

# Runnymede Borough Council Play Strategy



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## 1. Introduction

This strategy builds on the Council's play policy (published in 2003) and on the consultation undertaken with children, young people and families for the play policy, Youth and Children's best value review (2005) and the Cultural Strategy. It also takes into account work done by the Youth Development Service in identifying the needs of young people in the Borough and gives a framework for the development of play opportunities in the Borough.

Whilst the focus is on young people, much of the provision is for the benefit of the wider community. Runnymede Borough Council recognises the importance of play and had existing play and youth policies in place. With the emphasis on the 0 -18 age range a new strategy was felt to be required to amalgamate the existing policies into one document and to also update and refresh the information that fed into the policy documents.

There is no doubting the value of play in all its forms, be this the use of fixed facilities such as play areas and sports facilities or organised activities such as summer play schemes and after school clubs. The term play as used in the strategy refers to play in all its guises structured and non- structured, both inside and outside the educational environment. There are risks inherent in play activities and the strategy recognises that taking risks enhances the play experience and in fact is a benefit as it engages the young people and this will play a part in identifying projects for the future.

As part of the consultation process a definition of play was developed which was as follows '*Play should be fun, self directed, challenging and recreational that encourages learning by doing, developing social skills and the individual*'.

## 2. Strategy Development

### 2.1 National Perspective

Over recent years it has been recognised how important play is and that play deprivation can have a serious impact on a child's development. Every Child Matters identified 5 key outcomes of which be healthy, be safe and enjoy and achieve are all linked to the children's play agenda. The play strategy links into these outcomes by encouraging enjoyment, participation and access to play.

There has recently been a significant move towards getting young people more active to combat the growing child obesity problem. The recommendation at the present time is that children and young people do at least one hour's moderate intensity activity five or more days a week, with a recommendation that they undertake four hours' activity outside the curriculum by 2008. Schools have a requirement for two hours of physical activity weekly, not all of which is presently being catered for in Runnymede schools due to a lack of indoor facilities. There is therefore a deficit in activity. A number of children will attend out of school clubs to make up this deficit but to many this may be cost prohibitive so the provision of free and recreational play can help to fill the gap.

The planning for play guidance identified that the play strategy should:

- Make effective use of funding
- be embedded within key strategic plans and initiatives
- sustain play provision over the long term
- improve public space as an environment for play
- improve children's access to safe places to play and socialise
- provide more and better local and inclusive play opportunities where they are most needed.

### 2.2 Strategy Aims

To develop a play strategy for Runnymede which identifies the existing facilities and services and how improved play provision can impact on the health, social well being and safety of young people up to the age of 18.

To look specifically at the needs of groups that have been unable to access play provision, including children from disadvantaged backgrounds and the disabled.

### 2.3 Objectives

The main objectives of the strategy are:

- To identify areas of greatest need and to recommend that resources are targeted accordingly.
- To provide a focal point for all local groups and organisations involved in the provision of play.
- To audit of existing play provision within the borough.

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- To produce a balanced portfolio of projects within the strategy that allows a wide range of young people to access free play provision and the drawdown of the lottery funding allocated to the Borough by the Big Lottery.
- To ensure that projects are sustainable.
- Create a balance between both supervised and unsupervised play opportunities.
- To identify other funding opportunities that may further develop play provision in the borough.
- To develop local training opportunities to improve the quality of play work practice.
- To carry out consultation within the community aiming at the specific target groups of young people, families and community organisations.
- To establish a Play Partnership to manage the projects once identified.

### **2.4 Strategy Approach**

This strategy acknowledges the importance of play and ensuring as wide a range of opportunities are available as possible within each young person's local environment.

As well as considering built facilities the strategy has recognised that development work is equally as important to encourage use of the facilities available.

The outcomes should therefore be that play opportunities are enhanced so that there are a range of different types of play for different children and young people. Investment should be based on need. The play environments and activities should encourage participation through inclusion and design. The strategy will encourage the development of partnership working and be used to seek sources of external funding.

One of the risks with any proposed programme is that even if a need is identified the local residents others can raise objections when they are consulted. It is therefore proposed that schemes and projects identified will be based around areas where there has been prior consultation and support.

### **2.5 Which Young People will Benefit?**

The play strategy is intended to benefit young people up to the age of 18 but will also have an effect on families and local communities within Runnymede. The value of play to assist children develop in all the key development areas such as social, health and physical is well documented and the strategy is therefore providing an opportunity to develop a planned approach to enhance opportunities for free play that is self directed.

### **2.6 Scope**

The Scope of strategy is broad as it was felt that all the previous consultation with young people had identified a range of issues that impacted on their opportunities to participate in activities. These were not just cost and facilities but also more fundamental problems such as transport.

The Play Strategy therefore looked at all these issues within the context of the guidance to see what would best suit the Borough. As well as fixed facilities, which have been identified as being required in specific wards in the Borough and link into existing projects, it was also felt that there should be a facilitating element to the projects identified to encourage young people and families to access the facilities and resources available. These may not be big projects in monetary terms but they will target the groups with limited access to play opportunities.

### **3. Play Partnership**

Interested parties from local statutory agencies and voluntary organisations were invited to form a play partnership and contribute ideas about play needs in July 2006. The membership was drawn from a cross section of organisations, in order to ensure the views of different communities, children and young people with disabilities were represented. The aims and objectives of the group are those used in the strategy.

The aims and objectives of the play partnership are identified above specifically the delivering of the strategy and funding the identified projects within the borough from the Big Lottery allocation of £200,000.

Members of the play partnership will continue to be involved in the management of projects relating to the Play Strategy.

## **4. Play opportunities for children and young people in Runnymede**

### **4.1 Background**

The population of Runnymede is about 79,500 (census mid-year estimate, 2005). Approximately 22% of that population is aged 19 and under.<sup>1</sup> Of these, the largest groups are the under 5's (5.5% in 2001) and the 10-14 age group (5.4% in 2001).

A full community audit, produced for the Borough's Community Strategy was utilised to look at existing facilities and groups available to young people. The audit includes a list of facilities for children and young people; activities run in different areas and facilities that are available for hire. A summary of existing provision for children and young people is given below.

The Borough has three county secondary schools, 4 independent secondary schools and 30 primary and junior schools. There is also a school for 11-19's with moderate learning disabilities, a specialist school for children with autism and a school, run by "ICan" for children with aphasia in Ottershaw.

The schools are formed into three confederations: Runnymede North (Egham, Englefield Green and Virginia Water) Runnymede South (Addlestone, New Haw and Ottershaw) and Chertsey. Many of the junior and senior schools offer after school clubs whose activities include sports, arts, languages and computing. Some of the after school clubs are run by teaching staff, parents or other community groups.

The White Lodge Centre in Chertsey works with children and young people with disabilities, offering specialist activities through their nursery, clubs and respite care. Based on the same site, White Lodge's adult and community support services co-ordinate activities for adults with physical disabilities.

### **4.2 Out of school activities**

There are 119 registered childminders, 1 special needs nursery, 1 maintained nursery, 18 sessional pre-schools, 4 creche's and 12 full day-care nurseries in the Borough. Runnymede also benefits from a well-regarded voluntary-run Toy Library (based in the Methodist Church in Addlestone).

