

REPORT TO:	<i>Kings Lynn Area Consultative Committee (KLACC)</i>		
DATE:	9 th November 2020		
TITLE:	Report following Play areas informal group meetings		
TYPE OF REPORT:	<i>Report to KLACC</i>		
PORTFOLIO(S):	N/A		
REPORT AUTHOR:	John Greenhalgh		
OPEN/EXEMPT	Open	WILL BE SUBJECT TO A FUTURE CABINET REPORT:	Yes

REPORT SUMMARY/COVER PAGE

PURPOSE OF REPORT/SUMMARY:

- KLACC approved a recommendation on 31/10/19 to allocate funding from Kings Lynn special expenses in 2020/21 over 15 years for a new play area at South Lynn Community centre **AND** that an informal sub-group be set up to report back to the committee on priorities for capital schemes within Kings Lynn. The detail of the costing implications are listed at 1.2 in the November 2019 report.
- Cabinet On 04/02/20 approved the 2nd of these recommendations only and as such an informal working group was set up.
- The sub-group was set up consisting of Chair Cllr Frances Bone, and Cllrs Jo Rust and Alexandra Kemp supported by Officers Kathy Wagg, John Greenhalgh, Martin Chisholm and Nathan Johnson.
- The sub-group met twice to consider the play provision in King's Lynn and make recommendations to the KLACC.

KEY ISSUES:

- The sub-group met on 15/09/20 and received a report from Nathan Johnson listing and detailing existing play areas in Kings Lynn. As a result, prior to making a decision the three Councillors decided to visit all the play/ recreation areas listed for a visual survey. In addition, the Councillors looked at as much play provision within King's Lynn as they could.
- At the 2nd sub-group meeting on 14/10/20 Cllrs Bone, Rust and Kemp reported back on this visual survey and received example costings for various pieces of equipment and also estimates for repairs and improvements to the Wisbech Rd play area. In addition to the original £30,000 capital funds held within the 2020/2021 budget, a further £20,000 is estimated to be available as a result of an underspend on special expenses following the decision to utilise South Lynn Community Centre for staffing purposes.
- Cllr Jo Rust commented whilst the detail of the visual survey was outlined, that in fact King's Lynn was well provided for and in fact King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council should be proud of what is available for children and young people.
- It should be noted that there are some financial implications to be aware of:
 - The £20k proposed underspend is based on estimates and at year end the position could be better or worse. This will be monitored and reported to KLACC throughout the year so that action can be taken if needed.

- The CCTV capital spend will result in an annual revenue cost due to ongoing operational cost of CCTV estimated at £1482 per annum. This will need to be factored into special expenses to be charged each year.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A productive and full discussion between Officers and Members led to the following recommendations that KLACC are now recommended to accept:
 1. £30,000 to made available for the South and West Lynn areas. Approximately £11,000 for CCTV and fence repairs at the Wisbech Rd play area and approximately £19,000 for new equipment.
 2. £20,000 to made available for additional equipment at Edma St and Queen Elizabeth Ave Play areas.

Note: Nathan Johnson will provide Members with more detailed reports of what play equipment is achievable within these financial limits.

This decision was unanimously agreed by Officers and Members and it was agreed this would provide suitable provision in areas where Members decided improvements and additional equipment was required. All present agreed that this was a fair decision looking at the whole of Kings Lynn including West Lynn. Members also made suggestions as to the type of equipment and its age range for Nathan Johnson to consider.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The meetings were productive, positive and agreements and compromises accepted by all. It was agreed that the provision and improvements agreed in broad terms met the gaps identified both geographically and across the age ranges. KLACC members are urged to accept the recommendations in order that works can commence as soon as possible.

There are no environmental or equal opportunity considerations required. It is anticipated that some adapted equipment can be included within the new provision.