PORTFOLIO:

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

COUNCILLOR
G ELLIS

PETTERIL BANK COMMUNITY SITE PROJECT.

As approved at the Full Council Budget, Carlisle City Council is investing £120,000 in partnership with Surestart to create a single School / Surestart / Community Centre site for the Petteril Bank community.

This project is an exciting concept of the efficient, joined up usage of public buildings.

Belah Community Centre Management Committee have expressed a desire for us to assist them in exploring their options for the future. They, like Petteril Bank Management Committee, have a centre, which has seen better days, and will want to explore the options for either a new centre, or co-operation with existing public community use buildings.

PLAY AREAS

As portfolio holder, I was in a fortunate position for this financial year to be able to direct over £100,000 of resources into Play Area Improvements, this has been used to improve many of the Play Areas within our different communities. We continue to strive towards 'National Acceptance Criteria' of 'LEAP'.

While this year I have focused on community play areas, I do acknowledge that improvements could be made for the existing centrally located facilities at Bitts Park. I have instructed the relevant officer to explore the potential for the complete refurbishment of Bitts Park Play Area, which would include the removal of the small pool and new play facilities, which can be used by both disabled and able-bodied children.

WILLIAM HOWARD SCHOOL

We have received a request from William Howard School to support their application for Specialist School Status in Science.

The school is required to raise £50,000 itself, in order to attract the £100,000 of Government funding that goes with it, for capital payments.

In addition the school gains a further £120 per pupil per year.

The Council has in the past supported other schools to obtain Specialist Status i.e.

St Aidans School – Sports	£5,000
James Rennie School - Arts	£3,000