

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Bridgend County Borough Council

Name of responsible officer: Andrew Thomas

Job title: Group Manager, Sport and Physical Activity

Date of completion: 20th February 2013



Conducting the Assessment – Play Sufficiency Assessment

As well as establishing a baseline of provision, the Play Sufficiency Assessment will enable the following:

Identification of gaps in information, provision, service delivery and policy implementation

Support the establishment of evidence to give an indication of distance travelled in relation to play sufficiency

Highlight potential ways of addressing issues relating to partnership working

The input and involvement of all partners increasing levels of knowledge and understanding

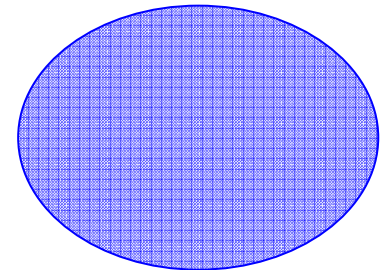
A monitoring system which will involve and improve communication between professionals

The identification of good practice examples

Increased levels of partnerships in assessing sufficient play opportunities

The identification of actions for the Securing Play Sufficiency Action Plan which accompanies the Play Sufficiency Assessment

A template has been produced to support a corporate appraisal of the matters that need to be taken into account as set out in the Statutory Guidance. The indicators listed within each matter are provided as sample indicators that should be amended to meet local issues as appropriate.



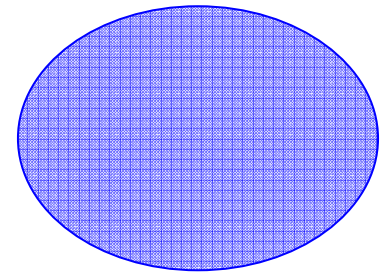
The Play Sufficiency Assessment must demonstrate that the Local Authority has taken into account and assessed the matters set out in the Play Sufficiency Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2012 and Statutory Guidance.

As well as providing baseline information, the Assessment can include examples of current practice that the Local Authority wishes to highlight.

Local Authorities might consider structuring the Play Sufficiency Assessment in the following way and as a minimum address all the identified sections.

Bridgend County Borough Council recognises the value and importance of play to children, young people, their families and the development of our communities. The importance of sufficient activities being available for children and young people, and in good quality locations has been prioritised through the development of the Single Integrated Plan – Bridgend County Together.

Bridgend has a great and varied natural environment and we aspire to be a County where children and young people enjoy the benefits of play in an outdoor setting. We also have a range of facilities, spaces and services that could further enhance the development and enjoyment gained by children and young people. Bridgend County Borough Council aims to ensure that play opportunities are considered by a broad range of partners, and across sectors with the aim of making Bridgend a great place to live for children, young people and families.



CONTEXT:

Bridgend County Borough Council has identified that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and development of the related action plan will be led by the Healthy Living Service of its Wellbeing Directorate.

From an early stage it has been identified that play is a theme that has cross cutting impact and is already committed to within our 'Communities', 'Children's and 'Wellbeing' Directorates. This is viewed as strength in taking forward the play sufficiency agenda in terms of a partnership approach whilst recognising the importance of maximising impact from the resources available and increasing collaboration.

With the support of the Big Lottery Fund, Bridgend County Borough Council have developed a working relationship with the regional play provider Chwarae Plant who have assisted with developing this assessment and ensuring that other organisations engaged within the play network have been able to contribute.

Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) have hosted a Play Development Worker in the build-up to the commencement of the duty and ensured that third sector organisations are contacted/engaged.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment is identified within the consultation document for the Single Integrated Plan with both exercises running in tandem. The aspiration of making Bridgend a great place to live for children, young people and families is documented with targets relating to play to be established based on the resulting action plan.

Reporting on the progress of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and subsequent action plan will be managed by the Peoples Partnership Group linked to the single integrated plan.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services will be the 'champion' for the Play Sufficiency Duty and ensure that play related issues are considered when policy and strategy are being developed.

A series of strategic work streams have been created to deliver the first phase of the duty and to take forward work identified within the action plan. This has been deemed a sustainable and partnership based approach to managing play sufficiency with no identifiable additional long term funding source. The work streams are as follows:

A. Population data and mapping
Integrating play within policy
Public engagement and consultation

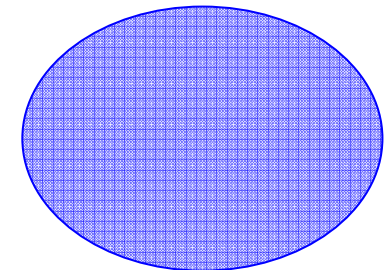
Mark Lewis
LSB Innovation &
Development

B. Providing for diverse needs
Workforce development
Free and fee – based activities
Supervised activity provision
Marketing and communication

Andrew Thomas
Healthy Living

C. Places and spaces
Streets, highways and transport

Gareth Evans
Parks & Playing Fields



PARTNERSHIP WORKING:

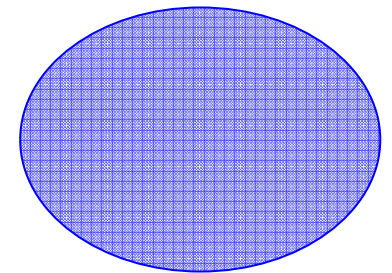
- Town and Community Councils funded the operation of 6 Summer Play Schemes during 2012 facilitating consultation with 355 Children and young people. In addition they supported 6 Play4life schemes at community locations with 7252 visits. This supported data collection for the play sufficiency assessment. **(004/06)**
- Chwarae Plant have operated as the regional play association and engaged the play network in contributing to the Play Sufficiency Assessment. They have been active within the work streams and also the working group that reports to the Peoples Board. A strategic play working group is in operation.
- Clybiau Plant Cymru, as part of BCBC's Childcare Team are developing a leading role with the Bridgend Play Network and have engaged with the work streams.
- Primary schools have supported the collection of information by 1,222 Children that has been used to inform the assessment. **(001/02) (002/11)**
- HALO Leisure is the partner organisation to Bridgend County Borough Council to manage leisure facilities and play sufficiency considerations are integrated within the Annual Service Development Plan. **(004/15)**
- Groundwork Trust are a key partner in the play development process at a local level and have engaged with work streams.
- BAVO have ensured information on member organisations are available and that organisations can contribute to public consultation. **(001/12), (002/07)**
- 125 Community Sport Clubs and Associations have provided information on the opportunities they provide. **(003/16)**
- Secondary schools have supported the collection of information by 1 319 Children during 2011 – 12 and questions will be modified during 2013 to better recognise play sufficiency scope. 9 Comprehensive schools participated. **(001/01), (002/11)**
- Bridgend Disabled Children's Team have consulted with parents of disabled children and young people inclusive of play opportunities. **(002/17)**
- Y Bont Children's Centre are the strategic lead for 'Families First' investment for disabled children and have engaged with the work streams. **(003/12)**

- Communities First have been part of the work streams and made their community audit data available including commissioned reports. **(0011/06)**

The detail required by the Play Sufficiency Assessment is collated at work stream level and then brought together at a working group level of key partners. The review of performance at this level will be reported to the People's Partnership board.

The work stream approach provides opportunities for partners from across sectors to participate on an on-going basis and by themes of interest or relevance.

Whilst welcoming the Statutory Duty, the level of detail required and the breadth of the subject area has proved daunting for some partners and this has hindered the engagement process. It is recognised that this is new and will evolve in the medium term. The first year of the duty and the related action plan will strengthen the evidence base, address gaps in data and develop more effective partnership working on play sufficiency matters.



Consultation and Participation

The following approaches have been used to ensure that children, young people and their families have been able to express their views on play opportunities, barriers and supporting factors:

•Year 6 and Year 9 strata surveys:

Bridgend has trend data on children aged 11 and young people aged 14. With the support of consultants Knight, Kavanagh and Page the survey has been modified to cover play sufficiency criteria with 2541 responses. (During 2013 the Year 9 survey will be run and include relevant questions.) **(001/01) (001/02)**

•Short form summer playscheme survey, “Play your part”

A survey was conducted with 8 – 13 year old children including those with disabilities at 12 locations during August 2012 achieving 355 responses. **(002/09)**

•Single Integrated Plan development:

The priority consultation process for ‘Bridgend County Together’ achieved 1460 responses with requests for more youth facilities and sports and leisure identified. The natural environment was the best thing identified about living in Bridgend.

•Talk Back:

A survey of disabled children and their families has been conducted with 86 responses received to date **(002/17)**

•Discovery programmes:

Surveys have been issued to Discovery Days and After School Club participants as part of the Families First Programme with 40 Responses received. These programmes are highly valued. **(004/16)**

•Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Desk research has taken place of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment conducted in 2011 which secured 908 responses. **(0011/05)**

BCBC Stakeholder Consultation:

A specific Play Sufficiency Consultation targeting parents or guardians and representatives of community groups was conducted during January 2013 securing 61 responses. The methodology was via a web based survey and consistent with BCBC consultation procedures.

Big Lottery Fund Reports:

Stakeholder consultation and other participant related information has been provided by Chwarae Plant.

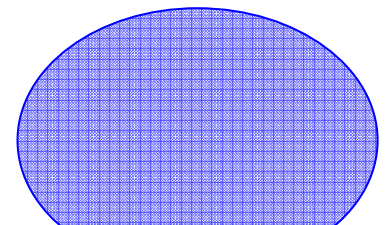
The headline data has been collated and made available to the strategic leads of the work streams to assist with the identification of issues and the development of the action plans. The findings of the consultation processes are also used as supporting evidence where appropriate within the sufficiency assessment.

Maximising Resources:

In the current economic climate and with increasing financial pressures on the public sector the play sufficiency assessment recognises the need to maximise benefits from existing resources whilst considering opportunities that may be appropriate should additional resource become available.

Bridgend County Borough Council has strong links with its network of Town and Community Councils and a track record of partnership working to develop local play opportunities. This approach has included play infrastructure improvements and the funding of holiday play schemes. This is an area for further development where benefits are specific to localities. **(004/06)**

The establishment of the regional play association 'Chwarae Plant' has supported the attraction of lottery funding to develop sustainable, community based play opportunities at locations identified by the local play audit. The partnership with 'Chwarae Plant' will be appropriate for targeting additional external funding to meet identified needs.



Further development of the third sector and strengthening the Bridgend play network will be a strategic priority to increase voluntary sector engagement with play as the focus (or part) of an organisations activity. There will be a strong focus on workforce development and opportunities for collaboration across sectors to fund training and development opportunities. Bridgend County Borough Council have developed a capability to deliver play training and will work with partners such as BAVO, Chwarae Plant and Clybiau Plant Cymru.

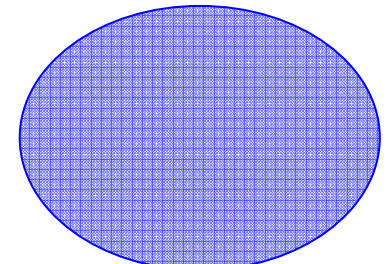
The commissioning of 'Families First' delivery partnerships has recognised children and young people with disabilities and the importance of play related activity. A partnership led by Y Bont but including Bridgend County Borough Council, BAVO and Bethlehem Church Life Centre will address the identified needs. The disabled children's team have commenced mapping services and activities that are available for disabled children and young people. There is clear opportunity for improving the benefits to people with disabilities through further review, collaboration and sharing of resources.

Within Bridgend County Borough Council the play development resource is relatively small and reliant on external funding for many areas of work. Whilst work such as the co-ordination of holiday activities or programmes with targeted populations continues there is an opportunity to give more strategic focus to delivering the play sufficiency action plan. This will involve increased partnership working and an overview of available resources to partners.

Bridgend County Borough Council has an ongoing commitment to providing parks, playing fields and open spaces. There are partnerships with external bodies to improve infrastructure but there is a recognition that play development and facilities management could collaborate more to enhance understanding of good quality play space.