1888 places are registered annually on the holiday play schemes run for children by the Borough Council, which also runs an annual Splash scheme for 11-16 year olds. Eight other holiday schemes, three breakfast clubs and five after-school clubs are known to the Early Years Service. For the past six years the Council and White Lodge have worked in partnership to widen the inclusion of children with disabilities within the schemes. This started with the provision of an assessment service, specialist training and staffing to include disabled children in the schemes by White Lodge. It has progressed so that in 2007 White Lodge will provide specialist training to playscheme staff, who will know what to look for and how to work with children

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<sup>1</sup> ONS website – 1998-based short-term sub national population projections for local authority areas in England. Updated 23/4/2001

with disabilities, rather than employing specialist staff. White Lodge will continue to act in an advisory capacity. White Lodge also runs a lively programme of holiday and respite activities for children with special needs where they are unable to join other programmes.

The Council's play and Splash schemes have been operating for over 10 years. The playschemes cater for children aged between 4.5 and 11 years olds and operates through most holiday periods. Splash operates for 4 weeks during the summer holidays and is aimed at the 11 to 16 age group. The service is primarily aimed at Borough residents, but also used by children and young people from surrounding areas.

The County's Youth Development Service (YDS) runs clubs at Englefield Green, Egham and Addlestone, and supports detached/club-based activities at New Haw and Chertsey. There are 41 youth groups registered with the Youth Service in the Borough and a number of unregistered clubs. The YDS runs projects for young carers, a group for young parents and toddlers and sexual health clinic as well as time limited projects targeted at areas highlighted by young people. In 2006 the YDS conducted a needs analysis with young people and the Addlestone community. The issues raised by the young people are incorporated in the consultation summary at appendix 2.

The Borough's Community Safety Officer runs an annual Junior Citizen scheme in which all year 6 children (aged 9-10) are invited to participate, via their schools.

### **4.3 Parks and Open spaces**

Runnymede Borough Council manages over 300 hectares of park and open space for community use. This includes 25 hectares of supervised parks, 21 football pitches, 7 cricket squares and 11 tennis courts. There are six free access multi-use games areas located in open spaces across the Borough (New Haw, Addlestone, Chertsey, Englefield Green, Ottershaw and Virginia Water) and three skate facilities (Addlestone, New Haw and Englefield Green) and a youth shelter in Addlestone.

There are five supervised parks each with children's play equipment and pitches. Four of the parks also contain paddling pools.

The Borough Council provides, inspects and maintains 29 play areas in parks and open spaces and six in housing areas. New play areas are designed and inspected to meet the latest industry standards (EN 1176 and EN 1177). These play areas are designed to incorporate opportunities for different types of play e.g. physical challenge, imaginative and social development. They are then added to the list of sites to be inspected on a monthly basis. Independent companies are contracted to undertake monthly and annual maintenance inspections producing a report identifying any risks or maintenance work required.

The Council allocated an initial sum of £329,000 for the refurbishment of play areas, 10 of which have recently been completed to include new and refurbished play equipment and fencing. The capital programme for the Council was recently updated and a further £300,000 was allocated for the period 2008/09 to 2010/11. This will enable the next phase of refurbishments to take place and also allow the Council potentially to use this as match funding for larger schemes that may need external funding.

An £87,000 play area at Chertsey Meads, funded by section 106 monies for new housing developments at Chertsey Bridge Wharf and Meadow View, was completed in spring 2007. The location of the play area on Chertsey Meads reflects a need for play provision identified in the local plan. The area has been designed to reflect the desire for the area to re-gain its SSSI status and the play area is therefore made of wood to reflect this and to enable it to blend in with the surroundings.

The Council is currently developing a new park and play facilities in the Hythe/Pooley Green area (to the north of the Borough), on the site of largely disused allotments; children and young people have been involved in identifying ideas for the new park and in their development. A summary of their responses is included in the consultation summary at appendix 1. The Bishops Way Park has also been identified as a park requiring development and new facilities and consultation with local residents is shown in appendix 2

Three of the Council's parks buildings are leased to playgroups and pre-schools. Children's activities and clubs, including tumble-tots, Montessori nursery, Kumon maths and dance clubs are run from the community halls.

#### **4.4 Sports Development**

Sports development encourages participation in sport at all levels by children and young people, through club development and establishing links between schools and clubs. This is achieved through individual contact, support for national and county-wide programmes (Active Sport, Surrey Youth Games) and work with the Runnymede Sports Council. The sports council locally also has an input through the funding of 'have a go' days and creating links with local clubs. A community sports coach for hockey has been employed and has raised the profile of the sport in the borough.

#### **4.5 Grant Aid**

This is administered from central funds to organisations fulfilling a valuable role in the community, in line with the Council's aims. The grants include those to individuals in the sports and arts areas, clubs, organisations involved in grass roots work and for improvements to local community facilities. The Council's grant aid also supports voluntary organisations working with children and families, such as Homestart.

#### **4.6 Leisure Centres**

The two leisure centres in the borough provide a range of structured and casual activities including football, badminton, martial arts, fitness, dance and tennis. There is a soft play facility at Egham Leisure Centre which is open access and it is proposed to extend to improve the play value. There are a number of junior clubs at the centres catering for all age ranges and abilities including the bright lights club that caters for disabled children.

Addlestone Leisure centre was re-launched in October 2006. The Leisure Centre is based on a school site and already works closely with Jubilee High School. The Centre is launching its junior membership in May 2007 and already runs a teen gym

course twice a week, junior fitness, circuits and street dance running. From September 2007 the centre will be running a club for children aged 8-12 who are obese and is considering joint projects, such as the "FIA adopt a school and go" initiative.

#### **4.7 Chertsey Museum**

The Museum is used extensively by schools for sessions on site but also in the school and an education officer runs this programme. There is scope to make the museum more accessible as it is not open in the mornings so activities for young mothers could be provided at these times.

#### **4.8 SNAP Disco's**

The introduction of a SNAP disco will be aimed at under 16's and is seen as a diversionary activity to get young people off the streets at weekends and will also be pushing the anti drugs message.

#### **4.9 Voluntary and faith sector**

A number of local churches provide activities for children and young people, including week-day and Sunday clubs.

The Beacon Church runs a Saturday club for children and young people with learning disability. Eikon, based in New Haw runs clubs and develops activities designed to support and challenge young people and families living in difficult circumstances to reach their potential. Homestart provides practical support to parents with children under 5 years who have difficulty coping. Runnymede Care Assistant Scheme provides a sitting service for parents with children with special needs. Carers Support Runnymede provide advocacy for parents needing to access Social Services support and benefits. Bright Lights and One to One provide leisure activities for children and young people with learning disability.

White Lodge runs "Little Stars", a parent and baby group that meets weekly, a specialist play scheme for children aged between 4 and 12 that meets twice a week during school holidays and a specialist scheme for young people aged 13-18 that meets once a month on a Saturday and for 2 weeks during the holidays. White Lodge also offers leisure breaks at "Treetops" (a residential activity centre for young people up to 12 years old), access to a sensory garden, sensory room and hydrotherapy pool and "family link" and home-based care schemes.

613 Runnymede young people aged between 6 and 18 are involved in scouting. 11 scout groups and 2 explorer scout units are run by 125 volunteer uniformed adult leaders and 200 parent supporters and administrators.

