

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

13th June 2011

**Silverdale Play Area Report**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor M. Webb
Relevant Head of Service	John Godwin – Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Key Decision	

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 Following receipt of a petition entitled “Potential Closure of Silverdale Play Area” at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 1st March 2011, the Board requested an in depth report be submitted by the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 (a) that the Overview and Scrutiny Board note the contents of this report; and  
(b) that the Overview and Scrutiny Board put forward any recommendations it deems necessary.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 It was believed that this petition had been compiled following the report received by Cabinet on 1st December 2010 which referred to improvements to Laurel Grove/Beech Road play area.
- 3.2 The report to Cabinet requested Members to approve the improvements and enhancements of the play and ancillary facilities funded from £51,000 Section 106 Monies. This investment was part of 106 monies coming from the local development in All Saints Road.
- 3.3 The report gave a history and background to recent improvements made in the Sidemoor Ward at King George Recreation Ground, with provision of a MUGA from Dabid Funding, Floodlights from 106 funding and junior/risky play from Big Lottery funding.
- 3.4 Information was provided from PPG17 and detailed how the project supported the recommendations of higher quality facilities in strategic locations, which improved community cohesion by bringing local residents together in one area. The PPG17 report also sets out provision standards for access which were essential for maximising usage of the sites as well as providing opportunities for people who use the site. It recommended that

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

13th June 2011

the standard for provision for children was a 10 minute walk time to play areas. (Google maps of location attached for information at Appendix 1.)

- 3.5 Officers sought a suitable local scheme in line with Corporate Objectives, priorities and the principals of the Play Strategy and the restraints identified. The provision at Laurel Grove/Beech Road was in need of qualitative and quantitative Improvements and as such the scheme was considered to be the most appropriate.
- 3.6 Reference was also made to consideration being given to future play funding opportunities in this area, as detailed below:

*“By increasing the quality of the provision in Sidemoor through this scheme and recent improvement at King George Recreation Ground, BDC will be able to consider in the future the potential to rationalise other play areas, for example the small and badly located Silverdale Close play area, and return them to either POS or potential look at using them as investment locations. This play area is within a 5 minute walking distance from Laurel Grove/Beech Road Play area and has several issues that would need to be considered as part of a future review.”*

- 3.7 The report outlined the following recommendations to Members: -

*“Cabinet are requested to recommend to full Council that the above scheme be included to the forward Capital Programme for 2010/2011 and request officers to undertake the work required before the “claw back” point is reached.”*

- 3.8 Officers fully appreciate and understand that there has been a level of confusion caused by the comments. However, the report suggested consideration be given for future play funding opportunities in areas when local sites came to the end of their useful life. Silverdale was used as an example only. No decision would be made without full consultation and engagement with local people and stakeholders and with the full approval of Members through the Cabinet process.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The Silverdale Close Play Area is currently safe and well maintained and was upgraded in 2002 and has not come to the end of its useful life.

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

13th June 2011

4.2 The play area will continue to be fully inspected and maintained in line with all Council inspection and maintenance procedures.

**5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

8.1 Objective Two – One Community, by working and engaging with local people to seek their needs, views and ideas

**9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

9.1 There are no implications for purpose of this report.

**10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT**

12.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY**

13.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

13th June 2011

14.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

15.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

16.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

17.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

**18. LESSONS LEARNT**

18.1 N/A

**19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

19.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	No
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural, Environmental and Community Services	Yes
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	No
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Resources	No

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

13th June 2011

Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

**21. WARDS AFFECTED**

Sidemoor Ward

**22. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Google Images of location of play area.

**23. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Cabinet Report

**24. KEY**

None

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

Name: Jackie Boreham – Parks & Recreations Officer  
E Mail: [j.boreham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:j.boreham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01527 881611