

## **Appendix I.**

### **Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF038/T2**

To supply and install new playground apparatus at the NPTCBC play area adjacent to The Vale of Neath Leisure Centre, Chain Road, in the Ward of Blaengwrach.

This bid has been developed as part of a more complex project requiring the input of the PDFU to hasten its delivery. It builds upon an earlier investment made by Councillor Carolyn Edwards in Tranche 1 of the Members Community Fund, which saw the installation of a junior 'Comet' roundabout.

The proposal is to add to the equipment already within the curtilage of the play area by installing a 'Glow Worm' see-saw, Horse springer and 'Zig-Zag' twister. The existing wooden seats, recently highlighted by RoSPA due to their deteriorating condition, will be replaced with galvanised steel benches installed onto concrete plinths.

The need for the proposal has come to the attention of the local Ward Member. The play area has seen little investment in recent years due to budgetary constraints imposed on the Local Authorities Streetcare Services. Items of play equipment deemed to be unsafe or time expired by previous RoSPA Inspections have been removed and not replaced, resulting in vacant pads of safety surfacing and a dearth of dynamic, challenging play apparatus. The 'Glow Worm' and Horse springer will be installed onto the two remaining pads of vacant safety surfacing, making good use of the existing space, and adding to the current provision by providing equipment for spinning/ rotating, and rocking, which the play area currently lacks.

The long term community benefits associated with the project include improved health and wellbeing and better physical, social and cognitive development amongst children. The additional apparatus and improved park furniture will greatly enhance a facility which provides a safe and secure environment for play and recreation for all year round community use.

This proposal has the full support of NPTCBC's Streetcare Services. They will be responsible, as they are now, for the ongoing insurance,

maintenance and inspection of the Park, including the new items to be installed, for the foreseeable future.

The new equipment will be of robust construction. It conforms to the relevant British and European standards i.e. steel components to EN 10087:1998, polyester powder paint to EN 13438:2005. The fixings are anti-vandal and corrosion resistant. Due to this there should not be any issues in terms of repair/replacement for the length of the extended warranty period.

The NPTCBC Streetcare Services will continue to carry out routine maintenance, grass cutting, litter picking and site supervision, to ensure the play area is kept clean and safe.

### **Recommendations**

The project is valued at £8,834.28. The Applicant, Councillor Carolyn Edwards, would wish to contribute £5,650 towards the proposal from her Members Community Fund allocation for the Ward of Blaengwrach. £3,000 has been assigned to the project from the 'Environment & Street Scene' Capital programme, and the remaining £184.28 has been secured from the PDFU Project Enabling Fund.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.