## 5. Research and Analysis of need

The general customer satisfaction in the leisure facilities provided by the Council is very good with improvements over the last 3 years. The 2006 survey identified the following headline satisfaction levels

- The general satisfaction for cultural and recreational activities at 62% up from 43.7% in 2003.
- Parks and open spaces at 82.1% up from 77.5% in 2003.
- Museums satisfaction levels stood at 48.8% up from 35.6% in 2003

### 5.1 Identifying Need

Census data, backed up with local knowledge, has identified that there are pockets of deprivation within the Borough and also some families and individuals who do not always have access to services and facilities. Some of these needs are being met through programmes or activities the Council and other partners have resolved to manage. Others remain as gaps in provision which the play strategy will help to bridge.

There is identified need across the Borough for support for children with disabilities. Runnymede is known to have the highest rate of children aged 8-15 with mental health needs in Surrey and there is no charity aimed at dealing with this issue. Runnymede parents access Aspergers/ADHD/ADD/Autistic Spectrum support groups in the neighbouring borough of Spelthorne.

### 5.2 Two Wards Project

This project was set up in September 2005 looking at the needs and opportunities of the two wards in Runnymede that the deprivation indices showed were most in need of assistance. The two wards were Chertsey St Ann's and Egham Hythe both of which were identified as having a number of needs most notably around the environment, housing, crime, community safety, education, health and unemployment.

Issues around children and youth were also identified, with the factors highlighted being the following:

#### Egham Hythe

- Medium priority for children's centre
- Lack of mother and toddler provision
- Targeted intervention with year 7 children

#### Chertsey St Ann's

- Medium priority for a children's centre
- No mother and toddler group
- Need for local worker to co ordinate needs of ward for childcare provision
- Safe play facilities were required
- Child safety in terms of locality and access to the railway line.
- Funding for youth worker to support the opening of a young people- run cafe
- Brookside Play Area

It was identified from the consultation by the Council's Partnership Officer and Runnymede's Voluntary Services that a community development worker could be utilised to deliver in these wards and funding for this position is presently being sought.

### **5.3 Discretionary Charges and Referral Scheme**

The Council operates a discretionary charges policy that operates in a number of ways to benefit children and young people. Examples of this in operation include free use of tennis courts for under 16's, reduced rates for student members of the fitness facilities and reduced rates for children on the summer schemes where parents are claiming benefits and for families with more than 1 child.

The referral scheme, which is in operation for the summer schemes, allows agencies to book young people on to the scheme and they only have to pay 50% of the charge the remainder is picked up by the Council in the form of a discount.

During the holiday periods the leisure centres have play for a £1 for under 18's which encourages participation and makes use of the facilities at off peak times.

### **5.4 Single Services Group**

The single services group is a partnership between the youth service, Runnymede Borough Council, Police, PCT and other groups dealing with young people. The aim of the group is to look at a co-ordinated approach to the provision and delivery of services to young people in the Borough. Work that the group has been involved in includes the setting up of a youth council, wider group sessions, setting up of Live and Direct (a project to encourage local young bands) and developing closer working relationships with the local Police Community Support Officers.

There is also funding available to local voluntary and community groups through the Abbey Farm Trust and the new Youth Opportunity Fund which encourages young people to put in funding bids. One project currently being planned is a youth celebration event in the late summer of 2007.

The work of the youth service has helped to identify needs and one good example of this was consultation carried out on activities young people would like to see in Addlestone. There was a great interest in football and this information will be used to access external funding for an upgrade to current facilities at Addlestone Leisure Centre as well as any football foundation bid for additional facilities or staffing to organise activities.

### **5.5 Consultation with children and young people**

Children and young people were consulted by the Council during the development of the Cultural Strategy, Community Strategy, Community Safety Strategy and Local Development Framework and during service reviews (for children & young people and for parks).

In addition children and young people have been consulted about the development and refurbishment of local play areas and about specific projects, some of which they have initiated, such as skate parks and lighting in parks. There are common themes in many of the responses, which have shaped agencies and organisations' projects. Others have fed into the projects proposed for the current strategy. A summary of consultation exercises and responses is shown at appendix 2. Children, young people and parents are also consulted annually about the playschemes and splash programmes to identify improvements and potential new activities.

Parents and young people's views have been specifically sought during the development of this strategy, both in terms of what they'd like to see and also their views about the projects we've proposed.

### **5.6 Local Democracy Week 2006**

The local democracy week provided an opportunity for young people to identify the areas of need. In the feedback there was identified to be a need for improved skate park facilities, play equipment and play areas that catered for older young people, youth shelters provided as a place for young people to socialise, access to cheap or free sports facilities and a venue to ride motor bikes safely.

Some of the issues and facilities highlighted are already provided locally and in many cases it may be a matter of better publicity of the fact. The provision of facilities for the older young people is an area that will be tackled by the strategy.

### **5.7 Chertsey Wharf and Painesfield Estate**

These are two new Chertsey estates that comprise a mixture of private and housing association properties. Discussions with the various agencies identified a range of needs on these estates. Those that impacted on children and young people included a lack of play facilities, transport to activities for parents with young children, more Homestart services and a number of issues relating to needs of single parent families. In recent months some progress has been made in terms of play provision with a new play area funded by section 106 contributions opened in Chertsey Meads so this will help to alleviate some of the problems around access to facilities as it is within walking distance of one of the estates.

### **5.8 Open Space Audit**

The Council's open space audit was undertaken following the publication of PPG17 which relates to Sport, Open Space and Recreation. The audit was utilised to provide information on the following areas:

- Identify local open space and recreations need.
- Set the context for the management of current open space.
- Establish any surplus or shortfall.
- Identify mitigation requirements.
- Examine the hierarchy of provision
- Establish a locally derived standard for future requirements.

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As part of the study of children's play space within the built up areas the NPFA standards as set out below were used.

Site	Age Range	Provision
LAP (Local Area for Play).	0-6 years, Adult supervision	Have no formal play equipment  Need to be within one minute's walking range or no further than 60m distance (straight line measurement).
LEAP (Locally Equipped area for Play).	Early school age to 8 years, Adult supervision	Should offer at least five types of play equipment. Located 400m or five minutes walking distance along pedestrian routes (240m straight line measurement) from nearby dwellings. Seating should be provided for accompanying adults.
NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play).	8-14 years, unsupervised area	Play area servicing a substantial residential area, equipped mainly for children between the ages of 8-14 years. Should offer at least eight different types of play opportunity including a kick about area, wheeled play opportunities, and seating for accompanying adults and teenagers to use as a meeting place.  Should be located 1000m or 15 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (600m in a straight line) from nearby dwellings.

Settlement studies were undertaken in the following areas:

**Addlestone, Chertsey, Egham, Englefield Green, Hythe, Little Green Lane, Lyne, New Haw, Ottershaw, Row Town, Thorpe and Virginia Water.**

The studies draw some comparative conclusions about the current levels of provision in each of these settlements. The settlement studies identified a number of areas where there was a lack of play facilities, these being Addlestone, Chertsey, Egham, Englefield Green, Hythe and Virginia Water. This information is to be utilised when drawing up the projects for the strategy as they will have been identified as being in areas of need.

