
UP-GRADE OF PLAY PARK, GIBSON PARK, MELROSE

Report by Service Director Neighbourhood Services

WILLIAM HILL TRUST FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

23 February 2016

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes to request £33,000 funding from the William Hill Trust Fund Sub Committee in 2015/16 to contribute to the upgrade of the existing play park in Gibson Park, Melrose.**
- 1.2 £33,000 of funding has been identified in the Council's Capital programme for 2015/16 to upgrade the 20 year old children's play park in Gibson Park, Melrose. This funding would only provide a minimal upgrade to the play park.
- 1.3 Following discussion with local Members, it was agreed to try and identify additional funding to maximise the upgrade of the play park.
- 1.4 An overall budget of £66,000 would provide a significant improvement in the quality and diversity of new equipment for the play park.
- 1.5 Tenders have been sought for two options. One valued at £33,000 and the other at £66,000.

2 STATUS OF REPORT

- 2.1 This is an urgent paper, as the preferred option is the tender for a £66,000 improvement to the play park and it is proposed to install the new equipment in March 2016.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 I recommend that the Committee approve the funding of £33,000 from the William Hill Trust Fund Sub Committee in 2015/16 to contribute to the new proposed play park in Gibson Park, Melrose.**

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The existing play park in Gibson Park, Melrose was installed approximately 20 years ago. Although this equipment is functional, it is dated, and new improved facilities, which enhance the play experience for children, are widely available now.
- 4.2 The site available is limited, approximately 650 square metres, Tender Option 1, £33,000, retained several pieces of existing equipment which reduced the area available to the contractors to install new equipment. Tender Option 2, £66,000, removes all existing equipment to maximise the area available for the improved facilities.
- 4.3 This play park is the main play park in Melrose and is very popular with Melrose families and visitors, especially from the adjacent caravan site.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

£33,000 is being requested from the William Hill Trust Fund Sub Committee to contribute to the provision of a new, enhanced play park for Gibson Park, Melrose.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

If the contribution is not granted, then additional existing capital budget will be required, which will result in a delay to an already planned upgrade elsewhere in the Borders.

5.3 Equalities

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.

5.4 Acting Sustainably

The upgrade of the play park in connection with the proposal within this report, which will have an environmental impact when the work is undertaken, is designed to provide new improved community facilities which enhance the play experience for children and improve community quality of life.

5.5 Carbon Management

There is no impact associated with this project

5.6 Rural Proofing

There is no impact associated with this project.

5.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There is no impact associated with this project.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, and the Clerk to the Council are being consulted and any comments received will be incorporated into the final report.
- 6.2 Others to be consulted are the Procurement Officer and Corporate Communications.

Approved by

Jenni Craig
Service Director Neighbourhood Services **Signature**

Author(s)

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Background Papers: n/a
Previous Minute Reference: n/a

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