

Play for **Today**, Play for **Tomorrow**

A Play Policy and Strategy for the
Children and Young People of Carlisle and District
2007 - 2012



CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL



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Section Three
Play Strategy

English

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Play for **Today**, Play for **Tomorrow**

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“Working in partnership and reflecting the diversity of communities, both urban and rural, Carlisle City Council aims to ensure that all children and young people have access to quality play opportunities, activities and environments.”

Introduction

Play For Today, Play For Tomorrow is a Play Policy and Strategy for the children and young people of Carlisle and District that has been endorsed by Carlisle City Council and the local Play Partnership.

The Policy and Strategy is the result of a collaboration involving over fifty participants from across Carlisle City Council and Cumbria County Council departments, voluntary sector organisations and other agencies committed to enhancing the quality of children and young people's lives. This collaboration is to be continued over the next five years through the ongoing Carlisle Play Partnership who will be playing a key role in implementing and monitoring the Strategy Action Plan.

Play For Today, Play For Tomorrow supports the following statement made by the Children's Play Council in 2004 "Local Authorities have more influence on children and young people's play and free time activities than any other organisation. The daily decisions and actions of many Local Authority departments, in particular planning, transport, highways, education, leisure, parks, housing, community, safety, regeneration and environmental protection, have a major impact on where and how local children and young people are able to play."

Play For Today, Play For Tomorrow has been shaped by the views of the children and young people of Carlisle and District and presents not only aspirations for the future, but also a framework for action.

Play For Today, Play For Tomorrow is presented in three sections:

Background Information

Section One serves to reflect on the history of Carlisle City Council's commitment to the play sector; to illustrate the 'state of play' in Carlisle and District; to consider the current national context for play and to demonstrate the consultation and partnership which has served to inform both the Policy and Strategy.

Play Policy

Section Two identifies an agreed set of principles and definitions about play and its value in terms of children and young people's well-being and development. It aims to encourage the wide range of individuals and organisations whose services impact (either directly or indirectly) on children and young people's play opportunities to adopt the Policy and to take it into account when reviewing existing and developing new services.

Play Strategy

Section Three has been based on the audit and summary of consultations contained within the Background Information. These, combined with the agreed vision, values and principles outlined in the Play Policy, have contributed to the emergence of five strategic objectives which have secured the foundations for the Play Strategy.

