



## Cabinet 25 March 2009

### Report of the Policy Development Committee: Playgrounds in St Edmundsbury (Apr 09/11)

1. When setting its work programme for 2008/2009 the Committee requested that a review of the Council's policies pertaining to Local Areas for Play (LAPs), Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) and Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs) be undertaken.
2. Members discussed the current provision of play equipment within the Borough which the Parks Service manages and maintains, and were informed of the procedures and practices which had been developed to ensure that the equipment remains safe and fit for purpose. Repairs were currently conducted on an as needs basis, with minor repairs conducted by the in-house Playground Inspector, and larger repairs being contracted out. There was currently no term contractor for the repair of play equipment. To speed up the process of engaging a contractor, the Parks Service recommended engaging a term contractor, and training more parks staff to become qualified in the inspection of playground equipment.
3. Cabinet is **RECOMMENDED to endorse the proposed actions outlined in Report Z583 to Policy Development Committee, including:-**
  - (a) **tendering for a fixed term playground repairs contractor;**
  - (b) **the roll-out of training to qualify and enable onsite Ranger Staff to undertake weekly safety inspections of playground equipment;**  
**and**
  - (c) **that as part of the review of the Local Development Framework, the provision of play facilities requested from developers via Section 106 Agreements be reviewed.**

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