As part of the Healthy Living Partnership Programme, Bridgend County Borough Council have contracted with HALO, a social enterprise, to operate their leisure facilities for a 15 year period. There is an outcomes focus on improving life for children and young people and play sufficiency will be a feature of annual service development plan negotiation. This will include pricing, activities, third sector support and more.

Bridgend County Borough Council works in partnership with Sport Wales through the Local Authority Partnership Agreement (LAPA) process to develop activities for children and young people. The requirements of play sufficiency will be appropriately considered within the activity and financial elements of the plan. The Active Young People Department will also support community based partners to access development grants, Community Chest etc.



Bridgend County Borough Council is developing partnership working with ABMU Health Board and Public Health Wales to develop family related activity. Bridgend County Borough Council will develop its workforce capacity to deliver play related activity that can enhance wellbeing.

School modernisation is improving the quality of facilities and infrastructure (e.g. Maesteg, Coleg Y Dderwen, and Archbishop McGrath) and the needs of communities are being integrated in design and operational plans. The expanded use of school facilities will contribute to the play sufficiency action plan and maximise use of existing investment.

Bridgend County Borough Council's Childcare Team manages the WG Out of School Childcare grant scheme. This grant supports new and existing out of school childcare provision. An indicative value has been given for 2013/14, with the same priorities as this year being identified – meeting gaps in childcare, as identified in the CSA. However, this grant can indirectly support the PSA as funding will be directed to out of school provision, including over 8s provision.

There are a number of themed areas where a collaborative approach is intended to increase impact and social value.

- A. Locality based partnerships to develop play
- B. Sustainable third sector provision
- C. Inclusive opportunities
- D. Information – management and communication
- E. Effective consultation
- F. Workforce Development
- G. Infrastructure planning

The priority setting process for the single integrated plan has identified the importance of activities for children and young people. Bridgend county Together has a strategic aspiration that Bridgend will be a great place to live, work and play and the need to assess play sufficiency is identified within the action plan for the Single Integrated Plan.

The performance of core aim 4 programmes will be reviewed as part of the peoples partnership structure linked to Local Service Board. The Play Sufficiency assessment and related action plan will be monitored by this mechanism also. The young people's surveys that Bridgend County Borough Council has commissioned annually have been used to establish some

indicators of performance relating to locally identified priorities.

Criteria

This section contains the “matters that need to be taken into account” as set out under section 10 of the Statutory Guidance.

The Criteria column: sets out the data that needs to be available and the extent to which Local Authorities meet the stated criteria.

The RAG status column: provides a drop down box, whereby the Local Authority can show its assessment of whether that criterion is fully met; partially met; or not met. These have been given Red, Amber Green markers, which appear as words in the drop down boxes.

Red, Amber Green (RAG) status is a tool to communicate status quickly and effectively.

RAG status

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Criteria fully met. | Fully met |
| Criteria partially met. | Partially met |
| Criteria not met. | Not met |

The Evidence to support strengths column: should be used to provide the reason for the chosen criteria status and how the evidence is held.

The Shortfall column: should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully met the criteria.

The Identified Action for Action Plan column: should be used to show how the Local Authority plans to meet these criteria, including its priority for the Action Plan and identifying a lead officer for the work.

The General Comments: for each matter should give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance.

The template should be monitored by the officer who is co-ordinating the Assessment and reviewed on a regular basis by the Play Sufficiency Working Group.

Matter A: Population

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about the number of children living in the Local Authority to enable an assessment of their potential play requirements. The data should provide information about the numbers of children in different categories that may affect their play requirements. The data should also show if the area is classified as one of disadvantage/deprivation and whether a 5 year population projection is available.

RAG Status

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Criteria fully met. | Green |
| Criteria partially met. | Orange |
| Criteria not met. | Red |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|--|---|
| There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) | Green | | Data needs to be usable by partners other than schools to support action planning at community level | Develop an approach with LSB colleagues for mapping children and young people at local level to recognise their needs (<i>Mark Lewis</i>) |
| There is up to date data for ages: | | | | |
| 0-3 | Green | Primary school population data Sept 2012 (002/15) | | |
| 4-7 | Green | School population data Sept 2012(002/15) | | |
| 8-12 | Green | School population data Sept 2012 (002/15) | | |
| 13-15 | Green | School population data Sept 2012 (002/15) | | |
| 16-17 | Green | Primary school population data Sept 2012 (002/15) | | |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|--|---|
| There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group | | Records exist of children accessing social work networks & attending special schools (002/15) | The records of disabled children in each age group are not identified from the PLASC data and are partially collected by Social Services | -Develop more detailed collection methods as part of the evolving disabled children's strategy <i>(Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| There is up to date information regarding the number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend Welsh medium schools | | Primary school population data Sept 2012 (002/15) Census data returns 2011 (004/23) | | |
| There is up to date information regarding other recorded cultural factors, including other language, and gypsy traveller children | | Primary school population data Sept 2012 (002/15) | | |

General Comments: Population Measures

MATTER A

Through consultation with Children's Services representatives it has been possible to identify large elements of what is required by the criteria. The areas that are not covered by the available data are as follows:

- The records of disabled children in each age group are not identified from the PLASC data and are collected by Social Services

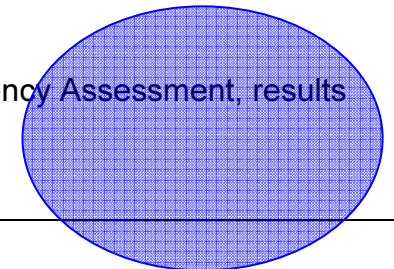
This will be built into the action plan. It can be confirmed that 5 year population projections are available. **(002/14)**

There are some key challenges to be considered:

- Integrating this approach to planning services and activities for children and young people within the Local Service Board and the single integrated plan
- Translating the available information into a format that is usable by partners we would hope to engage with at a local level

It should be noted that the opening of YGG Llangynwyd in September 2008 has changed the number of young people attending Welsh medium schools within the County Borough.




- Bridgend has taken a locality based approach to play provision linked to Town and Community Councils. There are specific programmes and facilities within identified rural areas that are compatible with other locations. There is a difficulty in defining isolated rural communities and this may vary across Wales. It is recognised that accessing non-local opportunities maybe problematic
- Whilst population data is in general existence it needs to be better understood and utilised to support planning at a locality level to implement the duty effectively. It would be beneficial for a consistent system to be used for other LSB initiatives involving children and young people
- There is an identified need for more detailed data on children and young people with disabilities
- Questions to determine geographical gaps in childcare provision were included in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, results suggested this was not a common problem 1.7% reporting it as a barrier



Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about how the Local Authority and partners aim to offer play opportunities that are inclusive and encourage all children to play and meet together.

RAG Status:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Criteria fully met. |  |
| Criteria partially met. |  |
| Criteria not met. |  |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|--|---|
| The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for | | Rural & isolated areas are identified, data is available for some communities (004/05) Community chest data Bettws (002/03) Blackmill Brighter Futures (001/06) WIM Deprivation (002/02) Youth service map (002/22) Play your part summer programme (002/10) Childcare Sufficiency Audit | Our approach needs to be consistent for all areas identified as isolated and rural Afterschool clubs in isolated rural areas face additional barriers and have insufficient numbers to make them cost effective | Requirements identified Data to be collected for further areas <i>(Sarah Harris/Andrew Jones)</i> |
| The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for | | Bi lingual staff are employed in Play4life and Discovery days. Clybiau Plant guidance on bi lingual play. Partnership working | Welsh speaking population of Borough is low many activities are | Develop welsh medium opportunities with partners Continue to meet the Welsh-medium childcare needs, |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|--|
| | | <p>arrangements with Mentor Bro Ogwr, (0011/07) Urdd & Ysgol Llangynwyd.</p> <p>Healthy Friends Training sessions</p> <p>Mudiad Meithrin Development Officer forms part of the Bridgend County Borough Council's Childcare Team and offers support to all Welsh Early Years childcare provision. The Development Officer develops new Cylchoedd Meithrin, where play is a key component to the care provided.</p> <p>Evidence – Childcare Principles and Development Plan (005/16)</p> | bilingual, but not Welsh medium. | offering structured play. (<i>Andrew Thomas</i>) |
| The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for | | <p>No current provision identified for other specific cultural groups. Integrated provision is targeted where possible. In terms of ethnicity. The population of Bridgend is 139,178 including 500 non UK Nationals</p> | Understand need or demand for bespoke provision or modification. Desk research based on cultural population profiles | Establish if there are play requirements for children from different backgrounds in the Borough (<i>Leanne Rowlands</i>) |
| The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for. | | <p>Therapeutic Playscheme (003/02)</p> <p>Bridgend Short Breaks statement (003/01)</p> <p>Discovery days report (002/19)</p> <p>58 children and young people receiving direct payments</p> <p>Talkback survey (002/17)</p> <p>Autism Sibling day report (003/13)</p> <p>ASD action plan (003/04)</p> | Not universal provision, children in main stream school not always offered places | <p>Joined up approach to expand out of school activities offer to all children with disabilities.</p> <p>A review of opportunities for integrated activities (<i>Andrew Thomas/Wendy Wilcox</i>)</p> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|----------------|---|---|---|
| Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion | | Inclusion training for staff and volunteers funded by LAPA (003/19) Additional needs training directory (003/18) Generic playwork training (003/17) Childcare team training (004/02) | Specific projects have resources for delivery but need for consistency across County | Make training and resources available across play projects and providers <i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i> |
| There is a well-known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children | | Referral system/signposting in place for disabled children's team | Families First mechanisms such as JAFF & TAFF will identify levels of need but needs time to bed in. Capacity issues to provide service | Evaluate the JAFF/TAFF referral process relating to play <i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i> |
| Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken | | Facilities comply with DDA regulations and outdoor areas with safety standards. Public Sector equality duty now in place | There is an inconsistency in use of access audits and impact on protected groups | Mechanism for introduction of access audits consistent with 3 year assessment schedule <i>(Andrew Thomas/Gareth Evans)</i> |
| Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites | Not applicable | At present there are no Gypsy Traveller sites in Bridgend | | |
| The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for | | Cymorth Grant outline for young carers support group (003/09) | Only partial information available on young carers | Identify method of contacting young carers |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|---|
| The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for | | Sport Wales research- Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people in sport | Limited evidence available for this group | Identify method of contacting young people in this group and learning from existing desk research -Investigate Stonewall Cymrus' Schools champion programme (Leanne Rowlands/Michelle Jaynes) |
| The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives | | | Patchy access to transport prevents full inclusion. Such as school transport and volunteer drivers | Inclusion in traffic and transport initiatives (Wendy Wilcox) |

General Comments: Providing for Diverse Needs

General comments

Bridgend County Borough Council works with partners including Menter Bro Ogwr and Urdd Gobaith Cymru to develop activities including holiday activities and after school programmes. Welsh medium primary and secondary schools also operate extracurricular activities. The Year 9 survey has shown good levels of activity and engagement by young people. Welsh medium consultation on holiday activities is required. **(0011/07)**

There is good data on "engaged" disabled children/young people and their families. The Cymorth monitoring reports and related surveys have evidenced the value placed on play activity. **(003/09)** There is regular consultation with parents and this has continued with 'Families First'. The Talk Back report produced by the disabled children's team provides an holistic overview of issues to be considered. There is some scope for improvement in terms of information, access to recreational activities and integration beyond a school setting. **(002/17)** The demand also outweighs supply for certain activities particularly where respite for parents is one of the identified benefits.

Bridgend County Borough Council has recognised the public sector equalities duty and leisure and recreation are areas prioritised through public consultation. There is a commitment to inclusion but a need for some infrastructure development, workforce development and collaboration of partners.

