



To: Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health
Report by: Paula Bishop, Children & Young People's Services Manager
Relevant scrutiny committee: Community Services Scrutiny Committee 1/7/2010
Wards affected: All Wards

BIG LOTTERY / URBAN ADVENTURE PLAY PROJECT APPRAISAL Not a Key Decision

1. Executive summary

In June 2008 the Community Services Committee approved the development of the Urban Adventure Play programme for the City Council including the 4 play projects supported by three year funding from the Big Lottery. A project appraisal for the purchase of the ChYpPS Community Play Boat was approved in July 2008.

This report accompanies the retrospective appraisals for the Urban Adventure Play Base at Cherry Hinton Hall and Bramblefields Play Installation, for additional S106 funding to be released to cover the cost of MCA certification for the ChYpPS Community Play Boat and a separate project appraisal for the Play Trails at Cherry Hinton Hall.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended:

**To approve the Big Lottery Urban Adventure Play Portfolio Project Appraisal
To approve the Big Lottery Play Trails Project Appraisal
To seek the approval of the executive councillor for an additional £35k from section 106 resources from Community Development to enable the ChYpPS Community Play boat to comply with MCA certification requirements**

3. Background

3.1 In 2005 funding was announced by the government to promote and develop national play provision for children and young people. The funding was allocated via the Big Lottery and Cambridge City Council's allocation of £200,000 was awarded in 2008. The funding supports the development of the Urban Adventure Play programme in the city for 3 years.

- 3.2 Urban Adventure Play (UAP) is the ChYpPS response to growing demands nationally and locally to take play back to basics, to promote outdoor play, to encourage children to take more risks, find more challenging play environments and to have fun! Our version of this is limited by the urban landscape but as a city we are well provided with many good quality parks and open spaces. We are currently in the third year of a pilot programme training staff in the delivery of UAP, training others outside of the authority and delivering sessions both on and off the UAP site at Cherry Hinton Hall.
- 3.3 The Big Lottery funding has enabled us to develop 4 UAP projects:
- The Community Play Boat which will deliver open access and targeted sessions on board a customised narrow boat from temporary riverside moorings and be available for short residential projects
 - Urban Adventure Play Base at Cherry Hinton Hall where staff and children and young people learn new skills to support outdoor living and adventurous play.
 - Play Trails also at Cherry Hinton Hall which will be open access, promoted through the ChYpPS web pages and involve children, young people and local artists in the creation of interactive trails through the woods and around the pond.
 - Bramblefields Community Play Space is another open access project to encourage greater ownership by children and young people of the LNR (local nature reserve) in East Chesterton. This project includes the installation of new 'natural' play equipment.
- 3.4 A project appraisal for the purchase of the ChYpPS Community Play Boat was approved in July 2008. Since then we have been required to re run the tendering process and have identified additional costs, we are requesting additional S106 resources to meet the cost of MCA certification.
- 3.5 Both Bramblefields LNR play installation and the Cherry Hinton Hall Urban Play Base have been in usage for over a year. Bramblefields was officially launched in September 2009 and is used on a daily basis. The base is a closed facility, operated by ChYpPS offering both training provision for staff and on site activity of small groups of children and young people.

4. Implications

- 4.1 **Finance** - the project has been funded by the Big Lottery for 3 years. There will be ongoing revenue costs beyond 2011 which will be met by the ChYpPS baseline budget.

- 4.2 **Staffing** – funding to provide staffing is covered in the first three years by revenue funding from the Big Lottery and match funding from the ChYpPS baseline budget.
- 4.3 **Equalities** – Our focus is to ensure open access to all of the sites and to promote the projects to groups and communities who are currently under represented on ChYpPS projects eg traveller children and children with disabilities.

5. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Cambridge City Charter For Play – Community Services Committee June 2008

6. Appendices

- Capital Project Appraisal & Procurement Report for the Big Lottery Play Trails Project
- Capital Project Appraisal & Procurement Report for the Big Lottery Urban Adventure Play Portfolio

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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