

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee 5th January 2017**

### **Report of the Head of Participation – Chris Millis**

#### **Matter for information**

**Wards Affected:** All

#### **Play Development Service Report Card 2016-2017**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the progress of the Play Development Service in Neath Port Talbot.

#### **Background**

2. The Play Development Team (Play Works) sits within the Think Family Partnership. The team's primary purpose is to improve children and young people's access to play opportunities.
3. The team has been funded in its entirety through Welsh Government Families First funding for a number of years and the services delivered by the team form part of Neath Port Talbot's Families First plan, specifically:

Family play support – one to one and group support for parents needing to improve their understanding of children's play and how they can provide an environment for play at home and in their community.

Play training – a range of accredited and non-accredited training aimed at improving the quality opportunities available to children and young people. Training is aimed at those working directly with children, those making decisions that impact on children’s play, and parents/carers.

Opportunities for children’s participation – a structured programme aiming to encourage children’s participation in decisions affecting their play, through school based Play Heroes and community engagement/consultation to inform new play developments.

Provision of play resources (Play Takeaway) – a play resources scheme supporting parents to provide a range of play for their children, through the loaning of varied resources to encouraged stimulation and development.

4. The authority has a statutory duty to assess for and secure sufficiency of play opportunities for all children and young people aged 0-17 years. The responsibility to ensure that the assessment is completed and submitted to Welsh Government sits with the team manager, along with the monitoring and reporting of progress on identified action plans.
5. The team is made up of eight members of staff (7 fte) – manager, two development officers, four family play workers, play support worker.

## **Financial Impact**

6. There are no financial impacts in relation to this report but Members should note the source of the funding to implement this area of work. In 2016/17 a 13% reduction in funding was made by Welsh Government, however this shortfall was made up by the Council in order that the Families First plan, and associated services, could be delivered in full. Therefore, for 2016/17 the funding of the team is 87% Families First, 13% NPTCBC core funding.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

7. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined that the proposal within this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

## **Workforce Impacts**

8. There are no direct workforce or staffing issues in relation to this report.

## **Legal Impacts**

9. There is no legal impact in relation to this report.

## **Risk Management**

10. There is no identified risk to this report.

## **Consultation**

11. Not applicable.

## **Recommendations**

12. The report be noted.

## **Implementation of Decision**

13. Not applicable.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Play Development Service Report Card 2016-2017

Officer Contact

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## Appendix 1 - Play Development Service Report Card 2016-2017