There is a referral based process linked to Families First (team around the family) for specific children/young people and includes disabled young people. Disabled children also have opportunities for integrated play during holiday periods.(003/03) (003/05)

A more consistent approach to access audits for play provision is required as this is not in place and has no identified lead at present. There are a broad range of Bridgend County Borough Council directorates and partners to be considered here.

There are no gypsy traveller sites. There are no gypsy traveller settlements within Bridgend County Borough although gypsy traveller children attend our schools.

Data has been provided by Communities First Partners on children living within related areas but perhaps more work is required in this area.(0011/06)

Whilst Bridgend County Borough Council can evidence its support for siblings of disabled children, looked after children etc. there is more detail required on young carers and the impact on accessing play. (002/20),(003/13)

The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual children are not currently understood and provided for in terms of play sufficiency. The Bridgend County Youth Service has a competent workforce to support counselling etc.(001/03)

There are existing arrangements to support the transport requirements of disabled children and young people that include the following:

Volunteer drivers provide support for children to access specialist play provision. Organisation is undertaken by the children with disabilities team

After School and Discovery Days play provision accommodates children on the Disabled Children's Team case load.

A more consistent approach is required to planning and developing play within identified rural areas.

There are further opportunities for partnership working to enhance welsh medium opportunities.

Bridgend needs to determine whether bespoke play opportunities are required based on cultural background differences.

There is identifiable support for disabled children and young people but also significant demand. A collaborative approach to service development will be progressed.

Training and development opportunities and available resources would benefit from being centralised in terms of information and promoted to partners.

There is no single consistent mechanism being utilised to determine access and prioritisation to separate provision for disabled children.

A consistent approach to conducting access audits is required across the Local Authority including infrastructure and activities.

Greater understanding of the needs of young carers and relevance to play sufficiency is required.

Whilst there are aspects of support for disabled children and young people relating to transport this is a priority area for the action plan.

Bridgend would benefit from better understanding of welsh medium young people and their needs during school holiday periods.

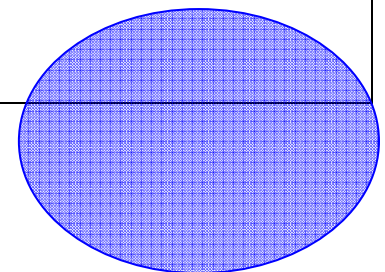
Workforce development on the public sector equalities duty and its links to the play sufficiency duty is required at a range of levels.

There is a need to identify and promote the integrated activity opportunities that exist, including through partners, for children and young people with disabilities. Bridgend also has a focus on the siblings of disabled children and their access to play and core aim 4 activity.

Bridgend needs to enhance its knowledge of the needs of LGB young people and practical improvements that can be made to service design and support.

Staff are made aware of Welsh Language training they can access to help develop their language skills




Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs, as part of BCBC Childcare Team, are provided with an equality of play check list which contains recommendations to ensure the club is accessible to children from different cultures.





Matter C: Space available for children to play: Open Spaces and Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

The Local Authority should recognise that all open spaces within their area are potentially important areas where children can play or pass through to reach other play areas or places where they go.

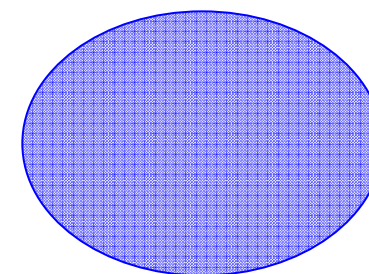
RAG Status

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Criteria fully met. |  |
| Criteria partially met. |  |
| Criteria not met. |  |

Open Spaces

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|---|---|------------|--|
| The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance |  | Unitary Development Plan http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/services/udpadoptedddocument2005reduceds.pdf | | Schedule of review to be agreed (<i>BCBC Planning Dept</i>) |
| The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Green space Study that maps areas that are used for playing |  | Children's Play Space audit (004/18) | | Schedule of review to be agreed (<i>Gareth Evans</i>) |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|---|---|
| The Local authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety | | Property Service records | Completed for formal play spaces | Need to identify a resource to complete this for open spaces Assessment is not comparable to designated play area (BCBC Planning Dept) |
| The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales | | Unitary development Plan http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/services/udpadoptedddocument2005reduces.pdf | | Maintain and update according to existing Schedule (Gareth Evans) |
| The Local Authority undertakes and actions Play Space assessments which include actions to make public space clear from hazards | | Children's play space audit (004/18) Parks inspection records Legal Claims records | Approach relies On public reports | An approach consistent with designated play areas should be considered |
| Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play | | | Sites are assessed for all purposes but predominantly value | Reflect on property audit and spaces that may not have commercial value for future development (BCBC Property Dept, Paul Thomas/Fiona Blick) |



Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|---|--|
| The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance | | Children's play space audit 2010 (004/18) | | Review at appropriate intervals |
| The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance | | | Play value is considered along with other matters when installing new facilities but there is an emphasis on complying with technical standards and safety requirements | Investigate potential to increase for play use by collaboration between technical and development staff (Andrew Thomas/Gareth Evans) |
| The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety | | Access audits are completed for new installations and refurbishments (parks records) | No completed for all existing play spaces | Access audits required to be conducted consistently at designated play spaces. Improvement plants to be negotiated with partners (Gareth Evans) |
| The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new | | Unitary development Plan http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/ | There may be better | Review case studies and best practice relating to fixed play |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|--|
| fixed play provision standard | | groups/public/documents/services/udpadopteddokument2005reduceds | approaches to identifying fixed play provision standards and Bridgend may be able to learn from such instances | provision relevant to all age groups Review model for planning provision being utilised and updated (<i>Gareth Evans</i>) |
| The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces | | Assessments are carried out but in a different format to the toolkit | Play space assessments as per the toolkit are not currently undertaken | Training for appropriate staff Investigate actioning of play space assessments in designated play spaces (<i>Gareth Evans</i>) |
| The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds | | Smoke free playgrounds voluntary code has been passed by cabinet 5/2/13 | | Evaluate impact of voluntary code introduction (<i>Gareth Evans/AMBU</i>) |
| The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community | | For designated play areas | No formal procedure for this, carried out by local agreement. No new signs are erected. | Review potential removal of signage in other areas (<i>Gareth Evans</i>) |
| The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community | | | System not currently implemented | Investigate suitable Play Priority sites and discuss legal implications with colleagues (<i>Gareth Evans/Leanne Rowlands</i>) |
| The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made | | Unitary Development Plan http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/services/udpadopteddokument2005reduceds.pdf | | |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|------------|---|
| The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields | | http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/consultation/001213.hcsp#TopOfPage | | Specific consultation is commissioned as required |

General Comments: Open Spaces

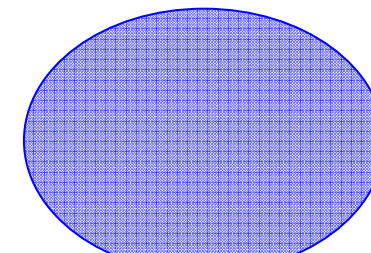
Colleagues within the planning department have conducted a series of assessments of open space, playing fields, accessible green space.

GIS mapping is used and can be further developed to build layers of information as the play sufficiency duty progresses.

The local development plan clearly identifies the importance of open spaces, playing fields and play areas with standards relating to Fields in Trust being utilised.

A more robust and consistent approach is required to assess open space on an ongoing basis although it is recognised that this may be logistically difficult.

The approach of property audits is to identify financial return to the Local Authority where possible. Where sites have little or no commercial value their potential for play should be explored.



General Comments: Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

The Parks department maintains records of its designated play spaces and a regime of inspections is in place.

The children's play space audit 2010 provides detail.

There needs to be greater focus on play quality issues alongside the technical and safety approaches to play space.

The process of auditing for access is inconsistent and needs to be addressed. There is a robust regime of inspection for safety purposes and a need for greater workforce understanding of access relating to play.

As play space development has traditionally been developed with partners, the results of audits and medium term planning for future investment should be progressed.

Communicating the play sufficiency duty to Town and Community Councils as key partners will be important.

Bridgend has a plan for play provision based on the identified role and scope of the fixed play installation but will benefit from review

This is at neighbourhood, community and other levels. The focus is generally for primary age children and there is no plan or standard for other elements e.g. wheeled sports, youth shelters etc.

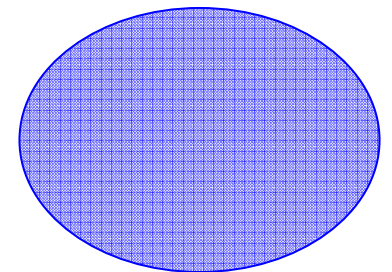
Workforce development to understand maintaining a quality play infrastructure with high play value may be required.

A voluntary code for non-smoking has been approved and this should be monitored over a 3 year period for impact.

Bridgend has been proactive in not erecting 'no ball game' signage although there may need to be an approach to remove outdated signage. The legalities and relation to bye-laws will be evaluated.

Bridgend recognises the value of Play Priority signage as part of broader advocacy for the play sufficiency duty. The resource requirements and legalities will need to be reviewed.

Bridgend now operates a strict protocol on consultation and engagement on any issue affecting the local population. This would include playing fields.



Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aim to offer a range of supervised play provision.

RAG Status

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Criteria fully me. | Green |
| Criteria partially met. | Orange |
| Criteria not met. | Red |

Play work provision

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|---|
| The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance | | BCBC maintains records of its own activities but not in regard to external organisations Families first information (004/17) Play network (002/06) Club database (003/16) Bi annual survey (001/01, 001/02) HALO contract reports (004/15) Play4life report (003/03) Community Play scheme report (003/03) All childcare provision is kept on the FIS database. This includes all out of school childcare provision. | An increased focus on work conducted by others is required | Develop over a 3 year period a more comprehensive mapping of supervised play and activity across sectors <i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i> <i>(Andrew Jones)</i> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|---|---|
| The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance | | <p>Holiday play schemes operated at 18 locations for 20 days per annum supported by Town and Community councils (004/06)</p> <p>Partnership with Chwarae Plant delivering Big Lottery supported community play programmes (005/08)</p> <p>BCBC Youth service has extensive youth activity programme, Youth theatre & youth arts programme via Arts Connect (004/09, 004/10, 004/20)</p> <p>Family Active Zones(002/21)</p> | <p>Activity can be evidenced but would benefit from becoming more cohesive</p> <p>After school clubs operating across county borough – scope unknown at present relating to play specific</p> | <p>Collate data on the local authority direct provision and levels of collaboration between partners and services</p> <p><i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i> <i>(Andrew Jones)</i></p> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|--|---|
| The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance | | <p>Work has commenced with Chwarae Plant and the play network to support development. A budget has been allocated and hosted by BAVO</p> <p>Families first commissioning has recognised the value of play (003/12)</p> <p>Training and development supported by BCBC personnel and Chwarae Plant (004/02)(004/08)(003/17)</p> <p>BCBC Childcare Team CPCKC Development Officer post tasked to create a rich play environment, supported through Out of School Childcare Grants</p> | Play does not have the third sector network required (in comparison with sport, arts etc) and needs progressive development | <p>Support the introduction of play activity to Existing third sector groups of various types</p> <p>Develop play focused groups and multi activity experiences <i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i></p> |
| Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | | <p>Direct provision provided by the LA is limited to Breakfast clubs, afterschool clubs, Play4life, Discovery days, Genesis project</p> | <p>BCBC has no full time staffed play provision but standards relating to education, youthwork, playwork or sport are generally applied</p> <p>These are sessional and short term seasonal activities. Most are for over 8 year olds</p> | <p>A review of requirements and application to seasonal and sessional activities is required</p> <p>Integration of qualified playworkers to multi activity approaches where possible <i>(Leanne Rowlands)</i></p> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|---|---|--|
| Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | | Menter Bro Ogwr, (0011/07) Families First contracts (003/12) Halo leisure contract (004/15) | BCBC has no core budget specifically for play Agreements require compliance with national standards and legislation. These can relate to playwork, youthwork, education or sport dependent on the activity | Review client commissioning budget and play related requirements of HALO leisure (Andrew Thomas) Communicate standards to commissioners and other partners (Sarah Harris) |
| Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | | Chwarae Plant are compliant and approved by Play Wales as a regional play provider | This is the only formal partnership in place The challenge will be to develop standards across a broader range of organisations | Collate details of Chwarae Plant operating standards (Sarah Harris) Develop an action plan for building capacity within the third sector (Leanne Rowlands) |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|---|---|---|
| Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme | | | There is no single quality assurance programme for what is a broad range of children's activity areas | <p>Explore a standardised quality assurance programme or ensure that all areas are quality assured</p> <p>Review existing quality control mechanisms</p> <p>Explore a single mechanism and regulatory process – this may need to be a National initiative to be cost effective <i>(Andrew Thomas/Sarah Harris)</i></p> <p>Childcare Team currently developing a cross-cutting QA scheme that will include all childcare provision, including supervised play provision, i.e. Out of School Childcare Clubs.</p> |
| The Local Authority priorities quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children. | | <p>HALO leisure contract (004/15)</p> <p>LAPA sport plan</p> <p>BCBC commissioning framework for C&YP (004/12)</p> <p>Commissioning document (003/08)</p> <p>CYPP service specification(003/14)</p> | | - |
| The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide | | <p>HALO leisure provide facilities for summer play schemes (004/28)</p> <p>Parks and pavilions provided for summer playschemes(004/06)</p> | There is no policy in place to support this initiative or identified resource to | The concept of free or low cost access for all purposes linked to the single integrated plan should be discussed although |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|--|--|
| free (at the point of access) play provision for children | | Outdoor spaces free or low cost Community Centre usage (003/20) Families First/ Active Zones. Families at risk of poverty Library children's programme (004/20) | compensate partners as a mainstream policy | the economy may have impact. Council approval required for cost removal or reduction <i>(Mark Shephard/Andrew Thomas)</i> |

