

Cheshire East Potential Sites Playbuilder Year 2 Criteria for Evaluation

Cheshire East are committed to providing imaginative, creative, healthy, sociable, inclusive and active spaces that local communities use and subsequently take ownership of.

INTRODUCTION:

Cheshire East Council has been successful in securing Playbuilder Status. As part of the Government's Children's Plan play commitments, which includes consultation on the first ever national play strategy, Cheshire East Council Play Services has been selected by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to become one of the play builder status authorities.

The Year 2 Play Builder investment will develop 11 new or enhanced public play areas within Cheshire East.

Play Builder status will cement existing provision, fill gaps and develop new areas as part of our ongoing implementation of Cheshire East Councils play strategy that aims to deliver our play pledge.

Playbuilder Year 1 held a series of initial consultation events in schools and informal settings across Cheshire East to assess children's views on the quality of their local play areas and to see good practice examples of innovative and exciting new types of play space that we hope will inspire this exciting development.

The provision will create play areas that are engaging, challenging, risky and more natural in their make up. The areas will reflect the natural surrounding, be low maintenance and comprise robust materials. However, the designs must reflect imaginative, creative, healthy, sociable, inclusive and active spaces that local communities use and subsequently take ownership of. The areas must be highly visible without areas that are screened off or provide areas that are not easily accessible.

Cheshire East Council are therefore inviting any person, organization, Community Group and Parish Council to apply for a site that we will all be proud of and offer our communities areas that they deserve.

Key Objectives for the Playbuilder Project

- A usable year round play area
- A focus on a more open plan unfenced area, natural materials such as landform, boulders and logs
- The inclusion of challenging pieces of play equipment particularly suited at the age 8-13 range which offer balancing, rocking, rotating, sliding, climbing, swinging, technique, gliding, agility, social and competitive activities
- A design that give children the freedom to make their own decisions and evaluate acceptable risk benefit
- More natural safer surfacing (grass matting & wood bark, not wet pour)
- Site specific identity
- The re-use of soil on site
- A welcoming safe healthy sociable gathering community space

Background Project Information

Constraints

Budget:

The budget for the complete Playbuilder Year 2 project for all 11 sites to be designed, equipped, installed and delivered is up to £45,000.00 per site.

Materials Specification:

The materials that will be used in the Playbuilder Year 2 project will need to meet a number of key criteria. Materials will need to be robust and as vandal proof as possible, cheap to maintain and fit in with the natural environment. The focus needs to be on natural materials to create more a natural aspect to the play areas in line with requirements set out within the 10 principles for designing successful play spaces in the [Play England Design for Play Guidance www.playengland.co.uk](http://www.playengland.co.uk)

On completion and return of the Expression of Interest Form 2010/2011 by any person, organization, Community Group and Parish Council each submitted form will be evaluated by a committee to determine which sites most fulfill the criteria as set out below. The committee will visit each site that reaches the short list and will invite the applicant to interview to present their site.

On completion of site selection of the successful 11 sites a company will be selected for the provision of design, supply and installation through Cheshire East Councils ESPO tender framework.

Evaluation Criteria

Location

- Existing provision existent or non-existent
- Deprivation, high population density, socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- Appropriateness of site
- A fair geographic allocation of play provision across Cheshire East

Design, Excitement, Fun

- Focus on natural play
- Encourages risky play
- Appropriate age group
- Inclusion
- Exciting and Fun

Beneficiaries

- Numbers of youngsters likely to use the site (rural & urban sites, taking into account rural isolation)

Costs

- Match funding available towards project costs

Deliverability

- Experience/skills of organisation
- Land freehold, organisation interest in land
- School site (with open access, community usage)
- Planning permission
- Realistic timescales
- Security of match funding (written confirmation of funding to be submitted with returned application)
- Evidence of project risk assessment

Sustainability

- Maintenance/
Management plan
- Security of funding

Consultation and Support

- Locality, needs, age, socio economic group
- Evidence of County support – strategic fit
- Stakeholder

A site map highlighting the potential/existing play area and pictures included would support the application.

If you require any additional information relating to the provision of Year 2

Playbuilder sites please contact:

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