

Project Management

Play Builder Project planning, implementation and delivery will be an integral element of the 'Play Partnerships' strategic, overarching role in the delivery of Halton's Play Agenda.

The Play Partnership has established a 'Play Building Project Team' modelled on the robust, successful, multi-disciplinary team formed to deliver the award winning Phoenix Park play and youth project. (2007 Regional Property Award for the best Partnership Project in the North West of England). The project leader of the Phoenix Park Project (Divisional Manager, Leisure and Community Services) has also been recruited to lead the Play Builder Project Team.

Play Builder Project Team members will be recruited from; the Play Partnership, the private (particularly social housing partners) and voluntary sector and appropriate disciplines within the local authority particularly with those who specialises link to Play Builder priority areas.

There will be a core project team recruited for the life of the project (approx 12 in number) with the project team having the option to recruit / co-opt (short term) members from time to time, who skills or local knowledge are particularly valuable for individual projects.

The core project team recruited to date includes:

Chair:	Divisional Manager, Leisure and Community Services (Health and Community Directorate)
Servicing Officer	Play Services Manager (CYP Directorate)
Members	Principal Landscape and Conservation Officer (Neighbourhood Services)
	Section Leader Highways (Environmental Directorate)
	Community Development Officer (consultation) (Health and Community Directorate)
	External Funding Manager (CYP Directorate)
	Manager, Barnardos Wider Horizons (Inclusion Project)
	Children & Young People Area Network Manager (Area 4)

Invitations have been extended (and are currently being followed up) to representatives from; Planning and Health. Currently co-opted members include three representatives from local social housing providers; Riverside Housing, Liverpool Housing Trust and CDS Housing.

Halton Borough Council

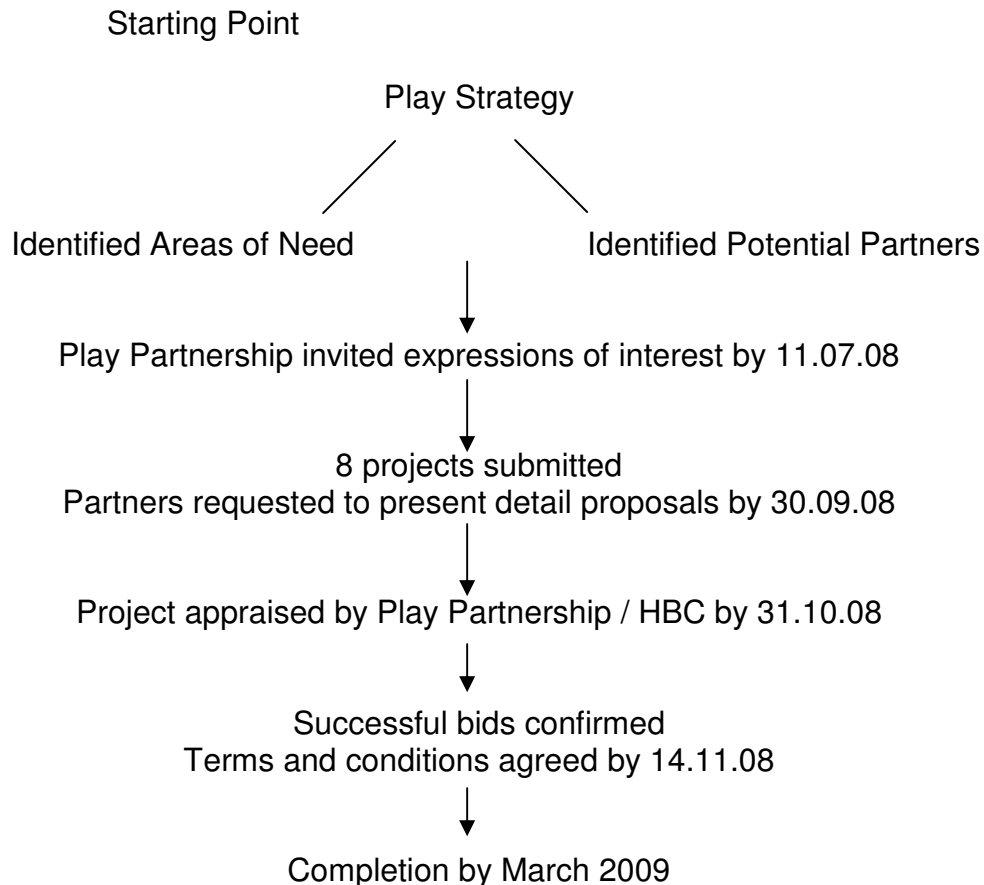
Play Builder Project Plan

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Initial protocols for Design, Build and Procurement have been developed and are still being shaped and finalised at the time of writing. These protocols draw heavily on the robust terms and conditions for capital grants that were in place for the Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme. The initial stage i.e. identification of potential projects varies in Year 1 because of the short development time frame to meet capital expenditure targets.