Structured recreational activities for children

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|---|--|
| The Local Authority is delivering on its responsibility to secure the services set out under Core Aim 4 for sport, leisure and culture | | Michelle Jaynes Core aim 4 Quarterly reports CYPP plan and Single integrated plan Cymorth (003/09) Families First report (003/12) Year 6 & 9 surveys (001/01) (001/02) LAPA performance reports | Making more value of cultural and creative activity Some gaps in activity type based on age, gender and disability | Focus on growing participation across all areas of activity – measure via survey work Target increases in number of young people thinking Bridgend is a great place to live <i>(Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| The local “Creating an Active Wales” plan is increasing play and recreational activities for children | | Creating an active Bridgend Plan (002/15) | | Work with Welsh Government to develop next phase plans from 2014 Review progress against phase one targets and achievements <i>(Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| Local Authority Partnership Agreements (LAPAs) are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities | | LAPA plan current phase 2011-12 (me) Free Swimming Fundamentals Play4life (003/03) Halo Aquatic plan | Junior take up of free splash activities is low | Increase overall junior swimming participation and improve junior free swimming performance -Continue development of free holiday activity programmes <i>(Sarah Harris/HALO Leisure)</i> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|---|--|
| The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children | | Local Sports club survey (003/16) FSI report (Mari) BAVO children and young people members (001/12) HALO contract Sports Plan (003/07) BAVO children and young people membership (001/12) Year 6 & 9 data (001/01, 001/02) Community chest data (002/12) | | Free swimming for children and young people is one area targeted for improvement <i>(Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children | | Inspire mark for play4life (004/21) Following the flame (004/11) Youth theatre (004/09) Arts connect (004/10) Strata questionnaire (002/11) | There is insufficient resource in community arts development to establish county wide development but a more strategic approach and collaboration is evolving | Opportunities for growth and greater links with play sufficiency. Play4life has achieved collaboration <i>(Richard Hughes, Guy O Donnell)</i> |
| The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association | | Youth service MIS BCYS web resource Estyn Reports Street Games Positive Futures Youth club provision | Opportunities for increased outdoor and environmental use growth. Disability youth club being explored Get Active programme not supported by Families First/Disability | -Play sufficiency integrated into annual service planning. -Collaborative working with partners <i>(Jeanette Denley)</i> |

General Comments: Supervised play provision

Playwork Provision

Bridgend County Borough Council has some information on the activities it directly operates but could improve its information on partner activity. There is programme protection on leisure facilities and annual service planning with monthly reporting. Play scheme reports are produced and activity promoted on a seasonal basis. Disabled children's activities are identified within the short break statement.

There would be benefit in collating all relevant information but on going resource may be required. There is potential to link with the Bridgend Family Information Service.

Bridgend has developed a range of play activity programmes including open access play, semi structured play and leisure/recreation activity. The criteria is partially met at present.

As a Local Authority, Bridgend County Borough Council is required to comply with legal and regulatory requirements. (In terms of meeting the National Minimum Standards of supervision ratios, suitable premises and health and safety.)

-BCBC has traditionally committed to externally validated quality assurance schemes (e.g. Quest, Active Mark, Aquamark, Ispal Health & Leisure Recognition etc.) but these may not adequately cover aspects of play sufficiency. There are Bridgend County Borough Council policies and procedures that would cover HR, Legal, Finance, Health and Safety etc. and these would apply to all core aim 4 areas of services. Should a national framework that could be applied to play sufficiency be developed Bridgend would take this forward. Quality assurance options should be reviewed.

Through the Children's Services Directorate a robust approach to commissioning partners to deliver services has been established with a toolkit and annual monitoring. There is significant focus on quality issues. There is more commissioning with third sector than private sector at present but quality issues still apply.

The Council has the capacity to waive hire fees or to reduce such fees in appropriate circumstances. There are some examples of this but there is not an established protocol or an understanding of how costs incurred would be met. Summer holiday activities delivered for Town and Community Councils have not included facility hire charges. This will be an area for review in the action plan.

In terms of tackling poverty, fees for arts workshops are, where possible, free of charge or kept to a minimum, made possible via subsidy from other sources, such as the Arts Council of Wales. Our theatres provision also aims to ensure value for money at minimum cost, ensuring that the service provision is available for all, regardless of income.

In terms of culture, the local authority has an Arts and Community Service, consisting an Arts Development Team, the Grand Pavilion, Bryngarw House and Country Park, and service level agreements with Valley & Vale Community Arts, Maesteg Town Hall, Creation Trust, Bridgend Youth Dance, Bridgend Youth Theatre and It's My Shout. The local authority also has a Libraries Services and Leisure Service, consisting of leisure centres and Sports Development.

Dual use facilities accept bookings following criteria. Clubs within Bridgend Borough are given priority bookings, Local clubs within the catchment area are given priority in each centre, and junior clubs are given priority before 7pm, 14-16yrs 7-8pm with senior clubs later. Clubs affiliated to recognised NGB given priority over unaffiliated clubs

Play and core aim 4 activity and related workforce would benefit from mapping and collation across services and sectors.

The collation of information on existing activity and facilities including after school clubs, holiday programmes, leisure activity and more should be centralised.

Third sector growth and support for the play network to develop capacity are strategic priorities.

Bridgend County Borough Council to review its approach to recruiting children's activity leaders and the requirements applicable to play development.

Bridgend County Borough Council to further develop core staff in supervisory or other positions to appropriate standards.

Bridgend County Borough Council will review the scope of play sufficiency and its links to our leisure contract with HALO Leisure. There is potential for annual commissioning of play and related core aim 4 activity.

The National minimum standards and regulatory requirements will be communicated to partners and to directorates commissioning related services.

An action plan to develop the workforce across sectors will be taken forward with the regional play association.

Bridgend County Borough Council and its partners should work towards the implementation of a quality assurance mechanism. This may benefit from being a national initiative, being developed by the Childcare Team, as part of the Childcare Provision QA.

A Council report on the potential for formalising support for third sector will be prepared including a review of impact of charging on development.

The Year 6 and Year 9 surveys will continue to identify trends in participation by children and young people.

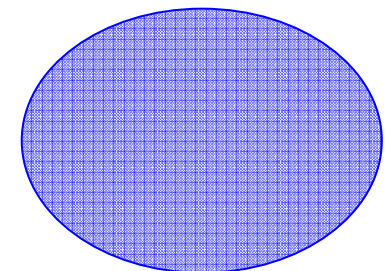
Bridgend County Borough Council will build on the current 'Creating an Active Bridgend' plan and develop a second phase plan with guidance from Welsh Government.

An annual sport plan will be developed supported by a Sport Board and will recognise fundamentals, recreational sport, holiday activities and free swimming.

Bridgend County Borough Council should encourage more integrated activity planning involving creativity and culture linked to the Arts Connect Initiative and regional play and arts collaboration.

Childcare Team aware of all childcare provision in county borough. CPCKC, as part of the BCBC Childcare Team, ensures information about the after school clubs currently are available and up to date.

As part of Bridgend County Borough Council's Childcare Team, the CPCKC development officer helps engaged settings to meet the NMS, all settings regardless of registration are encouraged to work to these minimum standards. This is true throughout childcare provision in Bridgend County Borough.



General Comments: Structured recreational activities for children

Core aim 4 reports to the Children and Young Peoples Partnership and subsequent Physical Health and Emotional Wellbeing Group show good performance in many areas. There are opportunities for collaboration between sport, play, dance and the arts to engage and motivate young people. Strata survey reports are used to monitor trends.

Bridgend County Borough Council was one of the 17 Local Authorities to complete a 'Creating an Active Wales' plan with active play an identified component. The 'Active Bridgend' Plan was approved by Welsh Government supported by review by Sport Wales. The plan links BCBC core and partner investment to key strategic targets and related work programmes. A 3 year review of performance and updated plan will be required during 2014 – 2015. Play sufficiency can be strengthened during review.

Bridgend is approaching phase 5 of LAPA process and the proposed development plan for 2013/14 recognises and resources elements of play sufficiency. There is a focus on third sector development, early years and family engagement, leadership and workforce development, inclusion and multi activity holiday programmes.

The year 6 and year 9 surveys highlight that sport is a high participation area for children and young people, particularly in terms of structured and community activity. There are equalities based differences that are recognised in priority setting and future service development.

The survey data would indicate that there is more that could be done, with investment, from culture and arts activity. The Arts Connect partnership should continue to integrate creative activity into holiday playschemes as this has proven successful in Bridgend. Bridgend supports a successful youth orchestra and youth theatre programme and developing capacity in the broader 3rd sector to integrate cultural activity would be beneficial. As such supporting the play workforce to understand and integrate arts and cultural activity will be important.

Bridgend county Youth Service offer countywide Youth Centre provision and detached youth work in a community setting. The Positive Futures programme is operating and the street games initiative is also supported. The Youth Service is an AALA licence holder and is the strategic lead for outdoor adventure activities through the Team Xtreme programme. A comprehensive training and CPD programme is in operation. The end of Cymorth Funding has seen the loss of Get Active which was a valued programme for disabled young people.

Matter E: Charges for play provision

The Local Authority should consider which play opportunities involve a charge and the extent to which the Local Authority takes these charges into account in assessing for sufficient play opportunities for children living in low income families as set out in the Statutory Guidance.