Carlisle Play Partnership and delivering the Play Strategy

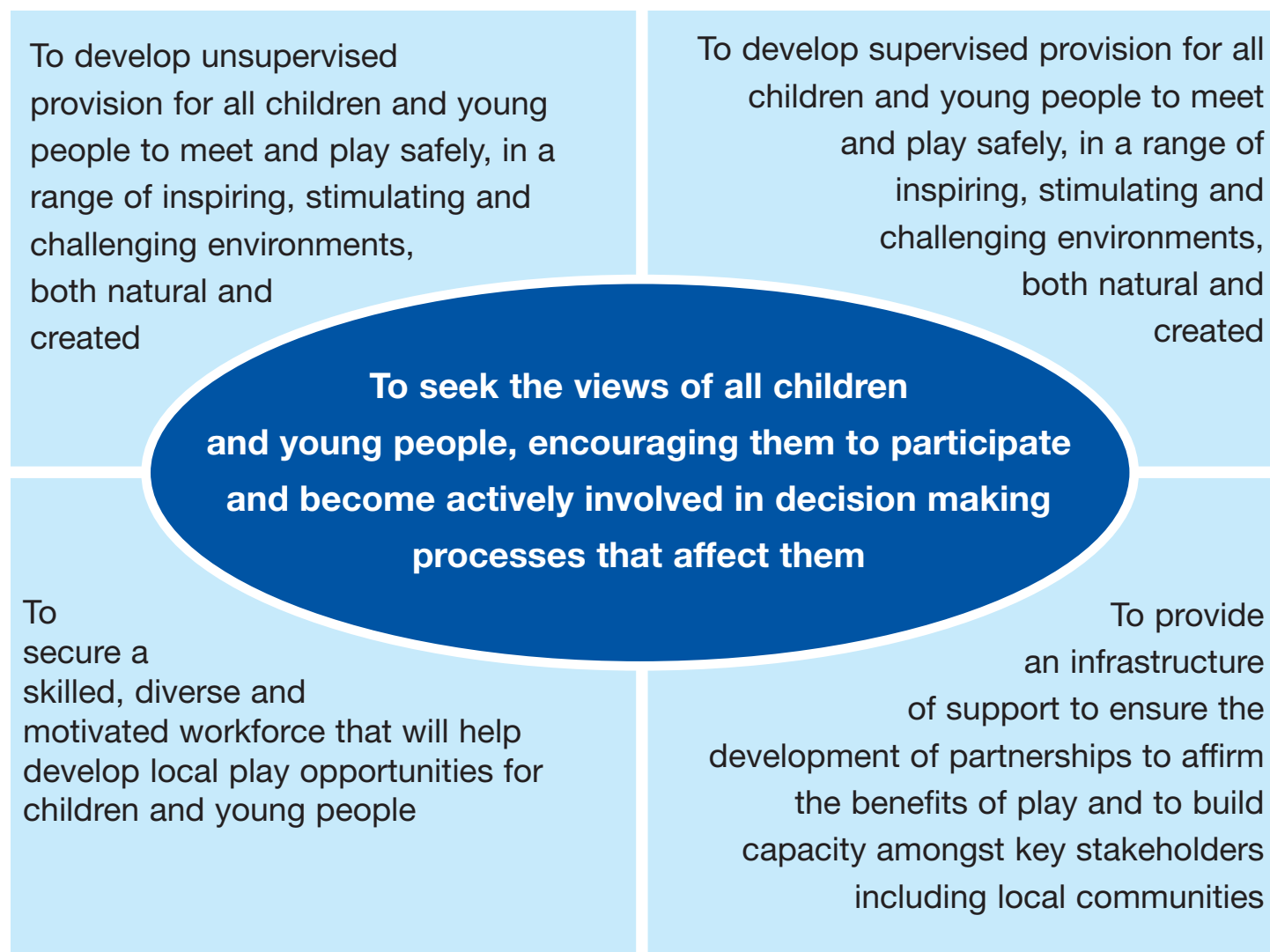
Carlisle City Council has established a multi-agency Play Partnership to oversee and drive the Play Policy and Strategy forward and to ensure that the five strategic objectives are used to:

- Organise, manage and evaluate the BIG Lottery Children's Play Initiative Portfolio
- Set the framework for achieving the Play Strategy's wider themes and outcomes

Membership of the Play Partnership includes representation from over thirty Council departments and other external organisations. The Strategy will be monitored by the Play Partnership, which will be facilitated by Carlisle City Council.

Play for Today, Play for Tomorrow

The following five strategic objectives have been selected to meet the combined needs identified during the children's play audit and consultation. These have been selected to best represent local and national policies and strategic outcomes including the BIG Lottery Fund Children's Play Initiative outcomes and other relevant local and national strategies. These five objectives have been used to develop the Play Strategy for Carlisle and District.



Objective One

To develop unsupervised provision for all children and young people to meet and play, in a range of inspiring, stimulating and challenging environments, both natural and created.

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
D, H, J	Following the Disability Discrimination Act audit, provide facilities for children and young people with disabilities in order for them to use and enjoy existing and new play facilities, play spaces and public realm areas	6	2,3,10,11,12	Number of Disability Discrimination Act compliant facilities 50 disabled children and young people accessing play provision	City Council capital and revenue budgets	Ongoing throughout life of Play Area Strategy By end of the BIG Lottery Portfolio
D	To review the Play Area Strategy draft document, including an assessment of fixed equipment play areas as a basis for sustainable management of the play areas, including geographic locations	6	2,10,12	Revised draft strategy published (2007)	Carlisle City Council capital programme (£50,000 per year, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10)	Strategy published 2008
D, H, J	To define and adopt standards of Play Provision and opportunities based on the Carlisle and District Local Plan (draft) and PPG17 (open spaces, sport and recreation)	10	2,3,6,12	Policies adopted. Standards agreed	Section 106 funds	Local Plan revision date

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective One continues on page 8

Objective One

(Continued)