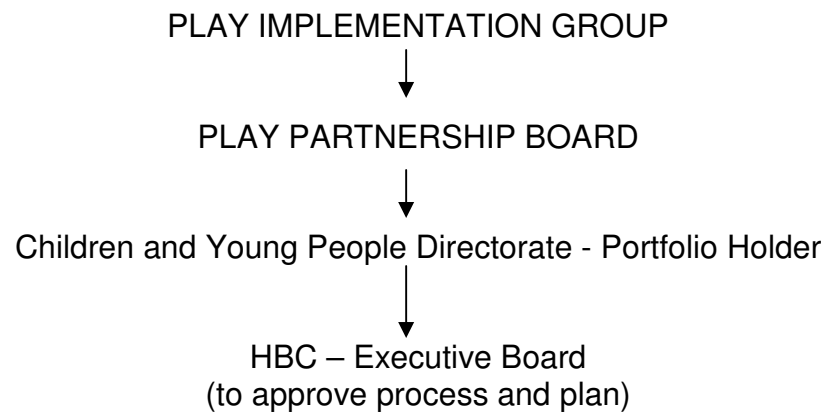
Year 1 Process



(*see Appendix 2 for Year 1 – project information)

Council Approval Process

The following approval process has been proposed (subject to formal approval)



Day to day decisions on project to be delegated to Children and Young People's Directorate Portfolio Holder and Strategic Director Children and Young People.

Possible Play Builder Sites 2008 / 2009

		Site Ownership	Sustainable	Design Capacity	Needs Analysis	Consultation	Delivery Capacity	Match
Site	Delivery Agent							
Widnes Hale Park	HBC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Widnes - Spike Island	HBC	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y
Widnes - Crow Wood	HBC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Runcorn – Town Hall	HBC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Runcorn – Murdishaw	LHT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Runcorn – Halton Brook	Riverside	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Rationale

General

The time frame in which to deliver a minimum of 6 (up to £50,000) Play Projects in year 1 is very demanding and a pragmatic approach to identification of projects was required.

This pragmatic approach was based on the following criteria;

- Government Guidance; the Playbuilder guidance challenges authority's to build new or **transform** existing provision, to be innovative and to create facilities that will make a statement of intent as well as improving facilities for young people; the guidance also required authority's to engage with third sector providers in the delivery of the project.
- Design/Delivery capacity; do resources exist to allow for the design and delivery of the projects with in the demanding capital spend timeframe for year 1.
- Needs Analysis/Consultation; the guidelines for developing project emphasised the importance for projects to be demand/need led and for the engagement of local children and families in the process.
- Sustainability; the Playbuilder project delivers significant capital funding but no long-term revenue stream to sustain development. Availability of revenue funding to maintain/sustain play development projects is therefore a key priority.

In considering year 1 proposals; their location and strategic benefit it is important to take account of the total project. Years 2 and 3 have 25% (£100,000) more capital provision than year 1 and a further 16 development projects must be identified.

Halton Borough Council Led Projects

There are five Halton Borough Council led projects proposed all of which were considered as part of the Big Lottery Funded Play Programme. The five projects all meet the demanding criteria identified above.

Town Hall Park/Spike Island

Both these sites were approved by executive board (September 2007) as part of the Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme. Adding Playbuilder funding to the existing funding will ensure an impactful, high profile facility and represent a Value for Money option.

Hale Park

An already approved development with existing capital. Playbuilder contribution to project will have same impact as for above.

Crow Wood/Town Park

Sites for which there is sustainability funding available, are currently being considered for redevelopment and with which the local community are already engaged. Playbuilder funding would enable and enhance these proposals.

All Halton Borough Council year 1 proposals are targeted at sites which are both, a local (neighbourhood) facility and a destination site. Investment in these sites would significantly enhance Halton's portfolio of 'destination sites'.

Third Sector Led Projects

Several social housing providers were actively engaged in the development of the Halton Play Strategy 2007-11 (approved by Executive Board September 2007), and the Play Services Manager has subsequently supported Riverside Housing Trust in their successful Big Lottery Funded Playful Ideas bid. Government guidance (as indicated earlier) also identified 3rd sector providers as key partners in the Playbuilder process.

All four of the Third Sector led projects deliver;

- Sustainability, revenue streams to maintain/sustain facilities developed
- Additional match funding to maximise impact/play value and represent a Value for Money project
- Have already undertaken needs analysis and local consultation
- Have the resources to lead the design and build process to deliver within the time frame

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Likelihood of occurrence (Scored out of 3)

- Low = Never / unlikely / small chance / no known occurrence
- Medium = Average chance / occurs infrequently
- High = Strong / very strong chance / occurs on a regular basis

Impact of occurrence (Scored out of 3)

- Type 3 = High risk – severe degradation of quality, increased cost, missed deadline
- Type 2 = Medium risk – day to day normal risk that will be solved
- Type 1 = Low risk – small risk, easy to solve

The Local Play Indicators

Appendix 7

The performance indicators for play provision are defined in the table below.

Local Play Indicators

Indicator 1	Participation	Method of generation
Description	The percentage of all children and young people aged birth to 16 (i.e. from all social and ethnic groups, including those who are disabled), who play out for at least four hours each week	Household survey
Indicator 2	Access to a variety of facilities and spaces	Method of generation
Description	The percentage of children and young people aged birth to 16 that have access to at least three different types (type A, type B, type C) of space or facility, at least one of which is a dedicated place for play and informal recreation, which are all within easy walking or cycling distance as defined below	Open space and play strategy audits GIS mapping
Indicator 3	Quality of facilities and spaces	Method of generation
Description	The proportion of facilities and spaces that have been assessed using the Quality Assessment tool and where improvement plans are being implemented as a result of unsatisfactory assessments	Quality Assessment tool
Indicator 4	Satisfaction	Method of generation
Description	The percentage of all children and young people (i.e. from all social and ethnic groups, including those who are disabled), who think that the range and quality of play facilities and spaces they are able to access in their local neighbourhood is good/very good.	School Survey

In the near future detailed guidance will be available from Play England on data collection and analysis methods for these play indicators.