RAG status

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Criteria fully met. | |
| Criteria partially met. | |
| Criteria not met. | |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|---|--|
| The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families | | Children in out of work households (002/13) | | Data would benefit from collation in a format that would be usable by partners at a local level (Mark Lewis) |
| The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation | | Population data (002/14) Brighter Futures Blackmill (001/06) Children in out of work households (002/13) Children's population data (002/15) | | Greater working with the new communities first clusters to use data relating to play sufficiency when reviewing local priorities (Mark Lewis) |
| The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas | | Reach rural areas map (004/05) Census population data(004/23) Children's population data(002/15) | | |
| The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those | | Records exist of children accessing social work networks & attending special schools (001/14) | Information is collected from schools so doesn't take communities | Whilst there is some data available this is an area for developing and needing to focus on types of disability and |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|--|---|
| with particular needs. | | | into account | impact on accessing play and core aim 4 activity A disability survey will commence in April 2013 (Andrew Thomas/Wendy Wilcox) |
| The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision | | Free swimming data(004/15) Dragon and 5x60 data(004/07) Funday (004/03) Discovery days reports (003/5) Play4life report (003/03) Library activities (004/20) Bryngarw programme (004/01) | BCBC has ability to waive fees but no standard protocol | Address sustainability Review with council a more formal approach to removing cost as a barrier to participation where strategic priorities are being delivered (Mark Shephard/Andrew Thomas) |
| The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision | | Summer playscheme (003/03) Discovery day report (003/15) Community centre hire records (003/20) Bryngarw advertising (004/01) Mini play4life (003/05) | inconsistent local arrangements in place | Develop a formal position on subsidy for play provision and premises costs (Mark Shephard/Andrew Thomas) |
| The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers | | Chwarae plant training information (005/09) Families First (004/17) Community chest Summary (002/12) Childcare Team Grants, including Out of School Childcare Team grants – Start-up, Devt, Sustainability, and Assisted Places. (See forms) | No grants or subsidies are available for play providers within core budget of BCBC | Mapping of external funding and support sources and inclusion in publicity plan (Peter Roberts) |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | |
| The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities | | | There are no subsidised transport arrangements currently other than for children with disabilities | Review potential for developing improved transport for children and young people to access play activity and broader leisure opportunities (<i>Wendy Wilcox/Andrew Thomas</i>) |

General Comments: Charge for play provision

The Local Authority has some records of the numbers of children living in low income household and areas of deprivation as part of the child poverty action plan and also via Communities First Programmes. This would benefit from being available generically within the Single Integrated Plan development process.

Rural areas – there are 39 wards in the Borough of which 21 are rural. Of these 21 are classified as deprived, Bettws is classified as rural and deprived

The Local Authority employs a disability index co-ordinator who maps details on the volume and dispersal of children and young people with disabilities. There are some areas that need enhancing before this detail could be utilised at a community level and it is identified that much of the disability specific provision is centralised rather than doorstep.

Bridgend County Borough Council has some information on premises for no cost/low cost provision but this is not a system that has been evaluated in terms of viability. The principle of increasing the role of the third sector but supporting their sustainability is valid and will need attention.

Bridgend County Borough Council is required to record details of all funding or grants made to external organisations and this would be inclusive of play. The children's services commissioning database can be used for this purpose. The Community Chest scheme is operated by BCBC on behalf of Sport Wales and can support elements of play sufficiency. An information source on local funding opportunities would be useful although expanding current working with BAVO to this effect might be appropriate.

Bridgend County Borough Council does not have a policy of providing free transport or subsidised transport to play opportunities. It is something that has happened in past years, linked to leisure facilities, and will be reviewed within the action plan. There is play related transport for disabled children and young people accessing targeted programmes.

There are common community centre ethics/ constitution objectives which are to implement a non-biased approach to age, race religion etc and promoting an equal opportunities policy. Subsequently hire costs are kept to a minimum and a varied range of activities is encouraged to suit /cater for all age ranges.

Data on children living within low income families would benefit from being integrated in planning and population data at a local level linked to LSB processes.

The same point is applicable in relation to rural areas and areas of deprivation.

There will be a focus on enhancing the information on disabled children and young people led by the disabled children's team.

Bridgend County Borough Council and its partners will benefit from collating information of all low cost or no cost provision and making it publicly available.

Bridgend County Borough Council will review its position on grants to third sector organisation and external funding opportunities. The early indications are that there may be challenges here due to public sector efficiencies. Potential for links with BAVO. Out of School Childcare Grants – WG scheme – managed through Bridgend County Borough Council's Childcare Team.

Bridgend County Borough Council will explore improved transport schemes relating to access to school holiday activities. This is something that was previously supported.

20 out of school settings provide access to premises for after school clubs with CPCKC

Matter F: Access to space/provision

The Local Authority should consider all the factors that contribute to children's access to play or moving around their community.

RAG Status

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Criteria fully met. | Green |
| Criteria partially met. | Orange |
| Criteria not met. | Red |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|---|------------|--|
| The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas | Green | Green Cones scheme records Road Traffic Order records maintained by Transport Section | | Maintain current system of 20mph zones Continue traffic surveys and inform police of findings where issues are identified (Trevor Taylor) |
| The Local Authority has an identified mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities | Green | Traffic Surveys Conducted PACT meeting minutes and police referral records Evidence of speed checks Transport Department Records | | Accident data reviewed in partnership with the police to identify target areas Long term continue to review and respond, Bridgend historically has a low accident rate (Trevor Taylor) |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|---|--|
| The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists | | Road Safety delivery plan (004/17) Walking and cycling Strategy (004/21) LDP web Sewta priorities for road safety grants (004/16) | | Implement actions as identified in the Road Safety delivery plan Continue to apply for road safety improvement funding where SEWTA criteria is met. This is a competitive process. <i>(Trevor Taylor)</i> |
| The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas | | Walking and cycling Strategy (004/21) LDP web Kerbcraft training evidence Cycle training evidence (004/22) Year 6 & year 9 survey data (001/01, 001/2) | | Review results against actions as identified in the Road Safety delivery plan within allocated budget Monitor the limits between infrastructure, training and participation in walking and cycling activity <i>(Trevor Taylor)</i> |
| There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities | | Road safety delivery plan (004/17) | More actions could be taken if additional funding was available | Additional actions are budget dependent and SEWTA investment is a competitive regional process. Priorities are supported in a regional basis <i>(Trevor Taylor)</i> |
| The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to | | A structured programme of Cycle Training to Level 1 and 2 National standards is provided from WG Road Safety Grant funding. | Need identified for greater coverage of programmes | Look at potential additional resources to expand current provision <i>(Andrew Thomas/ Trevor)</i> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|--|---|
| national standards | | Records are available. Bikeability evidence (004/22) Balanceability programme supported by Sport Wales | | <i>Taylor)</i> |
| The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children | | Kerbcraft programme records | Current resources are targeted at basic road safety skills | Look at potential additional resources to expand current provision |
| The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes | | There are examples of this in relation the special events, e.g. street parties, torch relay but this is not an established practice driven by play sufficiency considerations | System is accessible but rarely used for this purpose, more for one off events | Work with transport colleagues to develop a way of arranging road closures for this purpose Identification of best practice from other local authorities will be progressed <i>(Sarah Harris)</i> |
| The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm | | Manual is available to engineers and relevant officers | | |
| The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities | | Relevant documents referred to in design brief for cycle route schemes, Standard of the cycle routes in the Borough including parts of National Network http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/marketing/074352.pdf | | The review of walking and cycling participation by children and young people will be relevant relating to infrastructure <i>(Trevor Taylor/Sarah Harris)</i> |
| The Local Authority uses child | | Road safety delivery | | Child accident data is reviewed |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities | | plan(004/17) | | with police partners to identify nature of intervention required on a regular basis as per the Road Safety delivery plan & Sewta guidance (Trevor Taylor) |
| The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure | | | Budget limited in this area at present | look to build on previous work with public transport partners to improve access (Andrew Thomas/Trevor Taylor) |

Information, publicity and events:

For children and families to take part in play opportunities, recreational activities and events it is necessary for them to know what is available in their area.

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|--|--|
| The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play | | http://www.bridgendchildrensinformation.org.uk/ www.aypd.org.uk http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/web/groups/public/documents/services/045948.hcsp | Many of the components are in place they are dispersed and difficult to find for children and families | The collaboration of web based information on what is currently available is a priority for year one development (Michelle Bower/Emma |

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| areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility) | | http://www.haloleisure.co.uk/ http://www.chwaraeplant.org.uk/ | No single information source on play and core aim 4 activity available | <i>Winkley)</i> <i>(Andrew Thomas/Andrew Jones)</i> |
| The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required | | Contact details for Family information Service 0800 180 4320 Parks and Playing fields Children's Services Healthy living | Information can currently be found from multiple sources | Improved web based information Defined list for generic and specific information |
| The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families | | Family information service fun day held at BRC (004/03) Town centre events, mash up, splash up (004/04) Bryngarw event programme (004/01) Pavilion advert (004/14) | Events are identified as strategically important in Bridgend with the strategic lead provided by Regeneration and Tourism | Bridgend County Borough Council will ensure family activity and children play are integrated in event planning <i>(Strategic Events Panel/Mark Shephard)</i> Web resource will be developed to publicise all areas of activity <i>(Michelle Bower/Emma Winkley)</i> |
| The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play | | Play4life publicity (002/18) Family active zone information (002/21) Scheme reports Media releases Posters | Current practice is not structured most resource is for information as opposed to advocacy for play | A more structured approach will be developed during year one inclusive of web resource, press releases, literature Integrate media engagement within a communications plan to present positive perceptions of play <i>(Emma Winkley/Andrew Thomas)</i> |

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| | | | | |
| The Local Authority publicises helpful hints and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play | | Foundation phase team Bulletin Bridgend Gazette, Gem, press releases Leaflets Information/support/play (004/19) Framework for learning for 3-7 year olds in Wales | There are examples of this happening but a more consistent approach is required | Existing information needs to be made available via web resource -Integrate media engagement within a communications plan to present positive perceptions of play -Schools to continue to foster positive partnerships with the home (<i>Emma Winkley/Andrew Thomas</i>) |
| The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play | | http://www.bridgendchildrens informationservice.org.uk/useful_websites__1/support_websites | Information is available access needs updating | A more structured approach will be developed during year one inclusive of web resource, press releases, literature (<i>Children's services</i>) |
| The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area | | Press releases Media coverage Communication plans | Area for future development | Work with partners in Youth Service and voluntary sector to publicise current good practice in this area -a more collaborative and consistent approach is required Liaise with local media to create broader understanding of the play sufficiency duty and local action plan (<i>Michelle Bower/Emma Winkley</i>) |

General Comments: Access to space/provision

Bridgend County Borough Council ensures that the design of all walking and cycling schemes takes account of current relevant guidance where appropriate including, but not limited to, LTN 2/08 Cycle Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2008), Manual for Streets (DfT/CLG/WAG, 2007), LTN 1/12 Shared Use for Pedestrians and Cyclists* (DfT, 2012), Cardiff Cycle Design Guide (Cardiff CC, 2011) and NCN Guidelines and Practical Details (Sustrans, 1997).

* Note – For reference only as it doesn't apply to Wales at the present time.

The transport service maintain up to date records of 20mph zones and conduct traffic surveys where required to recommend speed reduction reviews. They identify a difficulty in enforcing such measures where established.

Bridgend statistics for road accidents involving children and young people are relatively low although there is ongoing scrutiny and monitoring. The consultations with young people indicate however there may be a perception that streets are less safe than the evidence would suggest and this is a factor to overcome.

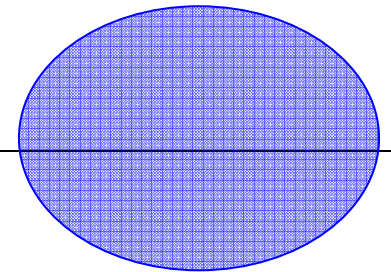
There is strong evidence of a planned approach including the Road Safety Delivery Plan, the Walking and Cycling Plan and the Local Development Plan also.

Bridgend competes for resource for road safety grants and shows success but greater available investment would allow more to be done.