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
I, D	By working with partners, developers and planners to ensure the recognition of play as an acceptable benefit for using section 106 funding from developers	10	2,3,6	Section 106 policy document adopted by Council	Section 106 payments	2008
A, C, D, E, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q	To develop a City Play Trail for children and young people linking the City Centre to Bitts Park In consultation with communities, develop further Play Trails in local areas	2	1,3,5,6,7,9,10,16,17,20,22,27,31	Usage by 1,500 children and young people Audit of children and young people three months after completion to assess success and inform further trails	BIG Lottery Portfolio funding for City Trail Obtain external funding to develop neighbourhood trails	By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
D, H, I, J	To ensure that safe routes are created and managed by inclusion in traffic and transport strategy	3	Play Partnership members	All play facilities 'scored' on criteria of safe accessibility	Officer time from all partners	End of BIG Lottery Portfolio
C, D, I	In consultation with children and young people to use Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) in developing longer-term improvements in the equipped play areas across the Carlisle District	6	Play Partnership members	Consultation protocol agreed	Officer time	Concurrent with development of revised Play Area Strategy (end of 2008)

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective Two

To develop supervised provision for all children and young people to meet and play, in a range of inspiring, stimulating and challenging environments, both natural and created.

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, B, D, E, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q	To develop natural outdoor play experiences for children, young people (CYP) and parents/carers by developing a face2face outreach team in both urban and rural areas	2	Play Partnership members	3,000 children accessing all provision	£150,000 to recruit and train two face2face outreach workers from BIG Lottery	By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To improve and develop all year round play opportunities in local communities	2		Recruit two face2face outreach workers	Partners existing resources e.g. staff/equipment	By 12 months
	To encourage and create opportunities to promote inclusive play provision	2		face2face outreach provision delivered in areas of need	/training/face2face mobile unit budgets/vehicle's to increase play opportunities	By 12 months
	To encourage the development of exciting, challenging play environments which offer the opportunity to take risks	6		Holiday play provision to be increased by 25% by end of year one 40% by year two 50% by year three		By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
				50% increase in number of disabled CYP accessing play provision		By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
				600 CYP and parents/carers accessing Forest School programme		By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective Three

To seek the views of all children and young people, encouraging them to participate and become actively involved in decision making processes that affect them.

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, C, D, E, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q	To ensure that children and young people are involved in the creation, development and improvement of inclusive play provision	2	2,6,10,12,14,22,33	Play Partnership members will actively encourage children and young people, in the creation, development and improvement of inclusive play provision	Through existing budgets, staffing	By 12 months - 30% By 2 years - 60% By 3 years - 100% of Play Partnership members
	To ensure the city centre public realm remodelling by Carlisle Renaissance has the needs of children and young people, their role and use of the City Centre and opportunities for play, as key outputs for their work	1	Play Partnership members	Key outputs for play opportunities to be in the Urban Design Guide, Public Realm Framework and Public Art Strategy and linked to the City Trail	Through existing budgets, staffing	By end of the BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To achieve the public realm remodelling through active participation and consultation with children and young people across the city and district	1	2,20,22,33	To increase the involvement of children and young people (through six local schools, one special school, six play and youth providers) in the design and development of the public realm areas	Through existing budgets, staffing	By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective Three continues on page 11

Objective Three

(Continued)

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, C, D, E, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q	To ensure that any decisions made by Carlisle City Council take into account the views and involvement of children and young people	9	Play Partnership members	All committee reports to include the implication on the needs of children and young people	Staff time through existing budgets	By 6 months

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective Four

To provide an infrastructure of support to affirm the benefits of play and build capacity amongst communities and other stakeholders.

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, D, I, K, M, O	To continue to support Carlisle Play Partnership	2	Play Partnership members	Develop and adopt a constitution and promotional plan for play Increase membership by 25%	Through existing budgets and staff time	By 12 months By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To maximise the potential for accessing funding to create, improve and develop high quality, sustainable play provision in communities	2		To have regular meetings and e-bulletins for members To deliver 12 training workshops to voluntary sector		By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To encourage and educate key stakeholders so they understand the importance of play and that they then ensure appropriate allocation of resources	2		Play Partnership members to play a key strategic role to influence policy and local plans in local authorities, Youth Work in Cumbria Partnership, internal CYP group, Sport and Physical Activity Alliance		By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
* Please see key on pages 16 and 17						

Objective Four continues on page 13

Objective Four

(Continued)

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, D, I, K, M, O	To advise public, private, voluntary and community sector partners on the application of quality standards and risk	6	Play Partnership members	Share information through Play Partnership and e-bulletins	Through existing budgets and staff time	By 12 months - four meetings per year By 12 months - four e-bulletins per year, and increase this by 25% by end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To develop a promotional plan to raise awareness of the Strategy and importance of play for all	2		Hold one event per year as part of National Play Day to promote "Play for today, Play for tomorrow"		Three National Play day event's by the end of BIG Lottery Portfolio
	To ensure play needs are identified at a local level and fed into key strategic plans and initiatives	2		Play Partnership to play a key strategic role to influence policy and plans in local authorities, Youth Work in Cumbria Partnership internal working group, Sport and Physical Activity Alliance Children's Champions at Member and Officer level to raise the profile and importance of play		By the end of BIG Lottery Portfolio

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Objective Five

To secure a skilled, diverse and motivated workforce that will help develop local play opportunities for children and young people.

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, D, K, M, O	To seek and enhance the training of existing staff employed to work with children and young people	2	Play Partnership members	Through the Play Partnership and e-bulletins share good practice, training and current issues Through the Play Partnership carry out a skills audit of current staff and volunteers delivering play provision in Carlisle and District	Through existing budgets, staff time	By 12 months - four meetings and e-bulletins per year Completed by year two
	To seek external funding for employing further workers to work with children and young people	2		To research and complete successful funding bids for the continuation of CYP outreach project after the BIG Lottery Portfolio funding finishes		By end of the BIG Lottery Fund additional/new funds to be in place
	To ensure a regular comprehensive practical and accredited play training programme is developed	2		To liaise and influence local educational providers to deliver an accredited play training programme		Skills audit to be completed by year two, training in place by year three
Objective Five continues on page 15						
* Please see key on pages 16 and 17						

Objective Five

(Continued)

* Key Policy Links	Action	* Lead	* Potential Key Partners	Performance Measure/Milestone	Resource Implications	Time Frame
A, D, K, M, O	To offer play training and information to workers and volunteers who work with children and young people	2	Play Partner-ship Members	Through Play Partnership meetings and e-bulletins To deliver 12 training workshops to voluntary sector	Funding Training Staff time	By 12 months - four meetings and e-bulletins per year By end of BIG Lottery Portfolio

* Please see key on pages 16 and 17

Key - Partner Organisations and Play Partnership members

1. Carlisle City Council - Carlisle Renaissance
2. Carlisle City Council - Community Support
3. Carlisle City Council - Development Services
4. Carlisle City Council - Economic Development
5. Carlisle City Council - Environmental Services
6. Carlisle City Council - Green Spaces Team
7. Carlisle City Council - Highways
8. Carlisle City Council - Legal and Democratic Services
9. Carlisle City Council - Member and Officer Children's Champions
10. Carlisle City Council - Planning Services
11. Carlisle City Council - Policy and Performance
12. Carlisle City Council - Sport and Recreation
13. Carlisle City Council - Tullie House
14. Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
15. Carlisle Equality and Diversity Partnership
16. Carlisle Housing Association
17. Carlisle Local Strategic Partnership - Children and Young People's Group
18. Children's Centre, Longtown
19. Community Centres
20. Connexions Cumbria
21. Cumbria Cerebral Palsy Association
22. Cumbria Council Council - Children's Services
23. Cumbria County Council - Highways
24. Cumbria Council Council - Library Services
25. Cumbria Council County - Neighbourhood Development
26. Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service
27. Cumbria Police
28. North Cumbria Primary Care Trust
29. Parish Council Association
30. Play Raffles
31. Pre School Learning Alliance
32. Sure Start Carlisle South
33. Youth Work in Cumbria Partnership

Key - Play Strategy links to other key policies, plans and legislation.

- A. Aiming High for Young People 2007
- B. Carlisle City Council Anti-Social Behaviour Policy
- C. Carlisle City Council Corporate Consultation Policy
- D. Carlisle City Council Corporate Improvement Plan 2007 - 2010
- E. Carlisle City Council Draft Equality and Diversity Policy
- F. Carlisle City Council Emergency Planning Document
- G. Carlisle City Council Environmental Policy
- H. Carlisle City Council Health and Safety Policy
- I. Carlisle City Council Partnership Policy
- J. Carlisle City Council Risk Management Policy
- K. Carlisle Partnership - Community Plan for Carlisle 2007
- L. Children Act 2004
- M. Cumbria Children and Young People's Plan 2007 - 2010
(Approved by Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board)
- N. Education and Inspection Act 2006
- O. Every Child Matters 2004
- P. Hear by Right 2005
- Q. Youth Matters: Next Steps 2006

To find out more

Please contact:

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Updating notes



“Working in partnership and reflecting the diversity of communities, both urban and rural, Carlisle City Council aims to ensure that all children and young people have access to quality play opportunities, activities and environments.”