February to remove the old and install a new play area on this site. A lead-in period of approximately six to eight weeks for the play units to be manufactured is the norm and construction on the site will take a further four weeks, giving an anticipated completion of date of early May, weather permitting.
- 5.2 **Battery Park Skatepark:** tender documents are being finalised and tenders will be invited during February 2014. The skatepark is a design and build project which requires the successful tenderer to apply for the necessary planning permission and building warrants. Once tenders have been returned, evaluated and a contractor appointed a time scale for the completion of works will be confirmed.
- 5.3 **Sir Michael Street Play Area:** as soon as GCRAG sign the relevant lease documents for the associated land GCRAG (not Inverclyde Council) will appoint a contractor to install the new play area.
- 5.4 **Barrs Brae and Braeside Play Areas:** it is proposed that the committee now give approval to go ahead with both projects and approve the installation of new play areas.
- 5.5 **Taymouth Drive Play Area:** based on the outcome of the consultation carried out and the issues with access and egress to the site, it is proposed to withdraw the proposal for a new play area on this site and reallocate the associated funding to another play area in Wellpark. The grass plot on Taymouth Drive would remain as it is at present, a grass plot maintained by Inverclyde Council.
- 5.6 **Wellpark Play Area:** it is proposed to invest £67k of existing play area investment funds in the Wellpark site under priority three of the play area investment strategy in order that the site meets the current quality and quantity standards.
- 5.7 **Fox Street Play Area:** the current blaes kickabout is due be upgraded to a MUGA of approximately the same size, and the play area will also be upgraded at the same time. Design work is in progress and once complete the project will move to the procurement phase in approximately six weeks.
- 5.8 **Gibshill Play Area:** subject to the approval of RCH as land owner, site surveys will be carried out on the proposed play area site.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 6.1 There are no new financial implications associated with this report. The recommendations made relate to funding already approved by an earlier committee in respect of investments in play areas.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
Wellpark Play Area	Play Areas Earmarked Reserves	2014/15	£67,000	n/a	Contained within existing allocation for play areas.

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

- 6.2 Legal implications apply to the play area location in Taymouth Drive, Gourrock. Access to and from the Council land and any future play area installed on it could be prevented by any of the eight residents who own the parking spaces adjacent to the Council plot. Access to and from the plot is most often and most easily taken via the Taymouth Drive route and there is a history of access being taken via this route ever since the site was developed for housing and the original play area was constructed. Nonetheless, access via Taymouth Drive could be prevented at any time in the future.
- 6.3 As part of the Sir Michael Street play area project Inverclyde Council will be involved in leasing land from Network Rail and thereafter sub-leasing the same land to GCRAG. Inverclyde Council also has to lease land in its ownership to GCRAG.

Human Resources

- 6.4 No implications.

Equalities

- 6.5 No implications.

Repopulation

- 6.6 The Council's aims stated in the Corporate Statement 2013-17 are assisted by the recommendations in this report, in that there will be access to leisure opportunities for all life stages and that abundant protected green/open spaces are accessible to all.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 Port Glasgow West, and Larkfield, Branchton and Braeside Community Councils were consulted on the proposed locations of play areas to be sited within their geographical area of remit. Public meetings were also arranged on the subject by the respective community councils and a council official attended said public meetings as part of the consultation process.
- 7.2 The residents of Taymouth Drive and Doune Gardens were consulted on the proposal to locate a play area on a grass plot at the end of Taymouth Drive.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Inverclyde Council's Play Area Strategy.

Our Ref: wr931

Your Ref:

Date: 25 November 2013

Municipal Buildings

Clyde Square

Greenock

PA15 1LY

Tel: 01475 712764

Fax: 01475 712731

alan.puckrin@inverclyde.gov.uk

TO BE HAND DELIVERED

Residents of Taymouth Drive
GOUROCK

Enquiries to:

Tel No: 01475 717171

Dear Resident

Play Area Consultation

Inverclyde Council is in the process of investing in new and refurbished play areas across the district. Several children's play areas have already been refurbished and some new sites created, all of which have been very popular with local children and residents. The investment is being carried out in a planned fashion and a plot at the end of Taymouth Drive which previously housed a play area a number of years ago is the site proposed for a new facility in south west Gourrock.

Taymouth Drive and the surrounding estate does not have another play area nearby for local children to use, this gap in provision has been noted hence the proposal to create a play area on the plot in question. The proposed new play area will be a small local play area intended for younger children. Please find enclosed an illustration which gives an idea of the type and location of the proposed children's play area.

Funds have already been set aside for a new play area on this plot and Inverclyde Council has approved the use of the Council land for the project. However, at this stage local residents are being consulted on the proposal and the outcome of the consultation will be key as to whether it is taken any further. At present the consultation being entered into relates solely to the proposed location of the new children's play area, not the type of play equipment to be installed. If consultation is positive and a new play area is to be installed on the plot, then local school children will be consulted about suitable equipment at the time.

Although Inverclyde Council has agreed in principle to a play area being installed on this site, the final decision as to whether or not to go ahead will depend on the outcome of this consultation. All feedback will be respected, and consideration given to it by Councillors before a final decision is made about whether or not to install a play area at the end of Taymouth Drive.

The consultation process will commence now and continue throughout December, it is anticipated that a decision will be made in mid-January 2014, subject to the outcome of this consultation.

A response to the consultation can be as simple as stating a yes or no to support or disagree with the proposal; or if you would like to include a brief comment please feel free to do so. It is however very important that you are clear as to whether you support or disagree with use of the plot for a children's play area. Ideally, your response will have a verifiable address included in order to validate that it is from a local resident.

You may email your response to the email address below, or write your comments to me using the stated address. Whether sending an email or a letter, can I ask that you include **Taymouth Drive** in the subject line to assist with the collation of responses.

Email:

environmental.services@inverclyde.gov.uk

Address:

**Environmental & Commercial Services
1 Ingleston Park
Cartsburn Street
Greenock PA15 4UE**

Yours sincerely

Ian Moffat

Head of Environmental and Commercial Services

Response to consultation letters: Proposed Play Area at Taymouth Drive

11 Against 8 For

For/ Against	Submission Details
Against 01	We disagree strongly with this proposed play area, it would attract young adults who would use it as a gathering point to drink alcohol etc.
Against 02	<p>Dear Mr Moffat, I have been asked by an elderly resident of Taymouth Drive Gourrock to register her objection to another play park being situated only feet from her home. Her objections are as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 100% against. 2) When previous park was situated there her life was hell because of noise etc. 3). There are no children living anywhere near the area chosen. 4) Area is only feet from her house and dangerous situation for children to play.
Against 03	<p>Dear Sir, I want to indicate that we are AGAINST this proposal so our input is a clear NO. Reasons as follows: The location would be a magnet for children of all ages from other parts of Gourrock most notably Trumpet Hill. The play park is open on 3 sides and so its impossible for residents to see what is happening in this area - other parks in Faulds farm estate are enclosed by houses which helps prevent trouble. The previous park was heavily vandalised because juveniles can be there and not be seen by residents. The residents would be subjected to noise and disturbance by attracting juveniles from other parts of Gourrock. The overall number of children in the area has declined substantially over the years especially young children. Its unfair that Taymouth drive would have to host this for a large part of Gourrock. Taymouth drive is a cul- de- sac with limited access so parents coming by car would cause a major issue. Car parking in Taymouth drive is already a major problem. Access to Taymouth drive for larger lorries and deliveries is a major problem with no turning provision. Taymouth drive needs a turning area at the end of the street and not a play park. The street also needs more parking for residents and should be in this proposed area. Taymouth drive urgently needs some traffic calming measures such as road humps as fitted in Faulds park estate to reduce speeds of some of the driver in the area.</p>
Against 04	<p>Dear Mr Moffat with reference to the above, regarding a children's play park I am totally against the reappearance of this play park as the previous one was removed because of unsociable behaviour by youths at night and early hours of the morning, of which you have already heard about. I have many reasons for saying no to this park, I will show some in this email but there are others which should be discussed face to face.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Access 2) Health & Safety issues with this location, have they visited the site? 3) Have Police been contacted re location? 4) Parking. 5) Surrounding area a DANGER to children's lives. 6) Only 2 children live on Taymouth Drive, yet this is the only road residents have been lettered? 7) Dog fouling. Although most dog walkers lift the poo. 8) Wildlife that use this area, deer, fox & badger? <p>As I have said previously there are more to this that needs to be discussed face to face.</p>

Response to consultation letters: Proposed Play Area at Taymouth Drive

11 Against 8 For

For/ Against	Submission Details
Against 05	<p>Dear Mr. Moffat, I wish to respond to your hand delivered letter, which I received on Wednesday 27 November last. My remarks reflect the strong, considered opinions of both myself and my wife from sometimes bitter previous experience.</p> <p>(1) As the nearest residents to the "site proposed for a new facility in south west Gourrock", which "previously housed a play area a number of years ago", and having lived here since 2002 when this facility was in place, we would claim to have a unique insight into why it fell into disrepair and indeed misuse leading to it being dismantled--much to our relief- a few years later. It had by this time inevitably degenerated into a convenient place for teen-agers from the estate, and beyond, to congregate and noisily make their presence known. The morning after "clearing -up" of broken glass etc. quickly became tiresome. It got to the stage increasingly when I and several other residents were forced to take on the difficult, stressful and potentially dangerous task of remonstrating with these youngsters--an experience I am sure none of us is keen to repeat! How will this be assessed?</p> <p>(2) This LOCATION is palpably un suited as a facility for "younger children", situated as it is on the extreme, furthest edge of the estate at the highest elevation point--making it very difficult for parents/grandparents to reach on foot with a young child or indeed children.</p> <p>(3) Should the majority of potential users therefore opt to drive to the furthest end of Taymouth (where we and our neighbours stay), you create a further and possibly insurmountable problem--namely PARKING AND ACCESS!!!!</p> <p>(4) Mr. Moffat, may we now turn to your "Consultation" process--several aspects of which perturb us. (a)Time Scale---this seems to be somewhat unrealistic--given the rapid approach of the "Festive Season" and the inevitable closure of your offices and those of other departments potentially involved in this process. Surely the decision has not already been anticipated? (b)Outcome--How will this be assessed?" "A response to the consultation can be as simple as stating a yes or no"--Will 10 votes of yes be equal to 10 votes of no? especially if the "NO" votes--as we suspect will be the case---are accompanied by verifiable facts as well as opinions.</p> <p>(5) ILLUSTRATION Could we ask you to furnish us with a more detailed Plan of your intentions for this site? We would be particularly interested in the position as you understand it of Utilities of GAS and ELECTRICITY, on the site which may give rise to potential Health& Safety issues. Define EXACTLY what the label" ACCESS" means on your illustration. We look forward to your response.</p> <p>Dear Mr. Moffat, further to my Email of 04 December '13 on the above topic, I have since managed to read through my Land Certificate and would like to have clarification from the Council with regard to several points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * My property is contained within a much larger area coloured pink on the Plan attached to my Land Certificate. The location of the proposed Play Area is within this pink area. Could you give me details as to how and when the Council obtained ownership and control over this land? * The area between our property and the property opposite appears to be laid out for parking space and a "hammerhead". Does the Council--or any other party--have the right to use any part of this land as a normal roadway to give access to a new Play Area? Our title would appear to indicate that such land is to be used only for parking etc. and not as a roadway.(REF-D13) * One of the Writs in the Burdens Section of our Land Certificate indicates that "the only buildings or erections which shall be competent to the said Weir Construction Limited and their foresaids to erect and maintain on the said several pieces of ground hereby disposed shall be self contained dwellinghouses....."(REF-D1) In these circumstances how will it be open to the Council to build other erections such as play equipment on the ground in question? * It may be that the law has changed or that some other agreement has been entered into in some way, but it would be helpful to us and the others affected to have some relevant details. I appreciate that these questions are legal in nature, but even should you be able to provide some satisfactory answers to these questions, my previous objections as to suitability will of course stand. (REF-Email 04 Dec. '13) We look forward to your further responses to our submissions to your Play Area Consultation.

Response to consultation letters: Proposed Play Area at Taymouth Drive

11 Against 8 For

For/ Against	Submission Details
Against 06	<p>Sir/Madam. I refer to your proposed play park at the end of Taymouth Drive. I would have to say NO to the proposal.</p> <p>aa) There is not a particularly large number of young children in this area to justify such an expenditure , especially in hard times such as most Councils are experiencing at present.</p> <p>bb) I know you have already carried out some draining works in the proposed grassed area but I can assure you it is not nearly enough and it is still like a bog. This is going to cost you an awful lot of money to drain it properly.</p> <p>cc) I think , bearing in mind the lack of younger members of the child community , that the play park would turn in to a meeting point for the older teenager age group with the resultant noise disturbances to the local residents not to mention the likely damage to your installed equipment due to it being abused by teenagers to old for the intended age group.</p>
Against 07	<p>I would like to object to plans to build a children's play area at taymouth drive. the last play area on this site Was vandalised and became a meeting place for teenagers to hang out to late at night. also at this time There are few young children in this area.</p>
Against 08	<p>This household is in disagreement with the proposed Play Area at Taymouth Drive.</p>
Against 09	<p>I disagree with the proposal & strongly object to having a play area in this area. My vote is a definite <u>NO</u>.</p>
Against 10	<p>Dear Ian Further to your letter dated 25th November, I would like to object to the proposal to build a Play Area at the end of Taymouth Drive. I feel that this site is totally unsuitable given that it is at the very top of the estate in a secluded area. It will become somewhere for teenagers to congregate resulting in anti social behaviour by some. The potential location of this Play Area could also have a detrimental effect on property prices given that it will be very close to some properties. If you want to build a play area, I think you should consider a location which is more open. Taymouth Drive is a very quiet area and I would like to do all that I can to make sure it stays that way.</p>
Against 11	<p>Dear Sirs I do realise that I am probably too late to have my views considered, but I wish to object to the proposed play area which I feel is an overdevelopment of the site. Around 15 years ago, the Council was unable to maintain the original playpark which contained about 3 pieces of apparatus. The site was vandalised and lay in a burnt out condition and remained an eyesore for some considerable time before being removed. My objections centre around the facts that: 1. In the 15 years following the existence of the previous play area, the number of cars parked in the neighbouring streets of St Andrews Drive, Doune Gardens and Taymouth Drive has at least doubled and such a park would cause further congestion as parents try to park close to the site. 2 The site is visible to only a few householders and is therefore easy prey to anyone intent on doing harm to it. 3. Since the demise of the original site, we have not witnessed any visits from the Fire Brigade to put out gorse fires which were obviously started deliberately. 4. The composition of the site is likely to attract older children who will be more likely to congregate unsupervised in the evenings.</p> <p>I also have to ask if the Council has a budget in place to maintain the apparatus and carry out remedial drainage work? I would however support a more cautious approach to reinstate the original apparatus as a first step. The situation could be monitored and if nothing adverse occurs, then perhaps an expansion of the play area could be considered. In this way, the Council is still seen to be doing something positive, less of the Council's investment would be exposed to vandalism and the immediate impact on residents would be reduced.</p>

Response to consultation letters: Proposed Play Area at Taymouth Drive

11 Against 8 For

For/ Against	Submission Details
For 01 (2 from same address)	<p>I write in reply to the letter I received regarding the proposed playpark at Taymouth Drive. I am 100% in favour of such a park as I feel that the area is sadly lacking in any recreational grounds for the kids. The Castle Levan is an estate of mostly houses with 2, 3, 4 bedrooms which are obviously home to kids. I feel this would be a great asset as it would encourage kids to be outdoors playing safely near their homes, encourage them to make friends with their neighbours and generally allow them to be kids instead of indoors playing computer games. I hope this proposal goes ahead and I, along with a lot of mums I have spoken to on the estate, would make great use of it. Thanking you in anticipation.</p> <p>I would like to say YES to the childrens play park in our local area. This is long overdue and will be very welcome by the large numbers of families on the castle levan estate. I realise there will be concerns with the more immediate locals to the site but I am sure these will be dealt with and hopefully they can see that this will be a good thing for our area and give the children somewhere to go as there is nothing really within walking distance for the kids. Thank you in advance .</p>
For 02	I am emailing to confirm my SUPPORT the park proposal in Taymouth Drive.
For 03	Regarding your consultation for the proposed play area at the end of Taymouth Drive, Gourrock, please note that I am very much in favour of this development. My only reservation is that this area of land tends to be very boggy in wet weather and some attention would need to be paid to drainage. However, I am sure your planners will be aware of this.
For 04	Dear Sir/Madam, Thank you for your letter regarding the play area at the end of Taymouth Drive. I support the construction of the play area, unfortunately too late for my teenage daughter but I do have a doubts regarding the control / monitoring of the area if it starts to become a "hang-out" for gangs/ drinkers / drugs. The previous play area in the same ground was sadly abused by the above and led to its removal. I don't know how you do this, possibly a lockable gate at night ??? I know this costs money but not as much as it does to build it. It would be a shame to let these people cause the decline of such areas for the little ones in an area that is sadly lacking facilities for them.
For 05	Hi, Regarding the proposed play park at the end of Taymouth Drive, Gourrock, I would like to say that we are definitely in favour of this. We believe it is essential that there is a facility for local children to play & the proposed scheme clearly would meet that need.
For 06	As a resident of Taymouth Drive I welcome the possibility of installing a play area in the plot at the end of Taymouth Drive.
For 07	Hi I received a letter regarding the proposed play area at the end of Taymouth Drive, I would like to state that my husband and myself fully support a play park being put on there, when we bought our house 14 years ago the estate agent explained that area already had plans for a play park and I assume many residents bought their house on that understanding, so we are very pleased to see the council spending money on a play facility in this area as the children don't have anything within close walking distance.
For 08	As a resident of Taymouth Drive, Gourrock, I am writing to confirm my support for the creation of a new play area at the end of the drive and I hope that it will prove to be popular with the intended age group. Thank you for advising the residents of these proposals and for undertaking this consultation exercise.