There is a commitment to walking and cycling initiatives such as Kerbcraft and Bikeability and a partnership with Sustrans in operation to support Bikeability. The strata surveys however indicate cycle to school rates are low and broader understanding of cycle use by children and young people would be beneficial.

Highways services have processes in place supporting road closures but this has not been properly considered in relation to play and safer streets.

Public transport and its impact on removing barriers for children and young people to engage in activities or use spaces requires further consideration. There is significant pressure already on transport budgets including school based attendance.



General Comments**Information, publicity, events****MATTER F:**

Whilst Bridgend County Borough Council provides periodic information on play opportunities and facilities there is a great deal that can be done to collate information and increase its prominence. This will require directorates and partners to share information and commit to updating details.

Bridgend County Borough Council provides information on its own activities or those of its partners such as HALO Leisure but a more holistic approach to information provision is required. This would need to recognise community based opportunities being operated by other organisations and be easily found by the public.

Bridgend County Borough Council regularly promotes information through its website, press releases, bulletin magazine etc. that recognise a broad range of activity for children, young people and families. This may be stronger within other core aim 4 areas than play development and should be considered in the action plan.

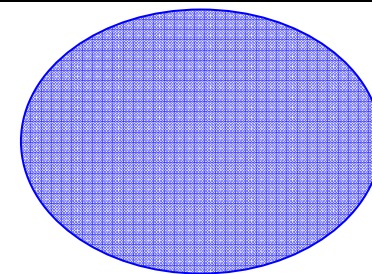
There is growth of activity around information for parents to support their children to play. The Family Active Zone programme has developed resources, therapeutic play (speech and language, complex needs) have information but this would be useful as downloadable content on the web resources to be developed.

Bridgend County Borough Council actively supports the development of media stories highlighting children playing in communities but a more structured approach to this is required to develop impact on public attitudes.

The collation of information and conversion into a web based resource will be a priority for year one. A review of key contacts and information sources will be included.

Strategic events are a priority for Bridgend County Borough Council. The potential contribution to play sufficiency will be highlighted with organisers during event planning.

A communications plan for play and related activity will be produced with corporate colleagues to ensure a more structured approach to publicity and advocacy. This will include a more pro-active approach to media engagement from service managers and partners.



Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

The Local Authority should provide information on the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

RAG status

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| Criteria fully met. | |
| Criteria partially met. | |
| Criteria not met. | |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
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| The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, play management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers) | | Play Job Description's (002/01) Families First plan (004/17) Healthy Living staffing Structure Human resources personnel records Staff training records and appraisals | Varies across directorates Large percentage of playworkers are seasonal Lack of information on play volunteers Play has not had a strategic lead within BCBC with elements of play sitting in diverse directorates. The play development service has a co-ordinator but no full time staffing | Play management structure over all services. A cross directorate and partner working group will be developed further All staff have appraisal and training recorded Training requirements for core and seasonal staff to be established based on activities delivered <i>(Andrew Thomas/Gareth Evans)</i> |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|---|
| The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National minimum Standards | | Chwarae plant Quality in Play project (http://www.chwaraeplant.org.uk/what_we_do/03qualityinplay.htm) | Large percentage of seasonal workers Limited budget for training | Training plans will be established considering the National minimum standards and resources available to support training cost Partners who are qualified are commissioned to work alongside other children's activity leaders (sport, arts, dance, health etc) (Leanne Rowlands) |
| The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive | | Enrolment with Play Wales P3 programme Childcare Team direct to FIX, who complete FREE WBA training in Playwork. Childcare Team would fund Playwork Training if this WBA training wasn't available. This training would be funded through the Out of School Grant. | Supervisory staff are studying playwork qualifications but not sessional staff | Continue to work with Chwarae Plant and utilise available resources to develop staff to appropriate levels A proportionate training plan will be established for sessional and seasonal staff (Leanne Rowlands) |
| The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies | | | Playwork is not a specific focus within Health Living Services | Develop a workforce strategy that integrates playwork alongside other provision for children and young people equitably. (Andrew Thomas) |

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| The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers | | BAVO training programme (001/12) Chwarae plant quality in play (http://www.chwaraeplant.org.uk/what_we_do/03qualityinplay.htm) Play network | The support is currently time limited and would benefit from ongoing investment | This is not an annual budget commitment A capacity building programme for third sector will be implemented during 2013/14 based around workshops Training needs analysis link to workforce plans and potential future funding (Leanne Rowlands) |
| The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary | | Sport and Recreation Playwork training matrix (003/17) | BCBC have commenced an analysis of the programme areas that could be defined as play. | Bridgend County Borough Council will ensure that core staff progress to appropriate levels of competency Partner organisations will also be mapped to identify broader training |
| The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork | | | Budget only for essential training | Bridgend County Borough Council will need to target external investment on an ongoing basis to fund play staff and related training and development This is consistent with other core aim 4 areas |

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| <p>The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff</p> | | <p>Healthy schools lunchtime supervisors training(003/10) Training plan for play workers (003/17) Leadership pathway in place AYPD (004/08) Inclusion service ANTD directory (003/19) Child protection(004/24) Play Wales conferencing (001/10) Chwarae plant training (005/09) Play 2 Learn training for school staff (PESS)</p> | | <p>There is merit in collating and promoting the information available for learning and development generically and specifically to playwork.</p> |
| <p>There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for play workers in the area</p> | | <p>Youth service training matrix (QES system) BCBC corporate training matrix (Corporate training system online) Childcare Team training Programme</p> | <p>Playwork needs more focus when workforce planning is taking place</p> | <p>This information relates to the core playwork staff of BCBC</p> <p>A review of opportunities for sessional and seasonal staff will be undertaken during year one</p> <p>Playwork training is being supported for supervisory staff (<i>Leanne Rowlands</i>)</p> |

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| There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children | | BCBC training programme (Corporate training system online) Youth service training (QES system) AYP coaching and instruction (004/08) Chwarae Plant quality in Play (005/08) PE and School Sport training courses for teaching staff and AOTTS Foundation phase training programme Childcare Team training Programme | Programme available at cost through skills active | CPD opportunities and providers across Bridgend County Borough Council to be reviewed and up to date information collated and publicised The foundation phase training programme will continue to provide high quality training for practitioners working with children <i>(Sarah Harris/Andrew Jones)</i> |
| Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in play work | | BAVO current training programme (002/07) Chwarae Plant Quality in play project (005/08) | There are currently low levels of volunteers and parents supporting playwork but this is a target for growth | Increase awareness of current opportunities Work with partners to engage more volunteers and support with training/learning opportunities <i>(Leanne Rowlands/Matthew Jenkins)</i> |
| Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children's | | Foundation Phase curriculum training records | There has been a variance in levels of engagement with the play sufficiency | Many professionals and decision makers remain unaware of the detail of the play sufficiency and potential |

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| opportunities to play | | | duty and the scope is not fully understood or committed to as a corporate body | <p>impact (<i>Andrew Thomas</i>)</p> <p>Incorporate training and awareness sessions on play sufficiency and the impact of the statutory duty</p> <p>Continue to provide high quality Foundation Phase training (<i>Ann Rees</i>)</p> |
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General Comments Securing and developing the play workforce

Bridgend County Borough Council maintains records of its employees in relation to play development and broader core aim 4 activities inclusive of volunteers. The action plan will need to expand this position to include key partner organisations e.g. Chwarae Plant, Y Bont, Clybiau Plant Cymru, Groundwork Trust.

Whilst there is progress being made with core or significant supervisory posts it is a challenge to apply the standard to sessional or seasonal holiday scheme workers within multi activity programmes. There is recognition of the need for competency in the activity being delivered although sometimes an education, youth work or sports science discipline is appropriate.

Bridgend County Borough Council is working with partners to develop Play Wales accredited training for core personnel. The partner organisations are also being supported to develop competency. Chwarae Plant and related staffing are compliant with the identified standards.

A workforce development plan for Bridgend County Borough Council play development and related services will be required and a review of the role of Bridgend County Borough Council in future delivery or facilitation. The plan will need to be compatible with the standards of Skills Active but recognise that voluntary sector capacity building is a core objective and volunteer engagement/retention will be influenced by complexity and cost.

Bridgend County Borough Council has supported a member of staff to become an accredited training provider with the objective of supporting third sector growth. A small development fund has been created within BAVO to support workshop delivery to community groups, volunteers etc.

Bridgend County Borough Council has not conducted a play specific comprehensive training needs analysis but will need to do so between 2013/14 recognising the small core of Bridgend County Borough Council staff, sessional or seasonal workers and partner organisations/volunteers.

Bridgend does not have a core budget for play development other than salary costs of a single lead officer. Programme delivery costs are generally provided via external funding or by partners. As such there is no ring fenced budget for play or for playworker development. There are options to be explored in terms of maximising resources as identified in the introductory sections. Partnership working with Chwarae Plant and Play Wales will be critical in terms of workforce expansion and/or development.

Bridgend County Borough Council has a comprehensive in-house training programme for corporate issues such as child protection, equalities, first aid etc. and technical issues such as ICT skills etc. Within 'Healthy Living' Services an objective should be that the workforce generally i.e. sport, dance, arts, health and play all have knowledge and understanding of quality play development. Beyond this individuals will choose to specialise in playwork where proportionate to their role.

Playwork can be integrated into the leadership pathway being developed by the Active Young People Department as a module that can be developed further by play partners.

Bridgend County Youth Service operate a comprehensive CPD programme and the links with playwork and competency will be reviewed.

Advocacy of the play sufficiency action plan and its intended impact will need to be delivered to Local Service Board members and key partners who are involved in policy and strategy that could impact on children's opportunities to play. A structured approach will be required.

A play management structure for play will need to be developed that is effective within the new organisational structure evolving within Bridgend County Borough Council. This structure will need to support the strategic play group and play network also.

All Bridgend County Borough Council staff will have training plans linked to the National Minimum Standards of children's activities and play specific where appropriate.

Bridgend County Borough Council will continue to work with Chwarae Plant and partners to secure investment for workforce development across sectors.

Capacity building programmes for third sector groups and particularly the play network will be developed in partnership with BAVO. A programme of workshops will be implemented during year one and reviewed.

There is no long term workforce development budget and sources of support will need to be identified and communicated to partner organisations. Existing generic training opportunities will need to be incorporated (e.g. BAVO, Youth Service, Chwarae Plant, AYPD, HALO etc.)

A programme of advocacy and information on the aims and requirements of the duty will be required for professionals and decision makers. This will be needed during year one.




Playwork will be integrated as a module of choice within the leadership pathway being developed within healthy living services.


CPCCKC, as part of Bridgend County Borough Council's Childcare Team, carry out annual training needs analysis which informs future training for the childcare workforce

Matter H: Community engagement and participation.

The Local Authority should consult widely with children, their families and other stakeholders on their views on play provision. It should also promote wide community engagement in providing play friendly communities.

RAG Status

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| Criteria fully met. |  |
| Criteria partially met. |  |
| Criteria not met. |  |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage youth groups, school councils, |  | Year 6 & 9 survey (001/01) (001/02) | More data required on the 14-17 age group and young | Ensure future survey work adds value to play sufficiency assessment |

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| school governing bodies, community groups and other relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area. | | Sport club database (003/16) Town and community council agreements (004/06) Play network Chwarae plant Children's services commissioning (003/08) Youth Council Play4life reports (003/03) Sport Wales School Sport Survey | people with disabilities | Disability survey to be conducted during 2013 <i>(Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| The Local Authority promotes community engagement in: making space available and suitable for play organising play events positive attitudes towards children and play training on the importance of play | | Branching Out (005/08) Play4life/Mini play4lie (003/05,003/03) Play network Families first (005/05) Town and community councils (004/06) | Greater advocacy on the importance of play | An advocacy plan for play will be required with links to a communication plan The third sector is targeted to support the development of play sufficiency and to support local ownership <i>(Leanne Rowlands/Sarah Harris)</i> |

General Comments**Community engagement and participation**

The year 6 and year 9 surveys of young people generate over 2000 responses over a two year period and this data is used to set priorities.

