Summary

The Community Initiatives and External Funding Officer has been supporting the Play Strategy Implementation Group to develop a Play Strategy for Hounslow and on the basis of this strategy submit a bid to the Big Lottery Fund for £571,862 to improve play opportunities for children and young people in the borough.

1.0 RECOMMENDATION

1.1 This report is provided for information only.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Early in 2006, a cross sector partnership, was established to research and write a play policy and strategy for Hounslow. On 3 October 2006, the executive approved a play policy for Hounslow. On 27 February 2007, the executive gave approval for the submission of a funding bid to the Big Lottery fund.

2.2 In September 2007 the final bid was submitted to the Big Lottery Fund for £571,862 to improve play opportunities across the borough. The funding bid requested funding for 6 play projects.

2.3 London Borough of Hounslow should receive notification if the bid is successful in December 2008.

3.0 DETAILS OF PROJECTS

3.1 The following tables give outline details of the projects in the bid.
### Play Out – East and Central

**Project Summary**
Team of play rangers working across the borough, encouraging children to engage in constructive play activities at different parks, open space and community centres across the east and central areas of the borough.

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Children and Young People (CYP) to be engaged in the design of the service.
- Barriers to CYP making use of open space across the borough reduced.
- CYP to enhance social skills and plan their own play activities with peers.
- Increased access to free play provision across the borough.

**Provider**
WestPlay and HAY in partnership

**Budget**
£130k

### Play Out - West

**Project Summary**
Team of play rangers working across the borough, encouraging children to engage in constructive play activities at different parks, open space and community centres across the west areas of the borough.

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Children and Young People (CYP) to be engaged in the design of the service.
- Barriers to CYP making use of open space across the borough reduced.
- CYP to enhance social skills and plan their own play activities with peers.
- Increased access to free play provision across the borough.

**Provider**
WestPlay and HAY in partnership

**Budget**
£140k

### Water Play – Inwood Park

**Project Summary**
Deliver a water based play area, with a high focus on social and interactive play between CYP.

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Increased access to play opportunities
- Increased social interaction
- Fully accessible play environment
- Local community involved in the design of play facilities.

**Provider**
CIP

**Budget**
£100k
### Adventure Play - Westmacott

**Project Summary**
Open up the natural space and make it more play friendly to take advantage of the great natural facilities. Enhance the play value of the embankment through remodelling and adding equipment.

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Increased independence
- Opportunities to test boundaries
- Increased interaction with the natural environment
- Increased well being through play

**Provider**
CIP

**Budget**
£50k

### Natural Play – Chester Rd

**Project Summary**
- Naturalised play area
- All natural equipment e.g. rope, wood, rocks, sand etc
- Incorporating different age groups & interactive materials

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Increased social interaction
- Opportunities to test boundaries
- Increased interaction with the natural environment
- Increased well being through play

**Provider**
Groundwork Thames Valley

**Budget**
£50k

### Wheel Play – Thornbury Playing Fields

**Project Summary**
Deliver a wheel park suitable for use by skates, skate boards and bmx’s. This will be designed through a consultation group of children and young people.

**Proposed Outcomes**
- Increased opportunities for children to be involved in the design and delivery of play facilities
- Increased well being through being active.
- Increased independence and social interaction.
- Opportunities to test boundaries and be challenged in play.

**Provider**
CIP

**Budget**
£50k

## 4.0 BENEFITS

4.1 Children playing out, be it in public spaces or dedicated play areas, signify a healthy community. Having “things to do and places to go” are vital to developing civic pride in the children and young people. Through investing in play opportunities we can improve health, reduce the fear of crime, build
cohesive communities and hit many other elements linked to creating safe and enjoyable communities for all citizens.

4.2 The lottery money available to Hounslow, in conjunction with the play strategy, presents an opportunity to create a legacy of play with children, young people and families using play areas and public space.

5.0 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 This funding, if awarded, will work to improve play opportunities for all children and young people in the borough.

6.0 COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

6.1

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<thead>
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<th>Background Papers:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hounslow’s Play Policy- Executive Committee 3 October 2006</td>
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<td>Progressing Hounslow’s Play Strategy- Executive Committee 27 February 2007</td>
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<th>This report has been or is due to be considered by:</th>
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<td>The Community Investment Advisory Panel</td>
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