### 5.9 Play Strategy Consultation

In addition to the previous consultation identified in this section there was specific consultation on the play strategy which began with contacting all organisations involved in activities with young people. A visioning event took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at which a range of possible projects were identified, a definition of play was developed and other consultees were identified. Representatives at the event

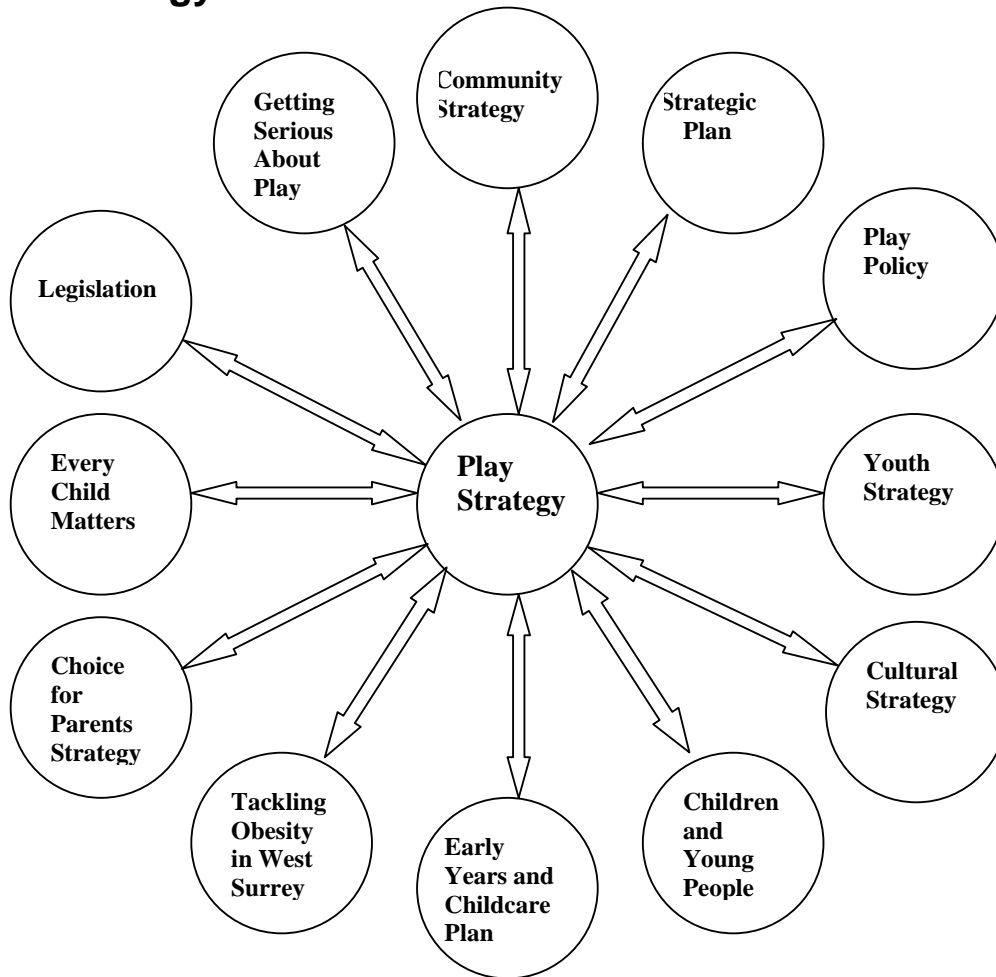
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included the health service, county council (youth service and extended schools), local churches, guides, scouts, local councillors, White Lodge and members of the local strategic partnership.

There were two events held with pupil representatives from the school confederations which provided ideas on needs in local areas. This included both primary and secondary schools and the schools confederations are represented on the play partnership. Some of the ideas are detailed below.

- Play workers in parks after school
- Bigger libraries with more quiet areas
- After school clubs
- 3D maze
- Improve Trumps Green play area
- Sculpture workshops
- Look at the equipment age groups
- MUGA at Runnymede Pleasure Ground
- Swimming pool
- New equipment at Manorcroft play area
- Cater for children with disabilities
- Graffiti wall
- Tennis and badminton provision in Egham
- Challenges in parks

## 6. Strategy Context



**Fig1. Internal and External Documents Impacting on the Play Strategy**

The diagram fig1 shows the local, regional and national strategies and plans that feed into the play strategy and that this is a two way process. There are also a range of internal and external factors that impact on and need to be taken into consideration when developing the strategy.

### 6.1 Runnymede Community Strategy

The Strategy developed five main themes which identified that Runnymede should be:

- Accessible to All
- Safe and Secure
- Healthy and Vibrant
- Creative and Valued
- Have an Exciting Future

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Play could have an impact in delivering some tangible benefits across these themes, for example improving the health of young people, providing diversionary activities and improved access to facilities and opportunities.

The Strategy does have a specific key priority based around young people '*To find out what young people want and need.*' To do this, young people need to maintain an effective voice in the community which in turn means better communication between statutory bodies and young people.

The key targets identified are the following:

1. *Out of School Activities*: work with other agencies to identify areas of greatest need, target resources to make the best use of facilities, skills to develop leisure/sport-based out-of-school activities and personal development for young people
2. *Consultation* with young people about the development of new services and facilities through the Youth Forum and other voluntary organisations working with Young People.
3. *Voice of Young People*: encourage the voice of Young People in town centre regeneration e.g. in the 'Planning for Real' type exercises.
4. *Grant Aid* and support scout, guide, voluntary youth groups and individual young people through grant aid and the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.
5. *Sports and the Arts*: publicise the availability of the RBC grants for young people for achievement in sports and the arts.
6. *Close Links with Young People*: to develop and maintain close links between the evolving community Strategy, the Youth Forum and other young people.
7. *Information and Communication*: to create an 'information portal' for young people and provide a link between the Youth Forum and the RBC website.

### 6.2 Strategic Plan

The five year plan incorporated two areas that have a direct impact on the provisions and opportunities for play, these being the promotion of Leisure and Culture and Opportunities for Young People. The strategy specifically includes working with young people to develop the positive use of leisure time and finding out what young people want and need.

### 6.3 Cultural Strategy

The Local Cultural Strategy was researched and published by Runnymede Borough Council in 2002 and presents a framework for the development of Cultural facilities and services within Runnymede. The Strategy acknowledged the time and enthusiasm given by local organisations and volunteers in enhancing the quality of many people's lives through cultural activities. "Young people" is one of the key themes of the strategy. The issues identified by young people included the provision of facilities, information, transport/access, links with schools, use of libraries and

museums, IT, employment, safety and leisure activities. Many of these issues also affect other members of the community.

#### **6.4 Youth Strategy**

This policy published in 2006 gives a framework for the development of services and facilities for young people in Runnymede. It recognises the part played by other organisations and sets out targets for means of identifying and filling gaps in provision in partnership with others. One of the key aims was to look at “co-ordinated youth provision” across the authority, highlighted as lacking by the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). One of the important things to come out of the CPA was the setting up of a single services group which brought together all the agencies involved in working with young people in the borough.

#### ***Regionally***

#### **6.5 Children and Young People Plan for Surrey**

The *Children and Young People’s Plan for Surrey* has been developed by the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership, representing the agencies and services that work with children and young people across Surrey.

The *Plan* demonstrates how services will work together in Surrey to improve the lives of children and young people. It is created to meet the requirements of the Children Act 2004 and the Children’s National Service Framework. The plan will be a strategic, overarching plan for all services to work together, identifying where there is need for improvement against the five outcomes of Every Child Matters (see below).

This strategy will both support and complement the objectives of the County Plan by enhancing and improving the facilities for play in the Borough.

The county council is working with four specialist organisations who work with children with disabilities (of which White lodge is the one for this area) to identify the specialist services required and the cost of providing them. This is on-going work, which will inform, among other things, the play partnership about the needs in the Runnymede/Elmbridge and Spelthorne areas and identify means of meeting that need.

#### **6.6 Early Years and Childcare Implementation Plan**

This plan sets out the key priorities and strategic goals of the Early Years and Childcare service. Reflecting on issues such as Children’s centres, Early Education, Special Needs and Training and Recruitment the plan looks at developing services for children across Surrey.

#### **6.7 Tackling Obesity in West Surrey**

As obesity has become one of the major public health challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century the strategic aim of this strategy is the effective prevention and intervention for those

people who are overweight or obese. This strategy identifies the issues relating to children's obesity levels and recognises physical activity policies for tackling obesity. As part of a county wide bid to the Wellbeing lottery fund Runnymede has obtained funding to run MEND courses aimed specifically at obese children aged 8 to 12 and their families.

### ***Nationally***

#### **6.8 Choice for Parents a ten year strategy for childcare**

The ten year strategy for childcare sets out the government's vision to ensure that every child gets the best start in life and to ensure that parents are given more choice about how to balance work and family life. The strategy looks at the development of provision of extended out of school childcare places for all children aged 3 – 14 between the hours of 8am and 6pm each weekday by 2010.

#### **6.9 Every Child Matters**

The government's document Every Child Matters: Change for Children (December 2004) indicates the national and local priorities for children's services. It sets out an Outcomes framework, which includes the five outcomes for children and young people, which are:

- **Being Healthy** – Enjoy good physical and mental health and living a healthy lifestyle
- **Staying Safe** – Being protected from harm and neglect
- **Enjoying and Achieving** – Getting the most out of life and developing the skills for adulthood.
- **Making a positive contribution** – being involved with the community and society and not engaging in anti-social or offending behaviour.
- **Economic well-being** – not being prevented by economic disadvantage from achieving their full potential in life.

These five outcomes are at the heart of the Children Act 2004 that means everyone must make these aims their top priorities for all children and young people. The outcomes are universal ambitions for every child and young person whatever their background or circumstances.

The five outcomes are mutually reinforcing. For example, Children and Young people learn and thrive when they are healthy, safe and engaged. It is noted in the document that achieving these outcomes has benefits for children, families and society as a whole, and that everyone including Local Authorities (such as Spelthorne) has a responsibility for securing these outcomes.

#### **6.10 Getting Serious about Play**

This was the report commissioned by the Dept of Culture Media and Sport to look at the best way of supporting children's play in the UK. The recommendations were accepted in full by the BLF which has resulted in this programme being established. The guidance issued by the BLF reflects this. The report looked at the play needs of

children between the ages of 0 to 16. Any projects put forward by the resultant play strategy will need to cater for this age group.

## **7. Legal Background and Parameters**

### **7.1 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: 1989**

Providers should recognise the rights of the child to rest and to leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.

Providers should respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and should encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activities.<sup>2</sup>

### **7.2 Disability Discrimination Act 1995**

People who provide goods and services have to take reasonable measures to make sure that they are not discriminating against disabled people. However, if the health or safety of the disabled person or other people would be in danger, it would not be against the law to refuse to provide the service to a disabled person or to provide it on different terms.<sup>3</sup> All Borough Council services strive to be accessible for people with disabilities, including services and facilities for leisure.

### **7.3 Children Act 2004**

The Children Act 2004 provides the legislative foundation to support the Every Child Matters: Change for Children programme. It outlines the new statutory duties and clarifies accountabilities for children's services.

The act also establishes a duty on local authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation between agencies and other appropriate bodies in order to improve children's well being and a duty on key partners to take part in the co-operation arrangements.

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<sup>2</sup> 101 Ways to manage a Children's Activity Programme – ILAM, 2001

<sup>3</sup> Legislation and children's play – The essential Guide – NPFA 1998

## **8. Principles for development of play facilities and services**

The strategy recognises that a lot of schools and community organisations, play groups, sports centres, clubs and statutory agencies provide facilities and activities for play.

It recognises the importance of play in children's development especially its role in improving social understanding, exploring creativity, developing confidence and learning about the world.

Play and sport are also tools in tackling broader issues such as developing and sustaining healthy and safe communities, combating social exclusion and improving people's living environments.

The following principles for projects supported by the play strategy have therefore been developed.

1. As a working definition: all children and young people should have access to a variety of informal play opportunities outside school, (both indoors and outdoors) free or at a reasonable price at least three times a week.
2. Projects widen the opportunity for play available to local children and young people and improve health and well being, which might include specialist training and equipment.
3. Projects work to relevant best practice standards where these are available.
4. Projects are supported by the local community. Not all projects will be supported by all local residents, but this principle means that projects developed under the play strategy should include the following elements:
  - a. Locally identified – by communities either from general consultation, by community groups based on their local knowledge, or through data (e.g. showing areas of deprivation or lack of play space).
  - b. Projects are supported by local children & young people, either through consultation with schools/youth council or specific groups (the latter is particularly the case for projects that are proposed for a specific community, e.g. a skate park or particular items of play equipment or activity club), which might include the provision of specialist equipment or staff in certain settings.
5. There is a need for the project:
  - a. Background info shows demand for such a facility, or indicates that the lack of the facility is a gap in provision which would otherwise be used.
  - b. Projects that either benefit the whole borough or are proposed in area where there is an identified gap in provision.
6. Projects are sustainable

- a. They build on or improve existing facilities & services
- b. They make links with existing organisations and agencies to complement existing activity.
- c. They are proposed and run by a locally-based and soundly established organisation: statutory, long-established or (if new), have a managing committee with terms of reference, bank account, audit procedures & business plan indicating need, costs, projected income and break-even position.
- d. For large levels of investment, pilots are proposed and evaluated where possible.

## **9. How and when will the Strategy be reviewed?**

The play strategy is targeting the next three years (2008 – 2011) during which time the play partnership will continue to operate as a consultative and overseeing group for the projects identified. The strategy, prior to submission to the Big Lottery, will be presented to the Leisure and Environment Committee of Runnymede Borough Council for consideration and approval together with the list of projects identified.

The projects themselves will be managed by members of the play partnership and other agencies. The play partnership will include representation from White Lodge as a specialist service for children with disabilities. The Play partnership will approve the implementation plans for specific projects and ensure that they reflect the play principles and include provision for children with disabilities at the planning stages. Management of the project finances will be carried out by the Council.

The Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the partnership to identify progress on the funded projects, new developments within the borough as well as new funding opportunities that could have an impact on play locally.

### Proposed Play Funding Projects

The projects identified have been determined following consultation and the principles laid out in section 8 of the strategy.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Users</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Play Strategy Principles</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Delivery Timescale</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
<p>2 Play Workers in the community.</p> <p><b>Ranger role for the Hythe park area</b> to run activities for children &amp; young people, make links with existing projects (such as the play bus) and encourage local groups (cubs, scouts, pre-school, ATC, tumble tots, youth projects, St. Paul's Church and other users of the Hythe Centre) and schools to use the area</p>	<p>Families and young people in areas of need.</p> <p>Link into schools with 'mind the gap' opportunities</p>	<p>Hythe Park/Bishops Way consultation.</p> <p>Chertsey Wharf/Painesfield</p> <p>Two Wards consultation</p> <p>Focus Group Consultation</p> <p>Having a presence is likely to encourage children to experiment with play activities that are not only related to the fixed equipment. This was identified by children at a consortium meeting. There could a range of equipment available after school and during holiday periods.</p> <p>Raising the profile of the park with local people and incorporating positive play activities in its initial years. These might include making links with the allotments (junior allotments) on the site, exploring the wildlife on the site, encouraging local groups to use the area for picnics, BBQ's and fun days.</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6b, 6c,</p>	<p>£80k for 3 years to include staffing, facility hire, equipment</p>	<p>Advertise for posts January 2008.</p> <p>Start in April 2008</p>	<p>Big Lottery</p>

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Project	Users	Need	Play Strategy Principles	Cost	Delivery Timescale	Funding Sources
		<p>This also links with the re-development of Roakes Avenue/ Wapshott Road, the new GP surgery and projects at the Hythe, Thorpe Lea &amp; Magna Carta schools.</p> <p>There are existing groups that also have a need to access equipment/venues etc. One proposal is a mother and toddler drop in to be held at the Chertsey Museum.</p>				
Hythe Park MUGA	Young people in the Egham Hythe area	Clearly identified as a need among local young people during Hythe park consultation. Also links with needs identified in two-ward project.	1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b,	£60,000	<p>Tender Project January 2008</p> <p>Install May 2008</p>	Big Lottery
Hythe Park Adventure Playground	Young people in the Egham Hythe area	As above	1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b	£60,000	<p>Tender Project January 2008</p> <p>Install May 2008</p>	Big Lottery

## Runnymede Borough Council Play Strategy

There are a number of other projects in the pipeline or which do not fit the play funding criteria but would be good to pursue and deliver on. These are highlighted in the following matrix.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Users</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Play Strategy Principles</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Delivery Timescale</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
Disabled Sports club at Addlestone Leisure Centre	Providing activities for children with disabilities in the borough	Need identified jointly with White Lodge (Chertsey) in building on existing joint-working on Borough playschemes. Goes part-way to meeting need identified for children/young people with disabilities.	1, 2, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6b, 6c,	Set up costs for equipment £15,000	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2007	Awards for all Local sports council
Improvements to Soft Play Area at Egham Leisure Centre	Under 8's	The current facilities are limited and there is a substantial demand for soft play facilities	1, 2, 6a, 6c	£30k	January 2008	Capital Funding
Provision of transport to activities/venues	Young people in the evening who require access to activities.  Single parents with limited transport  Local groups catering for children and families.	Consultation on community strategy, cultural strategy, youth strategy.  Two wards feedback.  Chertsey Wharf/Painesfield	2, 4a, 4b, 5b, 6b, 6d	£25k capital cost £10k ongoing revenue costs	Tender for bus purchase/other options	TBC

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<b>Project</b>	<b>Users</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Play Strategy Principles</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Delivery Timescale</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
Bishops Way BMX Track/youth Shelter	Young people in the local area.	Identified in consultation with local young people and residents as part of the two wards project.	1, 2, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a	£35k	Tender for work Autumn 2007	Association for the Improvement of Runnymede (AIR)
Hythe Park Toddler Play Area	Children in Egham Hythe Area	Clearly identified as a need among local young people during Hythe park consultation. Also links with needs identified in two-ward project.	1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b	£49,911	Tender Summer 2007 Installation TBC	Biffa
Hythe Park Wet and Dry area	Young people in the Egham Hythe area	Clearly identified as a need among local young people during Hythe park consultation. Also links with needs identified in two-ward project	1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b	£24,425	Tender Summer 2007 Installation TBC	Biffa
Bishops Way Toddler Play Area	Children in the Bishops Way area.	Identified in consultation with local young people and residents as part of the two wards project.	1, 2, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a,	£47,000	Tender Summer 2007 Installation TBC	RBC Capital Funding
Trials Motorbike Beginners Club	Young people in borough who are likely to use bikes illegally.	The youth service and police have identified illegal use of motorbikes as a significant local problem.	3, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 6c.	TBC	Awaiting licence to use existing space	Youth Service

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<b>Project</b>	<b>Users</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Play Strategy Principles</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Delivery Timescale</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
Englefield Green Play Area Extension	Children in Englefield Green	A petition signed by local children and parents requested the existing area be updated to cater for older children.	1, 2, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a.	£43,000	Awaiting planning approval	Awaiting an AIR Bid
Brookside Play Area	Children in Chertsey	Refurbishment was identified as part of the two wards project.	1, 2, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a.	£42,000	Work on site planned to start August 2007	Biffa
Abbey Rangers Football Club new clubhouse	All age groups from across the borough	The current facilities are not of a good standard. The club is very successful with a large number of teams and to develop the club the investment is required.	2, 3, 4b, 6a, 6c.	£700,000	Dependent on the securing of funding	AIR Football Foundation Football Association RBC
Addlestone Leisure Centre outdoor pitch refurbishment	Users of existing leisure centre facilities, school and local young people.	The current pitches are of poor quality and unusable in wet weather. Complaints from hirers have increased and some bookings have cancelled.	1, 4b, 5b, 6a, 6b, 6c	£50,000	Dependent on the securing of funding	Waiting and AIR bid.

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<b>Project</b>	<b>Users</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Play Strategy Principles</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Delivery Timescale</b>	<b>Funding Sources</b>
Bishops Way Adventure Playground	Young people in the Bishops Way area	Identified in consultation with local young people and residents as part of the two wards project.	1, 2, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a.	£50,000	Work on site by end of the Summer 2007	Biffa
After Schools Activities	Young people using the leisure facilities after school.	Some activities are already being run including junior gym, street dance but there is an opportunity to develop the programme available through 'adopt a school' and 'Go' programmes	2, 3, 4a, 5b, 6a, 6c.	Self financing		
Youth Festival	Children, young people and parents who live in the borough	Access to activities is a key driver in encouraging young people to participate.  The event will bring in local organisations that can provide taster sessions.	1, 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5a, 6b.	£15,000	Planned for 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2007	County Councillors Youth Opportunity Fund

## Runnymede Borough Council Play Strategy

### APPENDIX 1

### CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Main results (for or from children &amp; young people)</b>
Community Strategy (RBC)		RBC – internal Leisure & Culture task group Youth Council comments.	<p>Work with other agencies to identify areas of greatest need, target resources to make the best use of facilities and skills to develop leisure/sport-based out-of-school activities for young people</p> <p>Promote healthy life-styles for young people through sports centres, schools, clubs, parks, countryside and waterways</p> <p>Promote and maintain safe standards of play in facilities and on schemes</p> <p>Consult with young people about the development of new services and facilities (including drop-in/café facilities).</p> <p>Support scout, guide and voluntary youth groups and individual young people through grant aid.</p>
Community Strategy (RBC)	April 2002	Strodes College	<p><b>Transport issues, community safety and leisure.</b></p> <p>Main concerns centred on the perceived poor state of public transport system. Reliability, was a particular problem for them. Due to the need to be on time for their studies, it sometimes pushed them away from using public transport. In addition, the costs associated with public transport usage were another problem for them. Access to the Police was a particular problem. There was a general view that there was not enough visible presence in the community, particularly in hot spot areas. When pressed on this issue, they believed that there was a link between the lack of leisure facilities and extra-curricular activities targeted to these specific groups. The students cited the need for youth centres/groups to be established to cater for the needs for teenagers and children who could cause future problems. A specific point they had issue with was the fact that they knew that youth clubs existed, but the present kind of activities were not targeting these problem groups. The students suggested a different perspective needed to be taken to ensure inclusiveness. They felt that current schemes were excluding the kind of children/teenagers that were in real need of services. Education, health and affordable housing were also raised as issues for the wider community.</p>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Main results (for or from children &amp; young people)</b>

## Runnymede Borough Council Play Strategy

Community Strategy (RBC)	April 2002	Fullbrook School	<p>Three main themes: transport, leisure and community safety. Students stated that they did not mind travelling to other boroughs for leisure services, but they felt that the <b>transport services were quite poor and were not geared towards their needs.</b> e.g., the late bus/train service did not operate at times which were conducive with their leisure needs. When travelling to Woking or Guildford to go to the cinema for example, the transport system did not meet their requirements. They suggested a dedicated service which concentrated on school return and departure points.</p> <p>Again, there were barriers to leisure and transport usage given the fear of crime. There was considerable concern at the levels of petty crime and the numbers of teenagers hanging around shops and drinking alcohol underage. Safety around non-mainline rail stations was also a concern. Better lighting at night in these areas was cited as a measure to improve the feeling of safety. They felt that the knock-on effect of crime and disorder was a distinct problem. The students were aware of implications to schooling, leisure, council services, economic prosperity and particularly to the visual attractiveness of certain areas.</p> <p>The students cited a particular problem that they felt they had with the reporting of crime and the fear of wasting police time with petty social crime. When asked how to combat this, they suggested a dedicated community police officer or telephone number where low level crime incidents could be reported and where police presence can be redirected to these areas. There was real feeling of alcohol fuelling some of the anti-social behaviour in the area, which the students believed should be targeted. It was notable that they felt that tackling crime problems in isolation would not produce the desired outcomes. There was a general feeling that an integrated approach to dealing with community safety issues should be taken. For example, the students felt that liaisons with schools should be improved to tackle the source of social exclusion, whilst simultaneously acting on the criminal justice.</p>
Community Strategy (RBC)	April 2002	Sir William Perkins's	<p><b>Transport issues dominated the discussion at this school.</b> Students pointed out the prominence of a commuting community in Runnymede and the fact that there are not any direct main line routes which got through the Borough's towns. Moreover, the cost, frequency and reliability of a bus service caused concern. They felt that there was a general image problem with public transport which could be rectified. Mirroring other educational establishments, leisure facilities caused concern. Students repeated the need for targeted facilities which could assist to combat crime and disorder in the long term. Common facilities which they felt there was a lack of were skate parks, youth centres and a cinema which was within close proximity.</p>

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Purpose	When	Consultees	Main results (for or from children & young people)
Community Strategy (RBC)	April 2002	Sir William Perkins's (cont.)	The need for improvement in the availability of arts facilities in Runnymede was also mentioned. Equally, environmental issues were raised. Many of the students saw a need for kerbside or door-to-door recycling schemes. The popularity of the wheelie-bin refuse collection had prompted, they felt, a requirement to undertake similar collections of other recyclable materials such as paper, tins etc.
Cultural Strategy (RBC)	Dec 2001	<p>Thorpe Lea Junior School</p> <p>New Haw Junior School</p> <p>Gogmore Farm Park (detached youth work)</p>	<p>Ice-skating, Laser quest, Quad biking, Hockey, Ice hockey, Paint-balling, Swimming – with out-door water shoots, Adventure playgrounds (with a spiders web, like at the Lammas, and slides, which don't have drink spilt down them)</p> <p>Crazy golf, ice skating, cadets (u'13's), lights in parks &amp; longer opening hours, different places of religious worship, adventure play for 11+ age-group, 10-pin bowling, skate ramps/street course, cheap tennis, quad biking, motorx, chess paint-ball</p> <p>Ice skating, Youth Club in Chertsey – open all the time, Skate facilities, Hockey facilities (astro-turf), Leisure centre: ice skating, bowling, swimming (currently go to Woking to use Big Apple; can't use River Bourne), Shops – McDonalds</p>
Borough Safety Surveys	1998, 2001		<p>It is traditionally difficult to get good postal responses from young people (2.5% of the responses to the 2001 survey were from people aged under 25), so focus groups have been used. In the elderly focus group, there was a significant increase in concern in relation to under-age drinking, vandalism and young people hanging around. Just less than 10% also suggested that there was a problem with skateboarders in pedestrianised areas. In the school group there is a perception that under age drinking is less of a problem than it was three years ago (though again this is derived from a very small sample). In addition, the levels of concern for these categories are also significantly higher than those emerging from the resident's survey. In relation to the young people, concern seems to focus around traffic related issues and litter, mirroring the residents' survey to some extent. 23% of the young people had been victims of crime in the last twelve months compared to 9% in the 1998 survey. The very small numbers, however, means that little significance should be attached to this finding. Only 23% of young respondents stated that they had been victims of ASB. The very small numbers, however, means that little significance should again be attached to this finding. Interestingly, however, one cited bullying as an ongoing problem.</p>

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<b>Purpose</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Main results (for or from children &amp; young people)</b>
Best Value Review (RBC)	2005	Resident's Panel	This was about what the Council should or shouldn't provide.  Of 27 options, the top five were: parks, play areas (in parks & open spaces), public open space sports facilities and soft play areas. The services they said RBC shouldn't provide were: children's parties, internet café, child minding, safe transport to local towns for activities and playschemes for under 5's!
	2005	New Haw Girls' Brigade	Additional services suggested: Safe places to go on Friday & Saturday nights Youth shelters in new Haw/Addlestone Trips to sporty places More sporting facilities (running track, sports centre, etc) Sports: netball, tennis, rugby, badminton, gym
	2005	Eng Green scouts	Facilities for sports: hockey, tennis, chess, baseball, rugby, rifle shooting
	2005	St. Paul's (year 6)	Safe transport to school (for primary as well as secondary school children)
	2005	Lyne & Longcross school	Bike sheds swimming, bouncy castles, roller coasters, rugby
Two-ward project (Hythe & Chertsey St. Ann's)	May 2005		More children's play-space required in St. Ann's ward (Chertsey)...highlighted Brookside play area for redevelopment.  Update facilities at Bishops Way to make it appropriate for older children as well as toddlers (e.g. Adventure playground/skateboarding facilities).
Chertsey Detached project (YDS)			This was a fundamental review of youth work in Chertsey through which detached youth workers identified the need for a flexible programme of opportunities for young people and a base, either at Abbey Fields or Gogmore Farm Park. It led, among other things, to the YDS taking on the use and management of the pavilion and café at Gogmore, which is used for young people's activities.

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Purpose	When	Consultees	Main results (for or from children & young people)
Hythe Park		Young people at youth group and in school	<p>Initial planning for real exercise with wider community. Issues taken forward into planning for new social hall and the park.</p> <p>Follow up meetings with young people at Hythe Social Centre (10-13's) and Magna Carta School (15-16's) to identify what they would like to see in the area and in a new park in particular. These ideas are being incorporated into the new park and surrounding areas where possible. A full summary is shown at "" . Local people were very opposed to proposals for a teen shelter, but proposals for new equipment at Bishop's Way have been well received.</p>
Services for young people meeting	June 2005	Voluntary groups & agencies represented	<p>Sexual health clinics.</p> <p>Outreach worker for under 13's, adventure playground (teenagers), parenting skills courses.</p> <p>More physical activities for young people (e.g. Climbing)</p> <p>Costs of hiring venues can be prohibitive</p> <p>Partnerships with businesses, e.g. Cafes &amp; coffee shops</p> <p>Poor and limited public transport – costly for those on low incomes</p> <p>Make equipment accessible to a number of groups (e.g. SYDS, RBC, Surrey Council of Voluntary Youth Services, Salvation army, New Haw Scouts,).</p> <p>Outcome of Addlestone youth club consultation.</p> <p>Need for more volunteer leaders</p>
Addlestone – analysis of needs (YDS)	2005	Addlestone	<p>Undertaken by the YDS following complaints about the youth centre which led to its closure.</p> <p>291 questionnaires completed by young people.</p> <p>The majority wanted a safe place where they could meet and undertake activities, get information, help and advice and do course work together. The most popular times cited for opening were Monday (3.30pm to 6.30pm and 7.00pm to 10.00pm), Friday (7.00pm to 10.00 pm) and Saturday (4.00pm – 6.00pm). Some wanted the centre to be open all the time.</p>

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<b>Purpose</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Main results (for or from children &amp; young people)</b>
Youth service	2007	New Haw	The young people suggested a youth café, which ties up youth workers' identification of a need for an info centre on some Fridays at the library. They were thinking of taking over a shop that is becoming vacant. It would need sufficient resources to be sustainable, with adequate rather than minimal staffing. Local young people also wanted skate facilities on a small, local open space.



Appendix 2

Hythe Park Options

Suggestions in

Black	made by young people (Magna Carta L&T groups, young people at Hythe Centre group, young people from Pooley Green recreation ground).
Red	from original consultation
Green	made by officers
Purple	number of times suggested

**New Hythe Park**

Adventure playground/ Aerial runway/Tarzan rope slide/Wooded adventure area/ assault course/scramble nets.

Adventure course/trim trail (including monkey bars & balancing beam) (5)

Ball pool (not practical outside)

Windy/crazy slides (2)

Seating area. U-shaped wall with seating round it. Comfortable seating (with cover from rain). Teen shelter (4). Benches (4) – different colours

Skate park (inc. grind rails, street boxes, half pipe) - well away from chill-out area (8)

Sports cage (football/basketball)/MUGA (3)

(2 may not be practical in this space, but it might be possible to have one in either Charta Road or Pooley Green Recreation ground.

Spiders' web climbing net (4)

Play equipment (4): slides, shelters, swings, see-saw, roundabout, animal springs for toddlers (2). Tarmac & woodchip flooring (Area for young children: should be kept open so they can be kept an eye on and won't make loads of noise at late times to annoy locals)

Paddling pool for small children (4)

Phone box (good idea; requires further investigation. Nearest phone boxes are:

Cricket pitch (minimum space required is  $xm^2$  – may be difficult to fit into this space)

Roundabout with ropes to hold onto & swing round on

2 toilets (costing 10p max for use) (approx cost: £) (5)

Grass, relaxation/quiet & chill out areas – to sit & chat (3) (no dogs)

Plants, wild area/trees (3) – with 1ft high fences to protect flower beds/raised flower beds. Water feature/fountain. Raised flower beds

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Swimming pool (4) (padding pool may be possible. Built swimming pool would not be possible on this site (floodplain))

Hexagon shelter (as in Clockhouse Lane, Ashford)

Youth Club  
Ice cream shop  
Skate rink/roller skating  
Café

Rubbish bins

Bike sheds (2)

Dog bins (2) (need to allow for including onto RBC collection contract)

Bins (2) (need to allow for including onto RBC collection contract)

Forest area

Tennis (can be incorporated into MUGA's) (x3)  
Football/rugby pitches – x2  
Netball pitch

Basketball/Basketball hoop (3) (incorporated into MUGA's)

Fishery & pond. Boating pond

Motorbike track

Football pitch (2) (mark into smaller pitches) (smaller pitches covered by MUGA's?)

Lighting

Picnic benches

Mountain bike obstacle course (BMX)/cycling area (would this be suitable for Charta Road?)

Horses (2)  
Playing field  
Gazebo  
Crazy golf/mini golf  
Dog park  
Allotments for young people  
Easy path

### **Pooley Green Recreation Ground**

- Goal posts
- grass
- Multi use games area enclosed (roof) and with lighting
- Grafitti wall
- Spider web climbing frame
- Toilet (10p max for use) (2)
- Rubbish bins
- Dog bins
- Benches
- Refurbish play equipment & make bigger
- Shelter
- Adventure playground/assault course (in between trees)/mazes

### Land to rear of Hythe Centre

- Play park for smaller children
- Open youth club for 13+ at Hythe Centre (tv, radio & play stations)
- Shelter & relaxation area (under cover & away from houses)
- Monkey bars on side
- Bins
- Dog bins
- Go-karting
- Football/rugby pitches
- Under 18's casino
- Adventure park
- benches

## Appendix 3

### Bishops Way – Summary of Consultation

#### TODDLERS PLAYGROUND RESULTS

	Design A Wicksteed	Design B Record	Design C PPL
Number of votes from questionnaire	21	10	22
Number of votes from children	9	0	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	30	10	30

#### COMMENTS ABOUT THE TODDLERS PLAYGROUND

I would like to see a gate to the car park	X 3
I would like to see more benches	X 6
I would like to see more bins	X 2
I would like it to look more colourful (perhaps graphics in the surfacing)	X 2
There are not enough cradle seats	X 1
I am not sure about the dish roundabout in design C	X 1
Design A and B needs a roundabout	X 3
I would like picnic tables around this area	X 4
I would like more grassy areas within the play area	X 2
I think there should be an access point for sweepers to get into the play area	X 1

#### ADVENTURE PLAY GROUND RESULTS

	Design A Playground services	Design B SMP
Number of votes from questionnaire	15	39
Number of votes from children	2	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	17	69

#### COMMENTS ABOUT THE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

I would like to see more benches	X 2
I would like to see more bins	X 2
I would like more CCTV to ensure this play area is covered	X 2
I think the play ground should have more colour	X 1
I think there should be a sign saying No Dogs	X 1
I hope the council will use anti-wrap swings	X 1

## Runnymede Borough Council Play Strategy

I would like to the area to include a basket ball hoop	X 2
I think there should be an access point for sweepers to get into the play area	X 1
I think a slide should be included	X 1
I would like the design to include a picnic table	X 1
I would like the design to include monkey bars	X 1
I would like the design to include a trampoline in the ground	X 1
Please remove the climbing wall if Playground services build the playground	X 1
Please remove the Nexus Tornado if SMP build the play ground	X 2
I think the adventure play ground and the toddler play ground should be closer together so that parents can keep an eye on all of their children if they are using both playgrounds	X 1

### TEEN AREA RESULTS

	Design A Playground services	Design B SMP
Number of votes from questionnaire	4	45
Number of votes from children	0	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	59

### COMMENTS ABOUT THE TEEN AREA

I am nervous of the teen area	X 1
I don't want the teen area to be built	X 7
I would like more CCTV coverage	X 2
This area should be lit	X 2
The shelter should have a mesh back to it	X 1
I would like skate board equipment in this area	X 1
I would like benches/picnic facilities to be included	X 1
I think the teen shelter should be moved towards the middle of the field	X 1
I think there should be rules of conduct for this area which teens should be involved in developing	X 1

### BMX AREA RESULTS

	Design 1 Informal humps and mounds	Design 2 Formal Track	Design 3 Formal track with manufactured elements
Number of votes from questionnaire	6	9	30
Number of votes from children	1	9	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	7	18	41