Sports clubs and groups working with children and young people are consulted with on a bi-annual basis.

There is annual dialogue with Town and Community Council who provide support for local play activity.

A play network is in place and partners are able to contribute to future planning and community activity.

School forums are scheduled to be established at secondary schools during 2013/14 to support youth voice. This will link with leadership programmes and young ambassador's programmes.

Schools are supporting the implementation of the "Family Active Zone" programme supporting early year's activity and engagement of parents.

The 5 x 60 programme is now operating on a commissioned basis with 4 secondary schools with focus on transition to activity within a community setting.

Community groups are integrated within activity programmes such as Community Playschemes and Play 4 Life.

The Local Authority provides quality assurance support where Town and Community Council wish to commission local partners to deliver play.

There is a Youth Council in place but more can be done to engage this group on play sufficiency matters.

Community focused schools is a strategic priority for Bridgend and this can be evidenced within the Unitary Development plan and school modernisation.

Dual Use agreements are in place at four secondary schools and community use agreements for an additional four schools. Similar arrangements are being progressed for special education.

The leisure contract with HALO Leisure has specified children and young people as a priority with an outcomes framework that recognises play impact.

An engagement plan will be established for Play Sufficiency and core aim 4 activity that allows children, young people, families and stakeholders to present their views on an ongoing basis. This will bring together existing mechanisms and others needed to cover gaps in data or population groups.

Further work at locality and Town and Community Council level will be taken forward to explore enhancement of local play opportunities and facilities.

Work will continue with BAVO, Chwarae Plant and the play network to promote the benefits and importance of play to communities, schools, business sector etc.

Play development and its impact will be monitored within the Families First programme and promoted to lead partners and commissioners.

The Youth Council will be utilised to discuss play sufficiency matters and priorities on an ongoing basis.




Children Services will continue to integrate the community focused schools philosophy within school modernisation developments and existing facilities where appropriate.


HALO Leisure will recognise the importance of children's activities and play opportunities within annual service development planning.

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

The Local Authority should examine all its policy agendas for their potential impact on children's opportunities to play and embed targets and action to enhance children's play opportunities within all such policies and strategies.

RAG Status

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Criteria fully met. |  |
| Criteria partially met. |  |
| Criteria not met. |  |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|--|--|------------|---|
| There is a named person on the Local Service Board who champions children's play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Single Integrated Plan |  | Peoples board minutes and reports (0011/09) Acceptance email from cabinet member Single plan consultation (Michelle) | | Head of Service for Healthy Living will represent play sufficiency with the Local Service Board on technical and progress/performance issues relating to the action plan. The cabinet member for children's services will be the identified champion for play sufficiency and be part of the people's partnership board where play sufficiency and core aim 4 matters are discussed. <i>(Mark Shephard/ Cllr Huw David)</i> |

The Local Development Plan (pages 61 – 63) show clear recognition of the need for protection of social and community facilities (policy COM7) the provision of community buildings (policy COM9) the provision of educational and training facilities (policy COM10) and provision of outdoor recreation facilities (policy COM11). Outdoor sports and children's playing space are identified

with standards relating to volume of provision. There are further policies on provision of playing fields (COM12) and accessible natural green space (COM13). There are identified protections and opportunities for further development subject to developer contributions and/or other identifiable resource.

Education and schools

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day | | Lunchtime supervisors training (003/10) Foundation phase learning framework | | The importance of play within the foundation phase to be promoted to schools on an ongoing basis Play2learn resource and related use by schools to be evaluated (Ann Rees) |
| Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours | | Breakfast and after school clubs (004/02) Play related JD's (002/01) Clybiau Plant Cymru | | Request details of out of school opportunities from schools and update on a periodic basis. Publicise the information (Sarah Harris/Andrew Jones) |
| Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times | | Dual use facilities Porthcawl, Ogmore, Pencoed and Cynffig, CKCPC after school clubs Mini play for life (003/05) | Some schools permit access | Continue to promote the community focused schools agenda, particularly linked to school modernisation (Trevor Guy) |
| Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school | | Support for walk to school week http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us/walk-to-school | | -participation is on a school by school basis, budget to support programme would allow increased opportunities |

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|------------|---|
| | | | | continue to expand community use agreements (Sarah Harris) |
| The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed | | Health and safety guidance (004/25) Children's play space audit (004/18) Foundation phase (004/26) Children aged 3-7 should have open access to the outdoors during their continuous provision' (Check this with early years team) | | (Ann Rees) |

- The cabinet member for Children's Services will be the champion for children's play, the Head of Healthy Living will lead at Local Service Board level and the play sufficiency action plan is recognised in the single plan consultation document
- There is some variance in the engagement of schools with the play agenda although the Foundation Phase has made play more prominent. The education consortium and Sport Wales have provided training and 'Play2Learn' resources to schools supported by BCBC
- There is evidence of schools making facilities available during holiday periods (Mini Play 4 Life)
- There are records of After Schools Clubs and school engagement with national programmes such as Dragon Sport, 5X60 etc
- There are ongoing investment into community routes and safe routes to schools. The year 6 and 9 surveys highlight self-reported walking and cycling routes. BCBC have a Bikeability officer supported by Sustrans to promote cycling activity
- A number of primary schools have commenced utilising play workers and the BCBC play trainer to develop curriculum time activity
- There is no identified transport subsidy for marginalised groups to access activity and increasing pressure on transport for schools etc

Town and Country Planning

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities | | UDP pages 61-63 Com7 Com9 Com10 Com11 Com12 Com13 | | |

The local development plan and supporting work such as open space assessments, parks and playing fields review clearly identify and protect play and infrastructure.

Traffic and Transport

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|---|---|
| The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities | | www.sewta.gov.uk/regional-transport-plan Regional Transport Plan (004/16) Road safety plan (004/17) | Relates predominantly to school, education and employment and recognises social inclusion | Develop increased recognition of the potential impact on play opportunities of transport opportunities Collaborative approach to developing transport solutions to remove barriers relating to play sufficiency. Links with leisure, communities first clusters etc Develop plans to increase participation in cycling by children and young people |
| The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised. | | SEWTA regional transport plan (004/16) | | Plan includes elements relating to increased car ownership, car share schemes, bus and train travel and journeys made on foot Increased focus on rural communities, areas of deprivation and children and young people with disabilities will develop progressively over a 3 |

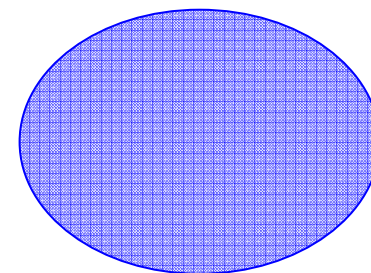
| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|----------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|--|
| | | | | year period. There will be a requirement for partner involvement |

The Local Transport plan covers many of the issues identified by the toolkit and the transport service is proactive with support for road safety, Kerbcraft, cycle proficiency. Additional resource would be welcomed.

Health and Wellbeing

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| The Local Authority plans and agenda to promote health and well-being recognise the importance of play for children's and families' physical health and well-being | | Play Strategy (005/01) Active Bridgend Plan (002/16) LAPA/Sport Plan (003/07) Family active zone (002/21) Single Plan(005/10) HALO contract (file copy) The Play2Learn web site offers free resources to parents and carers. This is promoted via school staff training. http://www.sportwales.org.uk/community-sport/education/play-to-learn.aspx | | |

Bridgend has a play strategy, sport plan; an outcome based leisure management contract and a creating an Active Wales Plan. Targets are recognised in business plans and also the single plan. Play could be strengthened within the next creating an Active Wales Plan



Child Poverty

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| The Local Authority's tackling poverty agenda and plans recognise the importance of ensuring that play opportunities are available to all families regardless of their income. | | LSB / SIPP – range of actions to contribute to reducing poverty.(005/10) Child Poverty Strategy (004/29) Communities Board (0011/08) Communities First (005/10) Welfare Reform Actions | | |

The Save the Children (2011) report indicates that 4000 children (15%) in Bridgend are living in poverty. The child poverty strategy was reported to cabinet on 19th June 2012. Core aim 7 of the 2011 – 2014 children and young people plan has addressed this. The single plan and Families First Programme are in place. The links to amenities, open space etc. is recognised. Play initiatives are supported particularly with disabled children and families.

Early Years/Childcare

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|---|--|---|
| Early Years, and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children | | Flying start (002/05) Childcare strategy (005/11) Flying start guidance (004/27) Foundation phase training for children's learning | | Early Years and flying Start settings continue to deliver provision that is based on the foundation Phase Curriculum Framework where through play children practise and consolidate their learning <i>(Ann Rees)</i> |
| The Childcare Strategy offers guidance to ensure local childcare providers understand the importance of and provide a rich play environment as a routine part of the care they provide | | Bridgend County Borough Council's Multi-Agency Childcare Team supports all childcare settings, as outlined in the Childcare Principles and Development Plan. The importance of play is integral (005/11) | The Childcare Team's training budget is limited and priority must be given to the provision of mandatory training for CSSIW registration | Where training budget allows, provide CPD training on the importance of play, in response to identified need. <i>(Ann Rees)</i> |

Family policy and initiatives

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|--|------------|--|
| Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play | | Families first (005/17, 005/06) Chwarae Plant (005/08) Family Active Zones (002/21) Mini play4life(003/05) Free fun friendly toddlers (005/06) | | Implement the Families First programme and review play components. Ensure information is available via family information service, BCBC web resource, play2learn website etc (Trevor Guy/Mark Heydon) |

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity | | Play4life Ambassador programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-generational focus is not strong at present and Bridgend will benefit from identifying good practice in this | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of inter-generational initiatives the young volunteer pathway and ambassador programmes are working well to develop peer led activity. There could be more done to link with play development programmes. |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | area. | <i>(Leanne Rowlands/Karen Winch)</i> |
| There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages | | Play4life Ambassador programme | Not fully applied to playwork or play environment | Develop young volunteers from 14 years + to support activity in a play setting Review good practice relating to intergenerational activity with Play Wales and Chwarae Plant <i>(Leanne Rowlands/Karen Winch)</i> |

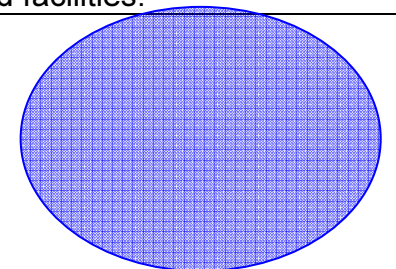
Community Development

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|------------------------------------|------------|---|
| The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding the rights of children to play within their communities | | Draft SIP (005/10) | | The draft SIPP entitled 'Bridgend County Together' incorporates actions to 'Conduct the play sufficiency assessment and produce an action plan to improve existing arrangements' <i>(Andrew Thomas/Mark Lewis)</i> |
| The Community Strategy supports communities to provide play opportunities for their children | | Community strategy (005/02) | | The Bright Futures Community Plan 2008 – 12 identified a need for place for teenagers to go at low cost |

| | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | supported by a strong voluntary sector, imbalances in access to activities. Disabled children and play and leisure activity is recognised. There is a focus on green spaces and the importance of access to parks and open spaces, encouragement of walking and cycling. The new BCBC corporate plan is in public consultation phase. |
| The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding how providing play opportunities contributes to community cohesion | | Community strategy (005/02) | | The Bridgend Community Strategy 2005 – 16 is in place and aims to improve quality of life for all protect and enhance the environment and have a more inclusive County Borough. Children and young people will have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activity and not be disadvantaged by child poverty and particularly in areas with public transport deficiencies. (Andrew Thomas/Mark Lewis) |

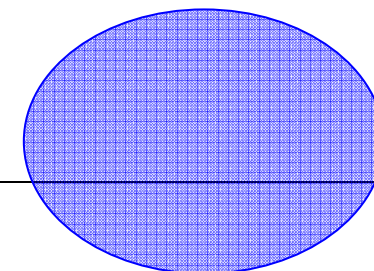
| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Community Safety | |
|-------------------------|--|

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| The Community Safety Strategy makes a clear statement which recognises the rights of children to play in their communities | | Bridgend Community Strategy (0011/08) | | The Community Safety Strategy has been subsumed within the draft SIPP which is out to public consultation until 31st March 2013. The SIPP entitled Bridgend County Together incorporates an Action to 'Conduct the play sufficiency assessment and produce an action plan to improve existing arrangements' |
| The Community Safety Strategy includes actions which provide a safe environment for children to play in their communities | | Bridgend Community Strategy (0011/08) Bridgend County Together's vision is a healthy, safe and prosperous county where people reach their full potential. | | Bridgend has a community cohesion strategy and action plan for 2011 – 2014. This was commissioned by the Community Safety Partnership supported by Communities First. The local cohesion framework recognises community focused schools, supporting marginalised groups to ensure full participation in community life, developing volunteering. There is a focus on mapping community and leisure facilities and a need for more equality in access to activities and facilities. |



| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Health and Safety | |
|--------------------------|--|

| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|-------------------|--|--|--|
| The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge | | Bridgend County Borough Council's health and safety guidance (0011/13) Example risk assessment (004/13) | Specific focus on the toolkit and HSE guidance to be applied | Bridgend County Borough Council will need to give focus to its position on risk and challenge for children and young people it has a duty of care for and provide guidance for employees. This can be applied within a play environment but also relate to other core aim 4 activities. <i>(Nikki Tasker/Andrew Thomas)</i> |
| The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) | | Bridgend County Borough Council's health and safety guidance (0011/13) | As above | Representatives of the Corporate Health and Safety Service will evaluate the risk benefit approach recommended by HSE and apply to Corporate Risk Assessment guidance relating to play development <i>(Nikki Tasker/Andrew Thomas)</i> |



| Criteria | RAG Status | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|--|------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils | | | There is no transferrable insurance arrangement for third parties through the Local Authority scheme | . |

General Comments: **Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas**

CONCLUSION

The key findings that related to the identified matters of the play sufficiency duty are presented below:

Matter A: Population

Whilst population data is in general existence it needs to be better understood and utilised to support planning at a locality level to implement the duty effectively. It would be beneficial for a consistent system to be used for other LSB initiatives involving children and young people.

There is an identified need for more detailed data on children and young people with disabilities.

Matter B: Providing for diverse needs

A more consistent approach is required to planning and developing play within identified rural areas.

There are further opportunities for partnership working to enhance welsh medium opportunities.

Bridgend needs to determine whether bespoke play opportunities are required based on cultural background differences.

There is significant support for disabled children and young people but also significant demand. A collaborative approach to service development will be progressed.

Training and development opportunities and available resources would benefit from being centralised as information and promoted to partners.

There is no consistent mechanism being utilised to determine access and prioritisation to separate provision for disabled children.

A consistent approach to conducting access audits is required across the Local Authority including infrastructure and activities.

Greater understanding of the needs of young carers and relevance to play sufficiency is required.

Whilst there are aspects of support for disabled children and young people relating to transport this is a priority area for the action plan.

Bridgend would benefit from better understanding of welsh medium young people and their needs during school holiday periods.

Workforce development on the public sector equalities duty and its links to the play sufficiency duty is required at a range of levels.

There is a need to identify and promote the integrated activity opportunities that exist, including through partners, for children and young people with disabilities. Bridgend also has a focus on the siblings of disabled children and their access to play and core aim 4 activity.

Bridgend needs to enhance its knowledge of the needs of LGB young people and practical improvements that can be made to service design and support.

Matter C: **Open Spaces**
Outdoor Play Spaces

Whilst there is a strong approach to policy and planning issues there is scope for enhancing the approach to increasing play value and access audits

The approach to assessing open play space can be more consistent with that of designated play space

Alternative use of assets such as brownfield sites should be explored with property colleagues where play benefit may be achievable

Designated Space

Consideration of 'play value' can be enhanced when developing assets via increased knowledge and collaborative working. Our approach needs to move beyond technical considerations

Access audits, as identified in the toolkit, will need to be conducted on a rolling basis across facilities and identified improvements discussed with partners

Whilst a framework is in place for the planning and installation of play areas this will need review for currency and fit with national best practice or standards

There is scope for advocacy activity such as the introduction of play priority signage and removal of historical and negative signage.

Matter D: Supervised Provision

Play and core aim 4 activity and related workforce would benefit from mapping and collation across services and sectors.

The collation of information on existing activity and facilities including after school clubs, holiday programmes, leisure activity and more should be centralised.

Third sector growth and support for the play network to develop capacity are strategic priorities.

Bridgend County Borough Council to review its approach to recruiting children's activity leaders and the requirements applicable to play development.

Bridgend County Borough Council to further develop core staff in supervisory or other positions to appropriate standards.

Bridgend County Borough Council will review the scope of play sufficiency and its links to our leisure contract with HALO Leisure. There is potential for annual commissioning of play and related core aim 4 activity.

The National minimum standards and regulatory requirements will be communicated to partners and to directorates commissioning related services.

An action plan to develop the workforce across sectors will be taken forward with the regional play association.

Bridgend County Borough Council and its partners should work towards the implementation of a quality assurance mechanism. This may benefit from being a national initiative.

A Council report on the potential for formalising support for third sector will be prepared including a review of impact of charging on development.

The Year 6 and Year 9 surveys will continue to identify trends in participation by children and young people.

Bridgend County Borough Council will build on the current 'Creating an Active Bridgend' plan and develop a second phase plan with guidance from Welsh Government.

An annual sport plan will be developed supported by a Sport Board and will recognise fundamentals, recreational sport, holiday activities and free swimming.

Bridgend County Borough Council should encourage more integrated activity planning involving creativity and culture linked to the Arts Connect Initiative and regional play and arts collaboration.

Youth Service will continue its current facility based and detached programme provision whilst integrating play sufficiency into its service

development planning

Matter E: Charges for Play Provision

Data on children living within low income families would benefit from being integrated in planning and population data at a local level linked to LSB processes.

The same point is applicable in relation to rural areas and areas of deprivation.

There will be a focus on enhancing the information on disabled children and young people led by the disabled children's team.

Bridgend County Borough Council and its partners will benefit from collating information of all low cost or no cost provision and making it publicly available.

Bridgend County Borough Council will review its position on grants to third sector organisation and external funding opportunities. The early indications are that there may be challenges here due to public sector efficiencies. Potential for links with BAVO.

Bridgend County Borough Council will explore improved transport schemes relating to access to school holiday activities. This is something that was previously supported.

Matter F: Access to space/provision

Traffic and transport considerations are generally in place as local and regional levels (NB Road Safety delivery Plan)

There is a strong programme of walking and cycling training support for schools although outputs are restricted by the resource available.

Targeted growth would be beneficial if external resource was available.

There is a need to develop increased focus on children and young people participating in walking and cycling and how perceptions of road safety may influence take up rates This will require partnership working.

The potential for utilising temporary road closures to enhance safe play opportunities will be reviewed with highways department.

The impact of public transport arrangements on access to spaces and activity is recognised but required further evaluation. There is no

identified resource to develop this and pressure on existing commitments e.g. school transport.

Part 2 Information, publicity and events.

The collation of information and conversion into a web based resource will be a priority for year one. A review of key contacts and information sources will be included.

Strategic events are a priority for Bridgend County Borough Council. The potential contribution to play sufficiency will be highlighted with organisers during event planning.

A communications plan for play and related activity will be produced with corporate colleagues to ensure a more structured approach to publicity and advocacy. This will include a more pro-active approach to media engagement from service managers and partners.

Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

A play management structure for play will need to be developed that is effective within the new organisational structure evolving within Bridgend County Borough Council. This structure will need to support the strategic play group and play network also.

All Bridgend County Borough Council staff will have training plans linked to the National Minimum Standards of children's activities and play specific where appropriate.

Bridgend County Borough Council will continue to work with Chwarae Plant and partners to secure investment for workforce development across sectors.

Capacity building programmes for third sector groups and particularly the play network will be developed in partnership with BAVO. A programme of workshops will be implemented during year one and reviewed.

There is no long term workforce development budget and sources of support will need to be identified and communicated to partner organisations. Existing generic training opportunities will need to be incorporated (e.g. BAVO, Youth Service, Chwarae Plant, AYPD, HALO etc.)

A programme of advocacy and information on the aims and requirements of the duty will be required for professionals and decision makers. This will be needed during year one.

Playwork will be integrated as a module of choice within the leadership pathway being developed within healthy living services.

Matter H: Community engagement and Participation

An engagement plan will be established for Play Sufficiency and core aim 4 activity that allows children, young people, families and stakeholders to present their views on an ongoing basis. This will bring together existing mechanisms and others needed to cover gaps in data or population groups.

Further work at locality and Town and Community Council level will be taken forward to explore enhancement of local play opportunities and facilities.

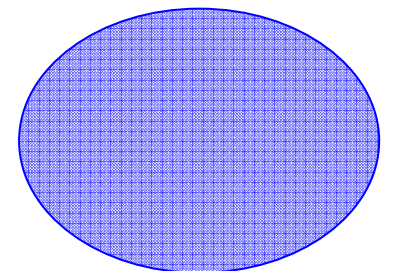
Work will continue with BAVO, Chwarae Plant and the play network to promote the benefits and importance of play to communities, schools, business sector etc.

Play development and its impact will be monitored within the Families First programme and promoted to lead partners and commissioners.

The Youth Council will be explored to discuss play sufficiency matters and priorities on an ongoing basis.

Children Services will continue to integrate the community focused schools philosophy within school modernisation developments and existing facilities where appropriate.

HALO Leisure will recognise the importance of children's activities and play opportunities within annual service development planning.



The way forward

The play sufficiency assessment for Bridgend has identified a high volume of issues that will need to be addressed progressively over the first three years of the statutory duty. There are some issues that will be comparably simple to resolve and lower in cost whilst other areas will be more complex and have potential resource implications. Where issues fall into the latter category they have been scheduled for years 2 and 3 to provide time to explore the potential sources of funding. Throughout the plan it has been identified that a locality based focus will be developed and this will require continued partnership working with communities, third sector and Town and Community Councils.

The play sufficiency assessment has generated a high volume of information and year one will be utilised to collate this information into a resource that is useful for internal services and partners. This information will also be useful for review of Bridgend County Together – the single integrated plan. The recognition by colleagues and partners of play sufficiency criteria and integration in future data collection exercises will be an area of focus.

It has become apparent that whilst there is a high volume of information and similarly high levels of service, activities and places it is not in one place and as a result difficult for public to use. BCBC will work with partners to develop and maintain a 'one stop' source of information relating to play sufficiency during year one.

Bridgend County Borough Council has the potential to undergo an organisational restructure during 2013 – 2014 and the responsibility for delivering on the play sufficiency duty will need to be identified in any consideration. The assessment has recognised the need for a robust strategic play duty group and for greater synergy between play development services and play infrastructure services.

The assessment has identified that the priorities of the play sufficiency duty may not be instantly understood or embraced by some services or partners and the positive promotion, publicity and advocacy for play and related core aim 4 activities will remain important.

In relation to play being identified within all areas of policy this will be addressed progressively. There are good examples of play being recognised and protected and also opportunities for improvement.

The information collected would suggest that large numbers of children and young people can access some or most of the things that they would want to. Bridgend will get better at identifying locality or population based gaps and working with partners to enhance spaces and opportunities.

Signed:

Date:

