

Public Document Pack

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
dewis iaith.*

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Annwyl Cyngorydd,

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU TESTUN 3

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Pwyllgor Craffu Testun 3 Hybrid - Council Chamber/RemotelySiambur y Cyngor, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr/O Bell, **Dydd Llun, 12 Rhagfyr 2022 am 16:00.**

AGENDA

1. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb
Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan Aelodau.
2. Datganiadau o fuddiant
Derbyn datganiadau o ddiddordeb personol a rhagfarnol (os o gwbl) gan Aelodau / Swyddogion yn unol â darpariaethau'r Cod Ymddygiad Aelodau a fabwysiadwyd gan y Cyngor o 1 Medi 2008.
3. Dyletswydd, Asesiad a Chynllun Gweithredu Digonolrwydd Cyfleoedd Chwarae i Sicrhau Cyfleoedd Digonol ym Mwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr 3 - 130

Gwahoddwyr:

Cyngorydd Rhys Goode – Aelod Cabinet Llesiant a Chendlaethau'r Dyfodol
Cyngorydd John Spanswick - Aelod Cabinet Cymunedau
Cyngorydd Jon-Paul Blundell - Aelod Cabinet Addysg

Claire Marchant - Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Lles
Janine Nightingale - Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Cymunedau
Lindsay Harvey - Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Addysg a Chymorth i Deuluoedd

Andrew Thomas - Atal a Lles – Rheolwr Grŵp

4. Casgliadau/Argymhellion
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Cyfnwidi testun: Rhowch 18001 o flaen unrhyw un o'n rhifau ffon ar gyfer y gwasanaeth trosglwyddo testun

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6. Materion Brys

I ystyried unrhyw eitemau o fusnes y, oherwydd amgylchiadau arbennig y cadeirydd o'r farn y dylid eu hystyried yn y cyfarfod fel mater o frys yn unol â Rhan 4 (pharagraff 4) o'r Rheolau Trefn y Cyngor yn y Cyfansoddiad.

Yn ddiffuant

K Watson

Prif Swyddog, Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Rheoleiddio, AD a Pholisi Corfforaethol

Dosbarthiad:

Cynghowrwy

S J Bletsoe
N Clarke
C Davies
P Davies

Cynghorwyr

M J Evans
P W Jenkins
MJ Kearn
W J Kendall

Cynghorwyr

J E Pratt
G Walter
I Williams
MJ Williams

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3

12 DECEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

PLAY SUFFICIENCY DUTY, ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN TO SECURE SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITIES IN BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- inform the Committee of the statutory duty on all local authorities to secure a sufficient quantity and quality of play opportunities for children and young people in relation to Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the statutory guidance produced by Welsh Government in July 2014;
- seek comment and observations on the three-year assessment conducted during 2021-22 and the proposed action plan for 2022-24 which is required in relation to the statutory matters established by Welsh Government in relation to play sufficiency.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
- **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

3.1 The Welsh Government commenced the first part of the statutory duty relating to play sufficiency, under Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure

2010 requiring local authorities to assess the sufficiency of local opportunities, in accordance with regulations subsequently published in 2012.

- 3.2 Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has conducted and submitted play sufficiency assessments and action plans as required by Welsh Government during each cycle and this report presents the fourth cycle of assessment and action planning.
- 3.3 The assessment process requires a review of baseline positions and progress that has been made in relation to the areas of focus that have been established by Welsh Government. The assessment provides a higher level overview of progress made and issues identified and the process is designed to utilise available information, relevant evidence, and engagement approaches to help identify areas for improvement and priorities for action.
- 3.4 The definition and scope of “play” is broader than might be anticipated in this context and inclusive of areas such as recreational activity, schools’ activities and clubs, junior and youth clubs, leisure, sporting activities, cultural and arts activities, youth provision, events, freely chosen play and holiday activities. It is also broad in its consideration of all the places and spaces that could add value and support the securing of play sufficiency.
- 3.5 It is notable that the Authority is required to ‘secure’ rather than be fully responsible for the delivery of play sufficiency and this approach has been positively evidenced in previous phases of assessment by working collaboratively with partners and stakeholders. The growing focus on utilising co-production based approaches is important in the context of play sufficiency.
- 3.6 The information gathered via the assessment process is used to indicate and highlight the priorities that can be identified for the forthcoming three-year period (with annual action plans) and annual reporting requirements. The play sufficiency assessment and identified priorities is also intended to connect to the Public Service Board and Wellbeing plans within the assessment process.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The issues/ matters that have needed to be considered within the assessment and action plan relate to the Welsh Government framework can be found in the assessment report and are as follows: -
 - a) Population
 - b) Providing for diverse needs
 - c) Space available for children to play
 - d) Supervised provision
 - e) Structured recreational activities
 - f) Access to space/ provision
 - g) Securing and developing the play workforce
 - h) Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

- 4.2 The scale and volume of the issues/ matters and the range of issues that are needed to be covered highlights the importance of a 'One Council' approach and the need for collaboration and capacity building with stakeholders and partners.
- 4.3 The key responsibilities that would apply in relation to play sufficiency for BCBC would be as follows: -
- a) To secure sufficient play opportunities in the County Borough, so far as is reasonably practical, having regard to its assessment and action plans
 - b) To publish information about play opportunities and keep the information published up to date
 - c) To have regard to children and young people with diverse needs, including those living with disabilities or additional needs
 - d) To commit to work within and across the Council, with partner organisations, with children and their families and communities to ensure that children and young people have access to sufficient play
 - e) To monitor play sufficiency and support the lead Corporate Director, Cabinet Member who is "champion" for play sufficiency and the designated lead for managerial and delivery functions of play sufficiency reporting and requirements
 - f) To ensure the play sufficiency assessments form part of the local needs assessments linked to the Bridgend Wellbeing Plan, co-ordinated by the Public Service Board and to be integrated throughout the planning cycle
 - g) To ensure that children and young people participate in the planning for play and the monitoring of play provision as part of developing citizen engagement and scrutiny procedures
 - h) To review budgets of relevant policy areas that affect children's play opportunities and maximise their benefit for play and contribution to wellbeing planning
 - i) To consult with parents, the local community, and any other interested stakeholders on the development of play opportunities and development of child and play friendly communities
 - j) To develop and implement an annual play action plan showing continuous improvement in securing opportunities contributing to high level Authority plans
- 4.4 The 2019-2022 Play Sufficiency assessment and action planning cycle was significantly disrupted at a National level by the pandemic and national restrictions

being applied across Wales. The impact is recognised in the assessment described below:-

- a) Recent engagement with young people in Bridgend suggests 30-40% of young people may have been negatively impacted by the pandemic in terms of their physical, mental, social and emotional wellbeing and also their motivation to re-engage in community opportunities
- b) Many of the places and spaces that young people would have traditionally used prior to the pandemic were curtailed and many face a challenging period of rebuilding (e.g. leisure, culture, community halls, youth venues)
- c) Digital engagement and opportunities, during this period, will have replaced 'face to face' activity and connecting with peers and friendship groups for long periods of time with young people spending extended time within their home space
- d) Extra-curricular activity opportunities will also have been curtailed for long periods in line with restrictions and also the opportunities to build skills and confidence in key areas (e.g. school swimming programmes, national standards cycling, physical literacy programmes and fundamentals)
- e) Additional support will have been available for some vulnerable young people but confidence in re-engaging in opportunities will have also been impacted

4.5 Although this has been a challenging period it also encouraged a range of new approaches and also support from funded programmes: -

- a) New programmes and activities were commenced for care experienced children and young people with safeguarding concerns during holiday periods and as a partnership between service areas.
- b) Programmes supporting children and young people with disabilities developed digital approaches, family opportunities and home visits and a networking approach was developed with community groups and organisations and support for programme development.
- c) Family Active Zone resources and packs were created to support whole household wellbeing activities within or near their homespace with positive results. This included supply of equipment and online activities/challenges and guidance promoting the importance of family time to support sufficient play.
- d) Programmes to provide wellbeing and respite support for young carers have emerged and seen growth with a young carers network being progressively built. The network has been supporting planning of activities that meet identified needs.

- e) The 'Summer of Fun' and 'Winter of Wellbeing' investments by Welsh Government has supported more young people and more community partners to develop opportunities close to home in partnership with BAVO including a focus on disability, Welsh language, disadvantage and supporting the resilience of community groups.
- f) The opportunities for youth groups ,in particular ,to expand services and opportunities has seen growth including collaborating as a network and recognising that the play sufficiency duty extends to 17 years of age. For some young persons funded initiatives support has extended to 24 years of age.

4.6 The assessment and action plan that have been produced are provided at **Appendix 1** but some of the key themes that will need focus are provided below: -

- a) It will be important for the Council to recognise how play sufficiency can help support community Covid recovery for children and young people as a 'One Council' approach. The Council may benefit from establishing a more formal leadership approach that involves all relevant contributors within a "One Council" approach but working collaboratively with stakeholders and key partners.
- b) The Council cannot deliver play sufficiency in isolation from partners and stakeholders will have a role in helping to secure it and also longer term development and ownership of local opportunities. The duty on the Council is to secure sufficient quantity and quality of play by working creatively with others and showing ongoing improvement via such collaborative approaches.
- c) Whilst good progress has been made supporting many people with diverse needs, there remains scope to build on this base with partners and progress further. There is a focus within the play sufficiency assessment framework on children and young people with additional needs, young carers, residents of rural areas, children of differing cultural backgrounds, gypsy travellers and LGB (lesbian, gay and bisexual) children to be considered.
- d) One of the challenges resulting from the legacies of the pandemic is that whilst there is a need to focus on diverse needs and related inequalities in regard to play sufficiency there is also a more universal need for such opportunities and support to enhance wellbeing of far larger numbers of young people in general with challenges to their overall wellbeing. The opportunities that young people will want to engage with may need to be designed differently and with young people as part of a co-production approach in some cases.
- e) The Council is showing commitment to larger scale improvements of children's play which has the potential to contribute to specific aspects of the overall play sufficiency duty. When taking this work forward, considerations will need to

include reviews of the accessibility of locations, their strategic purpose including play destinations, their ability to support inclusive play recognising additional and diverse needs (including physical, learning and sensory), play value assessment to maximise the impact of assets and space, unmet need and ensuring community engagement.

- f) Having seen the positive response from communities in recent years to lead on the development of community opportunities, and more localised opportunities, this could, following review, see the Council developing a facilitatory role in some instances and a delivery role where needed or most appropriate.
- g) Ensuring that the Council's larger leisure and cultural partnerships with Halo Leisure and Awen continue to develop appropriate opportunities with, and for, young people and families including support to reduce or remove price as a barrier to participation. Similarly, to ensure that opportunities are inclusive and recognise diverse needs.
- h) The economic climate and cost of living increase will increase the importance of low cost or no cost opportunities for the most needy being available. As part of the Council's socio economic duty this will need to be recognised when investment into play sufficiency is considered and recognising that play in its broadest sense is the right of every child.
- i) The Council will need to review its capacity to sustain a workforce of sufficient quantity and quality to meet its play sufficiency responsibilities in terms of service delivery but potentially leadership also. This will potentially require the creation of a leadership group with Lead Cabinet Member and Lead Corporate Director representation. The play sufficiency duty is broad and across all policy areas including education and schools, town and country planning, traffic and transport, early years plans, family policy and initiatives, inter-generational policies and health and safety.
- j) The role of a play sufficiency leadership group would include an overview of key areas of focus and also development of a performance framework that would indicate whether progress or gains were being made. The responsibilities would need to span across directorates as part of a "One Council" approach but also include external partners and key stakeholders. Examples of areas of focus could include school swimming attainment, participation in low cost or no cost opportunities, for people with diverse needs, infrastructure developments and improvements, workforce development and raising awareness of play sufficiency and its objectives.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no effect upon policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Act 2010 implications

6.1 An equality impact assessment was conducted in line with the original assessment in 2014 but this has been reviewed in response to the challenges of the pandemic and more recent information that has been gathered. The initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy. The Play Sufficiency assessment framework is a national one produced by Welsh Government and inherently designed to increase focus on reducing the impact of poverty and inequality on children and young people, particularly those with diverse needs. The pandemic has created a need to recognise that a larger number of children and young people are now also in need of support.

6.2 The play sufficiency duty comes as part of the Welsh Government's anti-poverty agenda which recognises that children and young people can have a poverty of experience, opportunity and aspiration, and that this kind of poverty can affect children from all social, cultural and economic backgrounds. As such, the Play Sufficiency Duty connects well with the Socio Economic duty and a focus on removing barriers to reduce disadvantage.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The Wellbeing goals identified within the Act have been considered in the preparation of this report

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Long Term | The play sufficiency commitment is a long-term Welsh Government aspiration that is embedded within regulations. It aims to redesign infrastructure, opportunities and engagement to better support children and families |
| Prevention | As part of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 there is a recognition of the contribution of play to the wellbeing of children, young people and young adults and also the broader support for family and household resilience |
| Integration | The focus on diverse needs will encourage a cross Council and cross sector approach to developing and sustaining opportunities that meet needs. There are a broad range of opportunities for partners to contribute to play sufficiency |
| Collaboration | Play Sufficiency requires the Council to secure sufficient opportunities and the Council can achieve this by working collaboratively with communities and partners |

Involvement Working with children and young people and communities to co-design and co-produce appropriate and sufficient play opportunities is an integral part of the duty and also our approach

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 Any financial implications will apply across directorates, and it is uncertain as to how much can be absorbed within existing core revenue budgets. In recent years, Welsh Government have provided a range of funding support schemes but there is no confirmation of future or ongoing investment.
- 8.2 The resourcing of play sufficiency delivery and governance has received short term support by Council via an earmarked reserve, and this may need to be reviewed in due course.
- 8.3 The resourcing of sufficient services, opportunities or place based developments will need to be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy whilst recognising the financial pressures that apply alongside other statutory requirements.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to note the detail of the play sufficiency statutory duty and the scope of services that are contributing to creating a 'play friendly' society as identified within the play sufficiency assessment and provide observations and comments on the 2022-2025 assessment and the action plan that has been developed as an initial response to the findings of the assessment.

Claire Marchant
Corporate Director- Social Services and Wellbeing
December 2022

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Background documents:

None

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form

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 – Prevention and Wellbeing*

Date of completion: *22nd June 2022*

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 30 June 2022



Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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 which 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.

Principle Statement

Since the commencement of the play sufficiency duty on local authorities under the Children and Families measure (2010), Bridgend County Borough Council and our many partners have recognised the value and importance of play. The value that play opportunities, activities and places or spaces for play bring to our local population and many communities is of significant importance. The aspiration to ensure that Bridgend is a 'play friendly' county and that such an aspiration is shared by our many partners and stakeholders has become stronger. In order to secure a sufficient quantity and quality of play across the County Borough, a collaborative approach will be required. We have been progressively building such an approach and the challenges brought by the pandemic for the wellbeing of children and young people will have strengthened our resolve. At a national level, the negative impact of the pandemic on the most vulnerable of children and young people has been identified, but the restrictions on normal childhood activities will have had more

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

universal impact also. The importance of rebuilding 'Play Friendly' Bridgend was identified by Bridgend County Borough Council in May 2021, and this will result in enhancements to play infrastructure and play opportunities. The investment support provided by Welsh Government for capital schemes, the Summer of Fun, the Winter of Wellbeing programmes, and Holiday Playworks have helped to support community Covid recovery. This, in turn, has created supportive wellbeing opportunities for children, young people and families. Throughout the pandemic a 'One Council' and One County' approach has been developing and this has received significant support from communities and the broader third sector. By working in this way, play sufficiency assessment and action planning can help achieve our wellbeing objective of developing healthier and more resilient communities.

Context

This assessment represents the fourth review of play sufficiency within Bridgend County Borough and reflects on the phases of investment and partnership working that had been developing pre- pandemic. It also explores some of the challenges that Covid 19 has brought but also the resources and opportunities to apply innovation and to think and act differently. The investments received from Welsh Government have helped support improved and accessible play spaces, including partnership working with Town and Community Councils linked to the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) programme. Our partnership with Town and Community Councils continues, including plans to support holiday playworks programmes as part of the next action plan. The new approaches and investments, particularly 'Summer of Fun' and 'Winter of Wellbeing' have seen new delivery partnerships evolve including community groups, sports clubs and organisations, cultural and leisure activity providers and a network of 'Youth Matters' organisations supporting opportunities from earlier years through to adolescence. An area of particular growth has been ensuring opportunities are available to the most vulnerable including children and young people with disabilities or additional needs, looked after children, young carers and young people who are a safeguarding concern. Evaluation is being progressed on the impact of play support on trauma impacted young people. The pandemic has required changes in approach and there has also been a recognition that a number of geographically spread opportunities delivered by a larger network of providers has merit.

During the most recent years there have been challenges relating to national restrictions, sustainability of venues, the ability to attract a workforce to deliver services coupled with varying levels of caution and public engagement. The former close partnership working, and development plans created with schools, has needed to relax whilst ensuring Covid safe environments and core educational needs have been prioritised. Conversely the demand within communities to engage in activities and utilise places and spaces has progressively grown with the Summer of 2021 being a noticeably busy period. Whilst activities such as school swimming have, for a period, proven logistically difficult to mobilise, other school-based opportunities such as National Standards Cycling Training have seen growth and higher levels of demand.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

The methodology for conducting this play sufficiency assessment is as follows: -

At a corporate level, the **Cabinet Member for Wellbeing of Future Generations** role has remained the champion for the play sufficiency duty, providing consistency and a strong voice for play across all areas when policy changes are being considered.

The **Corporate Director for Social Services and Wellbeing** remains the strategic lead amongst corporate directors for play sufficiency although this is a cross cutting and 'One Council' matter with particular relevance for both the Communities and Education directorates. This leadership has ensured that the needs of the most vulnerable are considered in both assessment and action planning. The responsible officer is the **Group Manager-Prevention and Wellbeing** who has helped to coordinate all three previous assessments. The approach to assessment continues to be conducted using internal resources where possible with an objective of progressively increasing engagement across policy areas and whole Council ownership. The Group Manager is supported by reporting **Wellbeing Managers** who coordinate the allocated matters and conduct assessment with colleagues and partners.

The assessment has recognised national data and insight, particularly in relation to the impact of the pandemic and supplemented this with a range of primary research or engagement with young people and partners. Not all the benchmarkable data used in previous assessments is available yet due to differing timelines (e.g., national school sport survey) and previous data may now be outdated. Similarly, the population needs assessments and engagement on the next Wellbeing Plan are being progressed at a regional level, but timelines are also not aligned. Within Bridgend, the key issues identified via play sufficiency assessment will need to be shared with PSB when the Wellbeing Plan has been drafted. The need to recognise play sufficiency, the related matters and potential impact are recognised by PSB and implicit in planning.

The development of the 'Building Resilient Communities' plan in partnership with BAVO and the CVC has been successful and includes the development of an investment platform into third sector delivery partners. This has helped to understand the capacity and aspiration with the third sector to support play sufficiency

In all phases of play sufficiency assessment, it has been an ongoing challenge to maintain group approaches, engagement and commitment due to the diverse matters in scope.

Partnership working

Bridgend County Borough Council recognises its role as a strategic lead for play sufficiency, to directly deliver some services or provide assets but most importantly to secure sufficient quantity and quality of play by collaborative working with

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

partners and communities. It is recognised that the strength of play sufficiency will be based on such collaborative effort and the brokering of increased partnership working opportunities.

The key partners that are involved in the development and delivery of play sufficiency matters are as follows: -

Primary Schools

Partnership agreements, delivery of initiatives, whole school training and wellbeing plans, engagement with young people and evaluation of impact

Secondary Schools

Partnership agreements, delivery of initiatives, support for leadership pathway, programmes supporting young people's rights, engagement with young people, capturing of data, wellbeing evaluations, community access to facilities.

Special Education Schools

Curricular and extracurricular activity development, connections to community opportunities and support, community access to facilities, links to disability play and disability sport programmes.

BAVO (CVC)

Engaging with third sector organisations, promotion of programmes and opportunities, managing third sector funding, monitoring quality and safety criteria, volunteer development programmes.

Halo Leisure

Engagement with communities, co-production of opportunities, inclusive programme development, marketing and promotion of local and national initiatives, holiday playworks delivery and engagement, low cost and no cost activities, national free-swimming initiative.

Town and Community Councils

Engagement with local communities, support for holiday playworks, review of local priorities, support for community asset transfers, promotion of opportunities.

Sport Wales

Annual partnership agreement with BCBC, investment into key staff and co-ordination, community investment programmes, sharing of learning and insight, evaluations of progress and impact.

BCBC Highways and Transportation

Walking and cycling strategy, programme development and creation of safe routes/ active travel programmes. WG national standards cycling development at levels 1 and 2 with schools plus road safety intervention.

BCBC Childcare and Early Years Team

Childcare sufficiency assessment, quality control of providers including holiday play, joint working on investment planning, training and development programmes for partners and workforce.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

BCBC Social Care – Children's Services

Professional support and referrals. Co-production of targeted support opportunities. Identification of transport and broader support needs. Vulnerable hub activities linked to holiday playworks. Support for carers including short breaks/ respite.

Awen Cultural Trust

Library based activities, children and families' programmes. Bryngarw inclusive play destination management, natural environment and Valleys Regional Park initiatives, disability play opportunities, cultural events, youth theatre programme.

BCBC Disabled Children's Team

Support and referral of young people with additional needs, siblings, and carers. After school activities and holiday playworks. Whole household support approaches.

BCBC Parks and Playing Fields

Operation of play space and playground infrastructure, playing fields, coordination of user groups, community events, capital investments into play assets. Assets identified in corporate asset plans.

BCBC Early Help Team

Support for third sector youth groups, connecting with youth focused organisations, alternative youth support programmes including school-based support and holiday interventions.

BCBC Education

Support for schools, planning and performance, asset development including school modernisation, school swimming and school sport, school travel plans, distribution of investments, cluster networks, headteacher meetings, wellbeing improvement groups.

Welsh Language Opportunities

Established partnership working with Urdd and Menter Bro Ogwr, Welsh medium activities, engagement, youth programmes, primary and secondary school support, events, holiday playworks.

Higher Education

Support for partner engagement, impact and evaluation frameworks, capturing learning and insight, wellbeing evaluations.

Community Clubs and Associations

Development planning, support for investment needs, increasing inclusivity, delivery partnerships, service level agreements, training and development.

Bridgend Inclusive Network Group (BING)

Umbrella partner championing inclusion. Engagement. Asset reviews. Delivery partnership and collaborative programmes. Third sector training.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Bridgend Youth Matters

Network of 22 Youth organisations. Co-production of opportunities. Delivery partners. Engagement and insight. Targeted support.

The afore mentioned partners are involved in the development, delivery and/ or planning of play sufficiency matters. There has been a growing focus on creating networks and collaborative effort including face to face and digital feedback over the past 2 years. This 'bottom up' approach has been committed to by BCBC in previous phases also to highlight the importance of community and partner ownership of play sufficiency.

Consultation and participation

Bridgend has utilised a mixed method approach to consulting and engaging with local people and organisations to support the preparatory work for play sufficiency assessment.

- Bridgend was not able to deliver its 'Play Your Part' survey with 8-11 year olds in 2020 but this was conducted in 2021 with 138 responses across 8 locations. 67% indicated there were enough opportunities within their local community and 51% stated that they could do most of their favourite things based on where they live. Notably, 51% spent 4 hours a day or more on-screen time.
- Despite ongoing restrictions faced by schools, engagement with primary schools identified 37 primary schools wanting to support national standards cycling programmes which is a growth on pre pandemic rates. During the past year 974 young people have engaged in the programme at levels 1 and 2.
- Bridgend worked with Sport Wales to review the National Free Swimming. Initiative local delivery with 49 households engaging. Key messages focused on increasing awareness of opportunities, improving accessibility for some users and groups, and improving online booking processes.
- Bridgend has identified wellbeing concerns for young people of secondary school age. A larger scale wellbeing survey has been conducted with 10 secondary schools and including Welsh medium education. A projected total of 4.3k responses are anticipated. Key findings will focus on physical and mental wellbeing factors, the impact of the pandemic, activities engaged within, places and spaces utilised and risk factors. This will support identifying the role of play sufficiency in covid recovery planning.
- Through closer working with youth groups, engagement with the Bridgend Youth Matters network has developed including joint planning and co-production of play opportunities. There are 21 groups supporting this

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

approach. 295 young people aged 10 to 25 years have been engaged in 'drop in' engagement sessions.

- The Bridgend Inclusive Network Group (BING) has been created and enabling a collective voice and collaborative working. Co-production of plans and activities for children and young adults who are differently able. The network includes 15 sports clubs, 11 local charities, 10 national charities with local services/ projects, 6 not for profit organisations and 3 Health or BCBC lead groups.
- An increased focus on young carers has been developed. 10 'drop in' sessions for young carers held to feedback and shape activity opportunities. 173 young carers engaged across 8 secondary schools between 11-18 years. Young Carers consultation also held on Young Carers card development. 15 young carers engaged in focus groups.
- Care experienced children were provided with one-to-one consultations and co-design of activities and opportunities. 6 young people across three settings engaged. Key findings included the barriers that care experienced children face and input to co-produce activity offers as part of a vulnerable hub programme. Additional engagement on developing spaces at care settings to support young people.
- Vulnerable young people, known to social care, including looked after children, foster care and those who were a safeguarding concern have been engaged. 39 children have supported evaluation of activities and opportunities.
- Families and households have been engaged in evaluating opportunities to improve family activities, health and wellbeing and recognising the importance of home space and environment. 744 individuals completed the baseline survey. Good responses on community play spaces available with playgrounds, open spaces and gardens high contributors.
- Active Young Peoples Department coordinated a family's wellbeing survey with a focus on the 0-3 year population and thoughts on existing and future provision. There were 189 respondents and key findings included the priorities that families saw to improve health and wellbeing, the family activities that were most important to them and the barriers identified in relation to attending activities.
- In terms of partner and stakeholder engagement an exercise involving 8 organisations was progressed on whether the right support was being offered and value added to partner priorities. Key findings included 100% of partners rating 5 out of 5 for support received. Partners identified on average the support saved them 20 hours of work per month
- A Nex-Gen steering group has been created to maximise engagement that includes 16 partners involving education, third sector, community.

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A regular schedule of themed review is in place.

- A bespoke survey for children living with disabilities, parents, and carers was developed and distributed across networks. This has included both the Discovery Days programmes including young people with more complex needs and the Bridgend Inclusive Network Group (BING). In both instances bespoke and inclusive approaches have needed to be developed to ensure participants can engage. There remain methodology-based challenges to overcome.
- Town and Community Councils have been long standing partners and supporters of play and opportunities for children and young people. A survey was distributed to these organisations but with only 5 responses received early May from Cornelly, Pencoed, Porthcawl, Laleston and Pyle. The dialogue and engagement with Town and Community Councils will continue as part of the play sufficiency assessment process.
- BCBC and local schools will also be supporting the National School Sport Survey to support the structured recreational aspects of play sufficiency, involving primary, secondary and special schools. This information will not be available until later in the year. BCBC has identified that the survey approach and the required sample for special schools may be problematic for young people with additional needs and this may impact on the availability of some related data.
- The population needs assessment has also been conducted regionally and supported by Co-production Wales. In regard to play sufficiency a number of themes have emerged and been highlighted in regards to Public Service Board. These include the need for more doorstep/local play opportunities to be considered, the roles of the third sector or partners in managing places and spaces and the issue that transport plays in creating a barrier for many people. Also, a specific issue raised regarding children of service families and supporting awareness and access.
- The Bridgend Public Service Board conducted a Green and Open space survey in 2020 attracting 585 completions. The survey highlighted the importance of the natural environment and green spaces to local people including usage by families and children to support play sufficiency objectives of improving the quantity and quality of play opportunities.

Maximising resources

Bridgend County Borough Council is focused on the need for collaborative approaches and making best use of all resources if we are to secure a sufficient quantity and quality of play across the County Borough. During the 2021-22 financial year, there have been significant increases in resources available from Welsh government but there will be a reduction in scale for subsequent years and

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

this should be anticipated. Within Bridgend the following developments have been progressive and can be seen as positive indicators of partner contributions towards play sufficiency.

- The support of Town and Community councils for supporting low cost or no cost school holiday activities has been retained with 8 partners and there is an opportunity to influence others to invest in similar opportunities.
- There has been 'in kind' support via children's social services to support targeted holiday activity programmes for children and young people known to social care. The potential for impacting on trauma is being reviewed.
- Resource has been retained to coordinate play and early years activities although current resources are being utilised mainly to support opportunities for children and young people with additional needs.
- There is a need for additional leadership resource for play sufficiency in its broadest sense and implementation of strategy and action plans. This will need to be considered by the Council if full benefits are to be realised.
- The use of 'Summer of Fun' and 'Winter of Wellbeing' programmes has helped to identify a broader network of third sector delivery partners to support future programmes or initiatives.
- Leisure and cultural venues are now embedding activities and opportunities within place-based programmes inclusive of holiday support and opportunities.
- The Community Asset Transfer programme is supported by a lead officer, a corporate project workstream, business and development planning support and potential capital investment contributions.
- Bridgend is playing a leadership role for Valleys Regional Park that is increasing investment into outdoor spaces and activities. Bryngarw Park is a play destination and has enhanced its accessible resources including sensory.
- The Council has committed to supporting improvements in play infrastructure including fixed play installations with an indicative value of £1.3 million.
- Bridgend have commenced working with Play Wales on developing play friendly streets pilot approaches and also community access to school-based play assets beyond the school day.
- Working with primary schools and Welsh Government play capital investment, there are now 23 play and activity pods. 'Scrap store' approaches are proving problematic but will be important for future development.

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- Both leisure and cultural trust partnership have secured investment into accessible play infrastructure via ICF programmes. This includes outdoor play resources and swimming pool access pods.
- The disabled children's social services team invests 10k per annum into referral-based holiday programmes that also support carer respite. Off site visits are included but an objective to utilise more local opportunities where possible and reduce journeys.
- Welsh Government investment continues into national standard cycling programmes with schools. During 2021-22 there are 37 schools engaged in the programme, indicating a growth in demand.
- Childcare, early years programmes and registered holiday play provision are managed by the Childcare and Early Years Team but investments into training are reaching broader community partners.
- Welsh Government legacy investments are being utilised to support targeted community initiatives, development of youth organisations and a volunteering/ leadership pathway for young people.
- Healthy and Active Fund investment has been supporting approaches with looked after children and foster carers. Approaches are being developed to invest in low-cost leisure access for the most vulnerable of young people and households.
- Sport Wales partnership agreement has continued including annual investment into workforce, programme costs and partner initiatives. The National Free-Swimming Initiative continues to provide free access to activities. Targeted support being connected to community groups.

The core staffing and revenue budget for play development within the prevention and wellbeing services remains small but the afore mentioned initiatives are indicative of continued growth and commitment from partners. The Council will need to review how the strategic drive for play sufficiency and coordination of available resources is best managed. For 2022-24 additional resource to support co-ordination has been identified via an earmarked reserve.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and local Well-being Plans

The 2017 wellbeing plan had referenced both childcare provision and play provision and identifying 213 providers of childcare on the Family Information Service database. The plan also identified that Bridgend CBC conducts Play Sufficiency assessments that establish a baseline of play provision in Bridgend and provide an opportunity to engage with local citizens, in particular, children and young people.

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The previous plan does not reference any specific issues or priorities identified in the action plan but play sufficiency clearly connects to the strategic themes. These had included 'Best start in life', "Supporting communities to be safe and cohesive", "To reduce social and economic inequalities" and "To support healthy choices in a healthy environment". In this sense, play sufficiency can be seen as a contributor to broader strategic objectives but its contribution will not have been prominent in the focus and evaluation of the Public Services Board.

There is an opportunity to improve on this position during the next phase of the Wellbeing Plan although the timelines are not necessarily helpful. The 3 year play sufficiency assessment is to be completed by the end of June 2022. The draft Wellbeing Plan assessment was published on the 14th Feb 2022 although the two public service boards across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg footprint will continue working on the Wellbeing Plan from April onwards. This provides an opportunity to provide input into the Wellbeing plan with initial discussions already taking place on what this might look like.

The joint working across the region on the Wellbeing Plans is a positive development, as is the support being received via Co-production Wales in regard to involvement activities. The draft wellbeing assessment for the region has been put out to consultation based on the identified themed priorities. It is fair to state that play sufficiency is not identifiable as a specific component of the draft assessment although there is a clear line of sight to many of the play sufficiency matters. There is clear emphasis on use of the natural environment and Bridgend can evidence 67% of accessible green space. The practical use of such space by residents of disadvantaged communities is identified as an opportunity but also a challenge to achieve. There is a focus on developing healthy rivers and a recognition of the coastline as a resource. The capacity of such resources to support family time and activities such as cycling is identified. The identified aspiration of an increase in low cost or no cost activities for young people such as free swimming is identified and a recognition of more opportunities for the vulnerable and some gaps in provision (e.g., wheeled sports). As we emerge from the pandemic the increased importance of space for people to socialise is recognised and developing activities in community places and spaces. The broader opportunity to support carers and young people generally particularly in relation to mental wellbeing is identified. Based on the content of the draft wellbeing assessment, play sufficiency will be able to contribute in the following ways: -

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

In July 2019, Bridgend County Borough Council reviewed the three wellbeing objectives to refocus them more tightly around the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFGA). Based on the act there is a duty on Bridgend County Borough Council to carry out sustainable development. The Council also has to show how it has applied the sustainable development principle through the five ways of working (long term, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement).

At this time, the Council redefined its second wellbeing objective (WB2) to 'Helping people to be more healthy and resilient'. This has included repositioning

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

the aim 'to develop more active, healthy and resilient communities, by working in partnership with the third sector, town and community councils and community groups'. A key driver for the change had been the review by Wales Audit Office of the "Active Bridgend" plan that would include play sufficiency approaches and matters. The focus of the play sufficiency duty on local authorities to secure sufficient quantity and quality of play aligns well to the new wellbeing objective.

Beyond this, the Council and its partners can be seen to be progressively developing the 5 ways of working to secure play sufficiency: -

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Long term | BCBC is committing investment into play infrastructure and community asset transfer of play assets. Consideration of community access in design of 21 st century schools. Long term leisure and cultural partnerships. |
| Prevention | Broad range of programmes and opportunities under development targeting vulnerable groups and preventing needs escalating. Cross directorate approaches including health, social care, education. |
| Integration | Inclusive approaches to developing opportunities and co-production with people with lived experiences. Development of community led networks to support and develop sufficient opportunities. Play across all policy areas. |
| Collaboration | 'One Council' approach continues to progress and develop. Partnership working with Town and Community Councils on place-based and programme-based developments. Growth is evidenced in delivery-based partnerships. |
| Involvement | Continued use of engagement and co-production work on resources. Programmes and opportunities. Bridgend engages locally, regionally, and nationally on play sufficiency |

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

This section should identify the lead director and lead member for children and young people's services. It should also describe the Play Monitoring Group or equivalent. Along with a list of members, please describe how the group has been facilitated and the benefits and challenges of the group.

The following roles will be important in the monitoring of play sufficiency: -

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Lead Director | Claire Marchant (Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing) |
| Director Support | Janine Nightingale (Corporate Director – Communities) |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| | |
|--------------|--|
| | Lindsay Harvey (Corporate Director – Education and Family Support) |
| Cabinet Lead | Cllr Rhys Goode– Cabinet member for Wellbeing of Future Generations |
| Lead Officer | Andrew Thomas – Group Manager- Prevention & Wellbeing Play Sufficiency |

The play sufficiency assessment and action plan will be reported to Cabinet and progress made against related action plans will be reviewed by Scrutiny. A report on rebuilding leisure, culture and wellbeing opportunities including play was presented to scrutiny on 2nd February 2022

The integration of play sufficiency into the Public Service Board Wellbeing plan is challenged by differing timelines although the key findings and actions of assessment will be shared with PSB during the draft wellbeing plan phase.

The Council will also identify how play sufficiency matters and actions could be integrated within the Councils corporate performance assessment (CPA) processes from 2023 onwards.

Should additional leadership resource be forthcoming then a further attempt will be made to establish a play sufficiency overview group and to overcome the obstacles previously encountered.

At a sub-regional network, Bridgend will continue to engage in regional forums or workshops, sharing learning, insight and progress being made with Play Wales, Sport Wales and Welsh Government.

Insights from the Coronavirus

This section should discuss the impact the Coronavirus has had on the local authority's ability to progress Play Sufficiency Actions.

It has been a challenging 2 year period for local children and young people and for many of the delivery partners that we would traditionally work with.

The local engagement exercises conducted with children and young people have indicated challenges for fundamental wellbeing which may prove a barrier for engagement going forward. This has been more prevalent than might have originally been anticipated. The larger scale engagement exercise with secondary school children indicates that 30-40% of young people may have been negatively impacted by the pandemic in Bridgend.

The need to develop digital approaches to delivering services and opportunities has escalated in pace and has highlighted that there is a need to continue to support the workforce in making best use of such approaches. The response to digital activity has been mixed particularly for some of our more vulnerable groups.

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There has been a noticeable increase in step up by community groups and a corresponding increase in networking and delivery. In some ways the smaller, more locally relevant opportunities have proven effective.

The levels of parental and public caution have varied throughout the pandemic and their support for children to engage in opportunities. In particular this has impacted where family holidays or short breaks have been planned and parents have minimised risks to plans being curtailed.

Service areas and partners have been making centralised resources more widely available using digital approaches and this has been a more efficient approach.

Access to venues and face to face activities or indeed workforce development opportunities has faced disruption in particular relating to school sites. The need to ensure venues have remained covid safe has been paramount.

When face to face opportunities have been able to operate, risk assessment has reduced the volumes of participants. In some instances, advance booking requirements, particularly where digital will have impacted negatively on those who are less skilled digitally.

The ability to share resources between people and activities and levels of supervision have become increasingly challenging. In particular, it has proven more difficult to recruit seasonal workforce to operate programmes such as Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing. The volume of applicants coming from educational backgrounds had reduced in particular, potentially due to a challenging year at school sites.

Some well-established activities such as primary school “play pods” had ceased and the availability of scrap resources to support play opportunities has become more scarce. New approaches and opportunities are having to be explored.

The proposed developments with Play Wales and supported by PHW have needed to be paused. These would include broader community use of school sites for play and also play friendly streets. There had been interest previously that will need to be rebuilt.

Work with young ambassadors and development of fun activity campaigns has proven successful with positive examples of peer engagement emerging-the “mile a day in March” and mental wellbeing campaigns proving particularly successful.

For long periods the management focus of Councils had needed to prioritise the pandemic response. This will have impacted the strategic drive for original play sufficiency plans. The subsequent Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing investments have been valued by people and communities but drawn heavily on a small co-ordination resource.

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Structured recreational activity has performed better and been early to restart where appropriate governance arrangements in place. This has been more achievable in outdoor settings than indoor although both have rebuilt positively.

In terms of aquatics there is now a challenge of children who will not have attended primary school swimming sessions. Although activity has now resumed, previous data would suggest this will be particularly impacting on our most disadvantaged communities and households in terms of low or non-swimming ability. This makes the aspiration of “every child a swimmer” more challenging.

Children with additional needs/disabilities were provided with digital opportunities during the stay at home restrictions but not accessible for all households. New approaches to support whole household and sibling activities emerged as a positive.

The larger scale investments from Welsh Government saw new approaches emerge using large numbers of third sector delivery partners. This worked well with investment managed via the CVC, but resources may be smaller going forward.

The pandemic has also seen an increased focus on youth groups and the Bridgend Youth Matters network in particular, resulting in the age groups of beneficiaries extending upwards and inter-generational activity increasing.

Extra-curricular activity and after school programmes were curtailed for extended periods and there is a mixed picture and a need to progressively rebuild.

The Family Active Zone programme developed innovative approaches to test the importance of home space and whole family engagement opportunities.

New programmes for our most vulnerable young people emerged through the pandemic including care experienced children, young carers and young people who are a safeguarding concern.

Cultural activities and venues have seen most restrictions and for longer periods of time which has impacted the design of some programmes. There has been positive work developing with libraries particularly for young children and families.

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

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

down boxes. (In the "RAG status column", Double click on the word STATUS – this will bring up drop-down form fields options, use the arrow down key until the status required RED, AMBER or GREEN- is at the top then press ok)

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

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

The 2022 column enables the local authority to indicate the direction of travel with the insertion of arrows.

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 meet the criteria.

The Identified Action for Action Plan column: should be used to show the Local Authority action planning priorities for that Matter.

The Comments section: asks some specific questions for each matter that should enable you to 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. It also provides the opportunity to identify challenges and how they might be overcome.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Matter A: Population

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should provide an overview of population and demographic data used locally to plan for play provision. Information should also be included regarding:

- Ages of children
- First language Welsh speaking children
- Cultural factors (such as other language)
- Gypsy Traveller children
- Disabled children

What has changed in terms of population and demographic trends since Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019?

The 2018 population base figures show that across the region there will a slight increase in the overall population although a slight decrease is anticipated within Bridgend of 1% between 2021 and 2043. The birth rate is declining across CTM (12% in Bridgend). The mid-year data for Bridgend 2020 indicates 26,185 young people aged 0 to 15 years. These are spread out with 13291 in the north, 5197 in the west and 11385 in the east. Overall population density is increasing in Bridgend by 7.5%. The percentage of ethnic minority groups in the CTM area is lower than the Wales average. Bridgend has seen an increase in 2020 similar to Wales. There were 745 children receiving care and support by the local authority in 2020. The Bridgend Families First programme has been providing targeted support including parenting interventions, lifestyle and behaviours programmes and family resilience support. There is positive take up of structured parenting courses in Bridgend. There is an identified gap in services for 13-17 year olds in the wellbeing assessment relating to youth provision, particularly in poorer areas. There were 4198 people living in Absolute Low Income. The PLASC data highlights the number of children and young people who are eligible for free school meals. This data also identifies 3176 children or young people with additional needs/disabilities. Bridgend has identified that 21% of its population needs to speak Welsh by 2050. PLASC identifies 4630 (20%) Welsh speaking children and young people although 15% of those speaking Welsh are not identified as fluent.

How has/will the Local Authority use its population data to plan for sufficient play opportunities locally?

Through internal discussions the challenges of using core datasets whilst being useful would benefit from having the gaps understood. The PLASC data provides the most available set of information on children and young people but potentially more reliable for ages 5-16 years. For earlier years children particularly those not attending a setting, there is no equivalent data set. The data can be collated to identify and track overall population numbers but can also be used at individual school levels to identify children and young people in catchment area. The

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

reliance on schools inputting accurate and detailed information is critical and cannot be guaranteed. Whilst ethnicity may be being captured for example this may not include detail such as gypsy traveller/Roma via PLASC. Using school catchments can help identify indicative populations such as at lower super output areas. The PLASC data is capturing Welsh speakers as a first language and those who have a different first language requiring additional support. It does not currently identify the detail of the other language or cultural factors. In regard to disability, the PLASC returns will have a change in format and additional learning needs will be captured differently going forward. This will not support any approach to analyse trends. There is hard information on young people attending special education (Heronbridge school, Ysgol Bryn castell and the Bridge Alternative) and potentially those being specifically supported in mainstream school establishments. The daffodil Cymru web resource provided by social care Wales helps project populations with differing disabilities that can support planning for targeted opportunities and inclusion/integration. Discussions have also identified that children and young people not attending school are not captured via PLASC e.g., home schooled, school leavers beyond 16 years. EYCT are utilising birth rate data to support planning.

Have there been challenges?




Whilst PLASC data will be of value regarding large percentages of the overall population there will be a need to identify other tools that can be used to identify specific demographic groups. The data from the 2011 census is outdated. The ONS data will support the planning of play sufficiency in relation to population and household estimates, but this is not anticipated to be released until early summer 2022. The release of further data on ethnicity, disability will be part of a staggered release beyond that. For Bridgend it will be important to collate the most pertinent information for internal planning for play sufficiency but also to share with key partners to support their planning also.

How can these be overcome?

During the year there will be an opportunity to collate all relevant data including the most recent data sets and to help make them available across the Council and also to external partners to support planning.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

RAG Status for Matter A

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

| Criteria | RAG Status 2016 | RAG Status 2019 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified Actions for action Plan |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) | GREEN | GREEN | PLASC data-by school catchments. Census Data -2022 | | Improve the usable data on children and young people to improve planning for play sufficiency. |
| There is up to date data for ages: | | AMBER | Census data 2022 will be supportive. | | |
| 0-3 | GREEN | AMBER | Census Data-2022 EYCT information Birth rate data | | |
| 4-7 | GREEN | AMBER | PLASC Data | Not all 4 year olds accounted for via PLASC. | |
| 8-12 | GREEN | GREEN | PLASC Data | | |
| 13-15 | GREEN | GREEN | PLASC Data | | |
| 16-17 | GREEN | AMBER | PLASC Data | Not all 16 and 17 year olds accounted for via PLASC | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|--|--|---|
| There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group | AMBER | AMBER | PLASC Data Statswales Daffodil Cymru Pupil roll at Special Schools. Social Care caseload | This information may be an incomplete picture. Not all types of disability covered PLASC approach changing regarding ALN. | Recognise current data sets have issues to be overcome. |
| There is up to date information regarding the number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend Welsh medium schools | GREEN | GREEN | PLASC Data Statswales PLASC Data Stats Wales | | |
| There is up to date information regarding other recorded cultural factors, including other language, and gypsy traveller children | GREEN | AMBER | PLASC Data Daffodil Cymru | Ethnicity may be covered via PLASC but may not be detailed. | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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. | |

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| B1 | The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for | AMBER | AMBER | RDP identifies 21 wards (45% of residents) Active 4 Life programmes delivered in rural catchments. Play your Part surveys captured in rural areas. 2022 school surveys can be post code analysed. | More specific evaluation needed on rural areas, particularly those most isolated. | Data to be broken down at locality levels. |
| B2 | The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for | AMBER | GREEN | Development roles supported via Urdd to engage Welsh speaking children. Urdd and Menter Bro Ogwr supported to operate term time and holiday opportunities. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | <p>Partnership working with YGG Llangynwyd and feeder primary schools.</p> <p>Survey data gathered to support planning-2022 school survey,</p> <p>National school sport survey</p> | | |
| B3 | The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Data has remained limited on children with different cultural backgrounds.</p> <p>Stats Wales data available on young people by ethnic groups.</p> <p>2022 schools survey begins to identify cultural background, postcode etc</p> | Specific data is limited. Opportunity to build on this from recent data capture. | Data to be broken down based on cultural backgrounds and postcodes where appropriate. |
| B4 | The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for. | GREEN | AMBER | <p>Plasc data identifying disability/additional needs by school.</p> <p>Social care referrals and All About Me planning forms completed with families.</p> | <p>New data will need robust analysis and compared/contrasted where possible.</p> <p>Primary, person and family centred data is complex to capture.</p> | Collate all related data. Share with key partners and stakeholders. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>Disability surveys conducted with children, young people and families and identified in core school survey.</p> <p>Disability sport programme operating in partnership with third sector groups/associations.</p> <p>BING inclusive network providing advocacy and training across third sector.</p> <p>Discovery and after school club programmes managed by BCBC.</p> <p>Parent/carer led projects supported by available investments-WOW/SOF.</p> | | |
| B5 | Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion | AMBER | GREEN | <p>Play pod resources and training for schools expanding.</p> <p>Scrap store model linked to community recycling under review.</p> <p>AYP digital resources and web information supporting partner planning and delivery</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>Community partners accessing play training supported by CEYT.</p> <p>WG investments being distributed in partnership with BAVO/CVC.</p> <p>BCBC providing inclusion training for seasonal staff including partners.</p> <p>FAZ programme providing resources and training for family/home based play.</p> <p>TCC,s supported to deliver holiday opportunities in disadvantaged communities/free access.</p> <p>BCBC marketing and communications team promoting local opportunities including partner operated activity.</p> <p>BING support and information for inclusive practice.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| | | | | Play packs developed to support partner activity programmes. | | |
| B6 | There is a well-known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children | AMBER | GREEN | <p>Social care referral processes.</p> <p>All About Me forms to support planning.</p> <p>Integrated opportunities to support choice and inclusion where appropriate.</p> <p>Disability after school club sessions and discovery days holiday opportunities.</p> <p>Disability specific Free Swimming opportunities increasing.</p> <p>Free Leisure Access cards for children with additional needs known to social care.</p> | | |
| B7 | Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Access requirements fully considered regarding After School Club and Discovery Days.</p> <p>Vulnerable programmes consider accessibility in partnership with</p> | <p>Developments that have supported improved access have been reliant on WG investments.</p> | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | <p>social care (transport, support, funding)</p> <p>Targeted third sector groups to ensure investment can reach the most needy.(e.g., WOW,SOF)</p> <p>Facility improvements progressed to improve access, planning supported by BING.</p> <p>Active 4 Life workforce supported to enable inclusion and integration.</p> | | Review core resources and target external investments. |
| B8 | Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites | N/A | N/A | <p>Currently no gypsy traveller sites. LDP identifies the potential need for 2 small family based sites.</p> <p>Development would be subject to Councils standard planning process.</p> | | |
| B9 | The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for | AMBER | GREEN | <p>Young Carer Engagement has been significant.</p> <p>Consultation conducted by Dynamix highlighted challenges faced.</p> | <p>Future engagement of young carers at primary school ages.</p> <p>Young adult carers focus on youth, play,</p> | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| | | | | <p>Over 200 young carers engaged across secondary schools, developing a network.</p> <p>Young carer activities and holiday programmes being supported.</p> <p>New young carer ID card developed-linking to activity based opportunities.</p> | recreational needs. | Continue engagement and co-production based approaches with young carers and young adult carers. |
| B10 | The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Continues to be an area for improvement. Limited focus has been given to LGB children being understood and having play needs met.</p> <p>Developmental work commenced with BING including awareness training, links with Pride sport Cymru LGBTQ friendly sessions commenced with 2 groups. More focus and understanding needed in this area.</p> | More work needed with third sector partners to build knowledge, capacity and opportunities. | <p>Further develop partnership working across third sector.</p> <p>Support training for the third sector and development of resources.</p> |

Providing for Diverse Needs

How has data been used (or how will the data be used) to address the barriers that children with diverse needs face in accessing inclusive and accessible opportunities for playing?

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

The pandemic has required new data to be gathered and more depth in understanding of its impact, particularly in regard to the most vulnerable children and young people. The schools survey will allow more postcode and cultural factors to be identified and also impact of disability. Bridgend is interested in capturing data on baseline wellbeing in particular and its fundamental role in enabling or hindering engagement and participation. Specific data has been gathered from children of secondary school age but with broader targeted engagement also of Welsh speakers, families of children with additional needs, young carers, young people and families.

There is evidence of practical development work including projects taking place and the data and engagement that is being progressed can support a co-production approach going forward. The development of Bridgend Inclusive Network Group (BING) has the potential to add real value in this context. As the data is further refined it is intended to be shared with key stakeholders and partners to inform broader strategic planning e.g., Public Service Board. The data and engagement will help to identify where an inclusive approach is appropriate or where a more bespoke opportunity may need to be available

Have there been challenges?

It has been a difficult time for conducting engagement due to the levels of restrictions. For a number of children and young people using digital approaches to capturing feedback and views has not been effective and there has been a need to wait until face to face meetings could be resumed. Simultaneously, there have been some challenges in securing the support of partner organisations, particularly schools, as they have had to prioritise other matters. The design and capacity of community opportunities have also been through several phases of change in line with the restrictions and also new approaches being taken by providers and activity deliverers.(e.g., digital activity, on-line booking procedures, restricted numbers etc).For some of our most vulnerable this would have had negative unintended consequences. The additional investments received via Welsh Government have mitigated the short term negativity

How can these be overcome?

It has been important to capture information that is valuable both to the play sufficiency assessment but also to those partners supporting data capture. It will be important to ensure that partners remain sighted on relevant data to support their own reviews and plans and opportunities to contribute to play sufficiency. Going forward it will become equally important to pool and share available learning and insight and to become smarter at capturing pertinent data whilst avoiding saturation of requests to partners. In this context, more targeted and qualitative approaches may be useful in adding some depth to evaluation, rather than single, larger scale surveys.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| C1 | 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 | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Planning leading replacement LDP including relevant assessments and policies.</p> <p>Outdoor sports and children's play space audit conducted (2017-18)</p> <p>Open spaces for play identified on BCBC website. 264 play spaces identified (69.14 ha)</p> | Replacement LDP still to be completed. | Ensure play sufficiency matters recognised in LDP |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| C2 | The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing | GREEN | GREEN | Accessible Greenspace study completed as part of replacement LDP. Outdoor sports and children's play spaces audit 2017-18. | | Identify strategic approaches to improving accessibility at open spaces to achieve most impact. |
| C3 | The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety | AMBER | AMBER | The area plans identify open spaces including accessibility and potential for improvement. There are a high volume of areas. Potential for community regeneration and partnership working explored. | There are mixed levels of accessibility identified and high remedial costs in some cases. | |
| C4 | The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales | GREEN | GREEN | LDP Policy Com 11 is applicable setting out open space standards based on Fields in Trust standards. Identification of children's play areas and recreational space on BCBC website. | | Work with Play Wales to enhance play value awareness and |
| C5 | The Local Authority undertakes and actions play value assessments in public open space | AMBER | AMBER | Play value assessments have been historically conducted. This has mainly been at equipped sites. | No internal capacity to determine play value. Former | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| | | | | | <p>resource no longer in place.</p> <p>Play value needing more consideration alongside technical considerations.</p> | <p>considerations within BCBC and also key stakeholders.</p> |
| C6 | Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play | GREEN | GREEN | <p>BCBC Asset management plan and area plans.</p> <p>BCBC Asset disposal policy. (Community regeneration)</p> <p>Corporate property database.</p> <p>Community asset transfer policy</p> | <p>There is potential to be more joined up in asset planning within localities.</p> <p>Some area plans in need of update.</p> <p>New database to support overall asset review and planning.(in progress)</p> | <p>Service level plans to be developed alongside Asset Management Plan refresh.</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| C7 | The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance | GREEN | GREEN | BCBC website identifies 264 different play spaces including playgrounds across 8 localities. Outdoor Sports and Childrens play space audit 2017 (previously conducted in 2009) | Details of condition, sufficiency and accessibility in need of updated review in coming years. | |
| C8 | The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance | AMBER | AMBER | Play value assessments conducted at 69 sites. This however has not progressed since the previous assessment and during the pandemic. | Play value not duly considered in planning for play space improvements. No internal capacity to assess play value. | Explore how a core or retained resource can be used to support play value considerations in planning and assessment. Training Considerations. |
| C9 | The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety | GREEN | AMBER | There are historical audits linked to asset records. In many cases access is identified as in need of improvement | The opportunity to improve access needs more general consideration when | Access improvement to be a consideration in all |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | improving play space. | refurbishments or new developments. |
| C10 | The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard | GREEN | GREEN | <p>LDP Policy Com 11 sets out open space standards based on FIT standards.</p> <p>BCBC has differentiated between playgrounds (equipped), children's play areas (unequipped grass areas) and recreational space.</p> <p>Fixed play provision is assessed for sufficiency, suitability and accessibility.</p> | <p>The asset related information may benefit from being refreshed.</p> <p>More focus needed on accessibility.</p> | Update asset related information. |
| C11 | The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces | GREEN | AMBER | <p>LDP replacement plan.</p> <p>Accessible green space study.</p> <p>Play value assessments.</p> <p>Outdoor sports and children's play space audit 2017.(Updated in 2021)</p> | Asset related information will need to be refreshed. | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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|-----|---|-------|-------|---|--|--|
| C12 | The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds The local authority complies with The Smoke-free Premises and Vehicles (Wales) Regulations 2020 that requires playgrounds in Wales to be smoke-free. | GREEN | GREEN | BCBC playgrounds have been smoke free for an extended period. | | |
| C13 | The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community | AMBER | AMBER | Partners in housing associations are predominantly responsible for such signage. | Social landlords supported to understand play sufficiency and play friendly environments. | Engage with valleys to coast and town and community councils to enhance awareness of play sufficiency. |
| C14 | The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community | AMBER | RED | BCBC invested in play priority signage in phase 2 of the duty. Appetite to install such signage in non-obvious venues was limited. | There is potential for revisiting this objective by working with partners e.g., play Wales/play friendly streets initiative. | Consider play priority zone signage linked to play friendly streets with Play Wales. |
| C15 | The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made | GREEN | GREEN | BCBC Asset Disposal policy. Community asset transfer policy and support. | | |
| C16 | The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of | GREEN | GREEN | UDP Statutory consultation is conducted via the planning application process. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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|-----|--|-------|-------|---|---|--|
| | playing fields | | | <p>Disposal of public space would need to have due regard to WBFGA.</p> <p>Community asset transfer supporting community control of playing fields and pavilions with protections in place.</p> | | |
| C17 | The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when refurbishing or developing new playgrounds | GREEN | AMBER | <p>BCBC has progressively used WG investment to improve accessibility to play spaces.</p> <p>BCBC planning to invest into capital improvements including accessibility enhancements.</p> <p>Strategic play destination emerging at Bryngarw linked to VRP for more complex needs to be met.</p> | <p>Awareness of the guidance on creating accessible play spaces to be increased.</p> <p>Increased partnership working with Town and Community Councils will be required.</p> <p>A strategic approach needed to develop a diverse range of accessible opportunities.</p> | Accessibility to be a core consideration when developing or enhancing play space |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Open Spaces**How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments / Green Infrastructure Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play ?**

There has been cross directorate engagement on the development of the play sufficiency assessment including colleagues from planning and parks and playing fields. The redevelopment of the Local Development Plan and the related policies will help to bring synergy in approach across these areas. The wellbeing plan population assessment has identified the importance of the natural environment and open space to local people and the need for low cost or no cost opportunities for children and young people. There are a number of older reference documents that support the play sufficiency assessment that will need a refresh and linked to a review of the Asset Management plan. The BCBC website has clearly collated the range of spaces to play by type and by locality which is supportive of many play sufficiency matters. The pandemic has heightened public awareness and usage of open spaces and although Bridgend can evidence an overall surplus of provision there are notable deficits in every sub area across the County Borough.

Have there been challenges?

The high volume of open spaces and variations in quality or scale make play sufficiency assessment a challenge. Similarly, the issue of accessibility is more challenging in terms of natural environment as opposed to built environment.

How can these be overcome?

The focus on increasing use of open spaces will be a feature of the wellbeing plan and will be a common focus for many partners and stakeholders. It will require a collaborative approach and the role of the Council may be to secure play sufficiency for the longer term in some instances. This may involve use of processes such as community asset transfer with supporting resources. This may particularly apply to parks and playing fields whilst wanting to secure and protect community access and multi-use visits.

Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces**How has the local authority considered all issues of accessibility in play space development?**

There is more that can be done in this context although progress continues to be made. Where Welsh Government capital has been made available accessible features have been increased in fixed playgrounds. In particular, investment at Bryngarw Park is creating a play destination where more complex requirements can be supported. A wheelchair accessible swing, roundabout and more recently trampoline

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

have been installed. This final item has been supported by the local health board and BCBC have supported sensory installations also. During 2021, accessible features were installed at Pyle and Coychurch as part of phased developments and linked to Community Asset Transfer. Investments have included signage, accessible seating and tables for young people or adults accompanying them. There is scope to do more development of this kind. Over the next 18 months BCBC are set to invest in capital play infrastructure providing a real opportunity to improve accessibility. There is strong partnership working with Bridgend Inclusive Network Group who can support planning and engagement where appropriate. Bridgend runs a range of disability specific and integrated opportunities and as such has good connections to people with lived experience.

Have there been challenges?

The current asset reports identify issues such as condition, suitability, sufficiency and accessibility but would benefit from a refresh exercise and a consideration as to what improvements might be now possible and up to date to meet needs and expectations. Where new developments have been planned, Bridgend have struggled to secure tenders and there has been a shortage of resources and workforce reported. Fundamentally there is a need for Bridgend to improve its understanding of what would be involved in developing the most accessible assets that can support the best experiences for children and young people. This is one area where it will be important to engage those who are the intended beneficiaries from more accessible play infrastructure to understand needs

How can these be overcome?

There will need to be a cross council approach to improving the accessibility of play space and engaging those with knowledge and lived experience in helping to shape the way forward. Similarly, using such approaches for the workforce to enhance its knowledge and understanding of accessibility and how it can best be developed. It will need involvement of partners and stakeholders beyond those who are skilled in constructing and operating play space to achieve best results and include co-production and engagement with people with lived experience. Also, the need to be clearer on how all of the play sufficiency matters when combined impact on the quality and quantity of experience.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Matter D: Supervised provision

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

RAG Status

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

Playwork provision

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| D1 | The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised playwork provision as described in the Statutory Guidance | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Early Years and Childcare team (EYCT) maintain records of accredited holiday and childcare programmes and related opportunities.</p> <p>EYCT provide support for registered and non-registered providers-standards, operations, training.</p> <p>Focus on establishing CIW registration to support</p> | Some providers find it challenging to meet standards and remain economically viable. | Ongoing support from the EYCT to focus on providers becoming registered with CIW |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | <p>sustainable investment and support.</p> <p>BCBC maintains records of its core activities and those of contracted partners or activity providers.</p> | Generally restricted to holiday periods and based on structured activities. | |
| D2 | The Local Authority offers playwork provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance | AMBER | AMBER | <p>EYCT providing support to after school and holiday childcare providers. Play work is integrated in service provision.</p> <p>BCBC and partner providers generally delivering play and structured recreation.</p> <p>Disability play and recreational support opportunities proving effective.</p> | BCBC not generally delivering registered play work provision. | Review registration potential for disability after school club and discovery programmes. |
| D3 | The Local Authority ensures that partners offering playwork provision are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Funding and investment support for registered providers for after school and holiday providers</p> <p>Sharing of central resources to support providers has increased</p> | <p>Grants are generally available for registered providers only.</p> <p>Need to further develop digital</p> | Focus maintained on ensuring registered provision remains key to childcare and early years provision. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | | platforms to support partners. | |
| D4 | Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | AMBER | AMBER | <p>The local authority tends to deliver multi activity exemption based programmes.</p> <p>Programme management resource is in place.</p> <p>Key partnerships e.g., leisure, cultural have related contracts with specified requirements.</p> | Seasonal activity offers rely on seasonal recruitment and restrict capacity. | Identify opportunities to retain and develop a play workforce for longer periods. |
| D5 | Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | GREEN | GREEN | <p>EYCT commits resource to support providers to become registered with CIW.</p> <p>BCBC tends to offer seasonal exemption based activity.</p> <p>Larger contracted partners have specified standards to meet.</p> <p>Third sector partner providers screened in partnership with third</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | sector/CVC and other related National Governing Body standards for structured activity. | | |
| D6 | Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards | AMBER | GREEN | Funded provision within the After School and holiday club sector for children met by the local authority grants are all registered with CIW and meet the NMS. | | |
| D7 | Staffed playwork provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme | GREEN | GREEN | Funded provision within the After School and Holiday club sector for children met by the local authority grants schemes are all registered with CIW and meet the NMS. BCBC directly operated programmes comply with the CIW exemption criteria. EYCT support providers to implement quality schemes e.g., healthy snacks | | |
| D8 | The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver | GREEN | GREEN | Funded provision within the After School and Holiday club sector for children met by the local authority grants | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | recreational activities for children. | | | <p>schemes are all registered with CIW and meet the NMS.</p> <p>EYCT offer a quality assessment in relation to NMS that is used across the non-maintained education sector and other provisions.</p> <p>Partnership agreements are robust with key stakeholders and delivery partners.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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|--|--------------|--------------|---|--|--|
| <p>The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) playwork provision for children</p> | <p>AMBER</p> | <p>AMBER</p> | <p>Rent free support or peppercorn rates provided in many cases by schools/venues for after school clubs and holiday providers.</p> <p>Schools supporting the benefits of wrap around care arrangements.</p> <p>Some arrangements are more commercial and charges applicable.</p> <p>BCBC providing free holiday usage of venues for programmes supported by Town and Community Councils.</p> | <p>There are diverse arrangements in place based on the venue occupier.</p> <p>Increase use of Community Asset Transfer will make this more difficult to achieve potentially.</p> <p>Venues are struggling to rebuild viability and community usage.</p> | <p>Maintain current levels of support for holiday activity programmes.</p> |
|--|--------------|--------------|---|--|--|

Structured recreational activities for children

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| D10 | Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Active Bridgend plan in place and reviewed annually with Sport Wales. Positive assurance on impact.</p> <p>WAO review of Active Bridgend plan in relation to WBFGA and sustainability-Related action plan developed.</p> <p>Community network development plans co-produced with third sector groups.</p> <p>Disability Sport plan aligned to FDSW investment and themed priorities.</p> <p>Annual service development planning with Halo Leisure. Children and young people outcome focus in place.</p> <p>Bridgend supports National School Sport Survey with Sport Wales utilising data to inform partner plans. SHRN</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>data also being utilised across partnerships. Bridgend ranked highly in 2022.</p> <p>Nex Gen Vision plan created with partners and stakeholders. Identifies key workstreams responding to engagement of young people.</p> | | |
| D11 | The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Active 4 Life holiday programmes offer free structured activities during school holidays.</p> <p>Access to Leisure scheme supporting households most in need to access recreation.</p> <p>Welsh Medium extra-curricular and community programmes supported via Urdd partnership.</p> <p>Investments evidenced into community owned networks linked to increased</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>inclusivity e.g., Bridgend Inclusive Network Group.</p> <p>Sport Wales investment supporting Active Young People programmes, school based partnerships and community based opportunities. Quarterly reporting process in place.</p> <p>Aquatics plan including free swimming investment and targeted support for more vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>Partnership working and investment into community clubs including asset transfer, concessionary rates and support to secure external resources.</p> <p>Quest excellent rating achieved for Quest Active Communities and partnership working.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | <p>Sports leadership and volunteering pathway supporting 36k of volunteer hours per annum</p> <p>Community use of school assets linked to 21st century schools and supporting community clubs and associations. BCBC has a dual use service.</p> | | |
| D12 | The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Place based support for children's activities linked to Awen cultural trust.</p> <p>Valleys Regional Park supporting outdoor activities and links with Outdoor Partnership.</p> <p>BAVO supporting third sector groups to access investment via WG and BCBC funding opportunities.</p> <p>Library facilities regularly supporting youth, family and early years activities.</p> | Restrictions have impacted on some cultural activities and opportunities for extended periods. | Support the rebuilding of cultural opportunities in libraries, theatres, cultural venues and opportunities delivered by community organisations. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | <p>Summer and Winter reading challenge operated including launch events.</p> <p>Awen developing youth music and wellbeing initiatives.</p> <p>Bridgend youth theatre programme supported by Awen</p> | | <p>Identify opportunities to further strengthen partnership working with Bridgend Youth Matters organisations.</p> |
| D13 | The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association | AMBER | AMBER | <p>BCBC supporting formal youth service provision at 3 locations.</p> <p>Partnership working with Bridgend Youth Matters organisations and related investment via SOF and WOW.</p> <p>Core support evidenced for youth groups via network and early help services.</p> <p>Partnership working evidenced with National</p> | <p>Formal youth provision was disrupted for extended periods.</p> <p>Additional investment needed to grow activities across third sector groups.</p> <p>Opportunities for differently able young people to be supported.</p> | <p>Target additional resources to expand pilot projects that have proven successful- e.g., Ascent</p> <p>BCBC to invest in additional youth provision at up to 5 locations including additional staff.</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>youth organisations e.g., Action for Children, Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales, YMCA. Action for Children.</p> <p>Targeted support programmes including Youth Hub for learning disabilities, Vulnerable Hub for Care Experienced, with partners.</p> <p>Get on Track programme in partnership with Dame Kelly Holmes trust.</p> <p>Targeted programmes and Network Groups being supported including; Family Active Zone, Girls Network, Young Carers and Young Adult Carers networks, Ascent programme.</p> | | |

Supervised play provision

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Where the Local Authority has assessed settings as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSAs), how have these settings been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

The childcare sufficiency assessments have reviewed the number and range of services provided, number and type of child places filled across childcare ,day-care, out of school care and more. The EYCT supports providers to establish and retain registration for all aspects required by the National Minimum Standards. This would include standard 7:opportunities for play and learning. Staff from the CEYT will help providers to deliver on the aspiration of the regulation to empower service users and encourage lifestyle choices. As per the targeted outcomes there is a review of planning and providing play activities to support development. The use of resources and also indoor and outdoor environments are considered and where there are opportunities to build positive relationships with both parents and children. The standards are used appropriately by setting and recognising open access play or out of school provision variations in standards.

The EYCT team support workforce development and building of skills, knowledge and confidence including play opportunities. More recently the training available has been made available for parent carers from community organisations who are starting to include play in community activity offers. This has been well received with mentoring via a play trainer.

The EYCT provides support to registered providers including training and standards and encourages increases in registered provision as this will enable grant funding that can support ongoing improvement to play environment. Funded provision of After School and Holiday clubs by EYCT are all registered with CIW and meet NMS.

How has provision that is not part of the CSA been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

Play and Early Years officer co-ordinates BCBC provision and has completed holiday scheme co-ordination training. A Play Wales qualified play trainer is utilised to support seasonal training, risk management and planning of play programmes. Participants are provided with the opportunities to determine the activities, participate and express choice.

Inclusive opportunities are also supported where appropriate and supported by workforce development sessions. Where activities are structured and fall under exemption criteria appropriate risk management is put in place with full consideration of National Governing Body requirements. This would generally be applicable for sport and creative activity programmes.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

More recently programmes that support our more vulnerable young people who are trauma affected have been developing in partnership with social care professionals, particularly where there are safeguarding concerns. These programmes are fully reviewed with participants in terms of programme design, activity choices, resources to improve future planning.

Have there been challenges?

The pandemic has created challenges for both planning and delivering programmes or services with ongoing restrictions proving a challenge. The types of controls and risk management approaches will no doubt have made some opportunities less flexible and also reduced the numbers of young people that have been supported.

One of the more significant challenges has been the recruitment of seasonal delivery staff and this has been a common challenge across leisure, culture and hospitality sector.

The additional resources made available by Welsh Government have been valued by communities but resources to co-ordinate a high volume of delivery partners has been limited.

How can these be overcome?

Explore ways of packaging roles throughout the year to support retention and minimise recruitment pressures.

Further develop partnership working with BAVO and ways of investing into community providers for non-registered provision.

Develop closer working on play provision across Council departments including understanding of standards

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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. | |

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|---|
| E1 | The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PLASC data supported by primary and secondary schools contributing to area assessments. ▪ Prevalence of free school meals (3 year average) identifiable ▪ Census data and population estimates by super output area and age groups (2022). ▪ Data relating to means tested eligibility concessionary schemes ▪ Pupil deprivation grant data | Data could be better used by partners and place-based planning approaches | Raise awareness of data with partners |
| E2 | The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Census data and population estimates by super output area and age groups (2022) ▪ PLASC data can be utilised based on school catchment areas ▪ Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation data particularly 0-16 year group | Gaps can be identified in some geographical areas | Target further engagement with community partners |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WIMD data on employment related benefits and limiting long term illness | | |
| E3 | The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLASC data by schools, catchment and clusters Rural Development plan, demographic profiles including workless households 18 eligible wards. 19% of populations 16 years and under | | |
| E4 | The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs. | GREEN | AMBER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLASC data identifies SEN (School Action Plus/ Statemented) Children's Social Services supporting 240 children and young people English as Additional Language recorded by BCBC Additional learning needs recorded by BCBC/ School action plans Play and Disability sport programmes monitoring community participation | Data is changing within PLASC | Review impact of PLASC data changes. |
| E5 | The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision | AMBER | AMBER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCBC seasonal web/ media information Active 4 Life programme data and summary reports for partners Halo Leisure Free Swimming reports BCBC disability programme data School based extracurricular participation reports (AYPD) Welsh Language Provider information Holiday playworks, Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing information | Much of recent activity has related to Welsh Government investments | <p>Work with CVC to encourage applications for sources of investment</p> <p>Utilise Holiday Playworks resources to</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| | | | | | | expand scope and reach |
| E6 | The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision | AMBER | AMBER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active 4 Life programmes providing 'no cost' access to venues Disability programmes provided with free access to school premises Investments being used to support 'no cost' access for targeted groups to swimming pools (FSI) Play providers utilising their own/ local facilities at no cost | Venue operators are under pressure and will need to rebuild stability | Encourage inclusion of venue costs in plans to fund programmes |
| E7 | The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers | AMBER | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Government investments have enabled grant investment platform for third sector via BAVO (Playworks, Summer of Fun, Winter of Wellbeing) Investments being made via larger leisure and cultural trust partnerships Reporting via scrutiny Active promotion of available funding sources via CVC and BCBC | | |
| E8 | The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities | RED | AMBER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No general resource for transport subsidy but Disability Play providing transport support Social Care Vulnerable programmes supporting transport Grant funded delivery programmes have included support for transport. | No general transport subsidy in place | Continue targeting of resources to support transport |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | needs where feasible |

Charge for play provision

How is the Local Authority ensuring that children have access to no or low-cost provision?

- BCBC continue to work in partnership with Town and Community Councils to support free holiday opportunities
- Via the childcare and early years team, training has started to be supported amongst community partners
- New collaborative working and network-based approaches have been developing to maximise value (e.g., Bridgend Inclusive Network Group)
- The larger scale partnerships such as Halo Leisure and Awen Trust have core annual resources that can be used to reduce cost barriers
- Via the Welsh Government investments of 2021-22 a new range of low-cost delivery partners' have been able to be identified
- Home and family-based activities and resources are being developed on an ongoing basis (e.g., Family Active Zone)

Have there been challenges?

Beyond national restrictions and impact on young people some of the challenges have been positive. The timescales to utilise investment and the scale of funding have caused logistical issues, but the support has been much appreciated by communities. It has been difficult to provide supportive partners with the details they would normally be provided with to invest in programmes due to uncertainty. The risk assessments have also limited the numbers of beneficiaries and demand has been high in some instances. Where digital approaches have been delivered it has been recognised that this is not universally available and those who are most digitally included will have benefitted more.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template




How can these be overcome?

Going forward there will be a need to work closely with local communities and potential deliverers, including volunteers to secure low cost and no cost opportunities across the County Borough. In the absence of larger scale investments there will be a need for pooling of resources where possible. Also working closely with partners who are most connected to the more vulnerable young people.

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

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

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| F1 | The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas | GREEN | GREEN | 20mph zones are recorded as they are maintained through Traffic orders School drop off zones recorded New WG regulations on 20 mph zones scheduled. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| F2 | 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 | GREEN | Traffic Surveys conducted Evidence of speed checks Road Safety Wales and ONS data Safe routes in communities developed. Casualty records utilised in reviews. | | |
| F3 | 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 | GREEN | GREEN | Road safety plan is part of the Bridgend Local Transport Plan 2015 - 2030 Active Travel network plans. Active Travel Plans and walking and cycling strategy Safe routes to school SEWTA priorities for road safety grants | | |
| F4 | The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and | GREEN | GREEN | Bridgend walking and cycling strategy. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| | cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas | | | <p>LDP being updated, planning documents and policies.</p> <p>Kerbcraft training evidence.</p> <p>Installation of new active travel infrastructure on key routes.</p> <p>Sustrans partnership</p> | | |
| F5 | There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Road safety plan is part of the Bridgend Local Transport Plan 2015 - 2030</p> <p>Traffic management orders</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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|----|---|-------|-------|---|---|---|
| F6 | The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards | GREEN | GREEN | <p>A structured programme of cycle training to level 1 and Level 2 national standards is provided from WG Road safety grant funding Records are available</p> <p>Balance ability programme supported by Sport Wales</p> <p>Kerbcraft training records</p> | | |
| F7 | The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Road safety plan is part of the Bridgend Local Transport Plan 2015 - 2030</p> <p>Kerbcraft training records.</p> | | |
| F8 | The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes | RED | AMBER | <p>Some work took place however there is no specific mechanism of advice on road closures. Traffic team receive requests and assess. Broader issues considered</p> <p>Traffic orders can be put in place but not broadly used.</p> <p>Pilot project with Play Wales on safer streets commenced but paused</p> | Play friendly streets development work paused due to pandemic | Review the opportunities to restart play friendly streets approaches with PHW/Play Wales. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| F9 | The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Manual for Streets and manual for streets 2 is available to engineers and relevant Officers</p> <p>Design manual for roads and bridges is also used.</p> <p>Active Travel Act Design Guide is used</p> <p>Place making charter.</p> | | |
| F10 | The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Bridgend Walking and Cycling strategy.</p> <p>Active travel bids , maps and investment.</p> <p>Active Travel Act Design Guide is used.</p> <p>LDP/redevelopment</p> | | |
| F11 | The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Active Travel Act Design Guide is used</p> <p>Road Safety delivery plan</p> <p>Casualty records reviewed/RTA rates.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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|-----|---|-------|-------|--|---|---|
| F12 | The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure | AMBER | AMBER | Public Travel plans are part of the Local Transport plan Route assessments conducted with young people. All age groups engaged in community access planning. | Delays in completing accurate consultation due to covid 19. Public transport is no longer subsidised by local authority. | Need to ensure local community opportunities are available. |
| F13 | The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives | AMBER | AMBER | Follow guidance for Inclusive Mobility from WG. Other support infrastructure considered-shelters, kerbing, lighting. Targeted programmes include transport needs | Greater engagement with young people with additional needs. | Identify impact of transport on participation levels of young people with disabilities. |

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.

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| F14 | The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility) | GREEN | GREEN | Council Website has been redeveloped. Full details of parks, playing fields and outdoor facilities. Playgrounds mapped and listed by area and type plus recreational spaces. Links to leisure and cultural trust partnerships. Website connects to Dewis on Community opportunities/ playgroups. Play Sufficiency section in place | | |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| F15 | The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Play Sufficiency contact identified on website ▪ Leisure and cultural trust partners directly promote opportunities ▪ Web and social media used in promotion campaigns ▪ Family Information Service provides details of playgroups, holiday clubs, nurseries and childcare | Some details may need to be updated post pandemic | Progressively update information on Dewis with Community partners |
| F16 | The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council use of website, specific focus periods e.g., school holidays covered ▪ Evidence of media releases and advertorials ▪ Facebook advertising campaigns ▪ Partner promotional campaigns e.g., BAVO, Halo, Awen | | |
| F17 | The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular web-based information ▪ Social media resources available in-house ▪ Progress reports to Town and Community Councils ▪ Press and media release ▪ National campaigns e.g., play day promoted | Imagery may need to be updated | Rebuild resources of appropriate imagery |
| F18 | The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAZ Active at Home resources and evaluation ▪ Family Information Service web information and resources ▪ Food, Fun and Active Play for Tiny Tots online promotions | Navigation between all related elements can be difficult | Review web content and related links |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital engagement opportunities developed e.g., disability AYP Central resources distributed via schools, partners Young Ambassadors campaigns / programmes | | |
| F19 | The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play | AMBER | AMBER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCBC site content generally positive and broad Content may be laid out by service areas rather than thematically Growth in signposting activity and promotion by key partners | Information available could be more cohesive across service areas | Review opportunities to synthesise what is available on play sufficiency pages on BCBC website |
| F20 | The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCBC web information Press releases and supporting imagery Specific seasonal campaigns e.g., Schools Out Publicity via contracted partners and delivery networks Support for WG in regional or national communications | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Access to space/provision**How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration to ensure children can move around their communities to increase access to opportunities for playing?**

The strategic plans to support Active Travel and to develop safe routes have involved consultation, engagement and partnership working with key stakeholders. This has helped to secure a broad range of investments to improve infrastructure within and between communities. There is also evidence of strong partnership working with Sustrans and a range of BCBC services to mobilise increased use of active travel opportunities. In particular there are 37 schools now engaged in the National Standards cycling programmes and demand is showing growth. There has been initial engagement on play friendly streets, but this has been hampered by the pandemic.

Have there been challenges?

The pandemic has created challenges to progressing some of the above work but there will be opportunities to once again take this forward. The expansion of 20mph restrictions in streets may also support the play friendly streets agenda. The issues of securing resources to develop or maintain streets, highways and lighting plus supporting infrastructure for people with additional needs will be a national issue faced by highways and transport departments. The pandemic coupled with further supply chain issues is pertinent in this context. Despite the challenges the pandemic will have encouraged more people to be outdoors and to engage in walking and cycling to navigate local communities. This presents opportunities also.

How can these be overcome?

The key area for focus will be ensuring that Council services and representatives who are skilled and knowledgeable on transport, highways and active travel have the opportunities to connect and contribute to the play sufficiency agenda and related planning and implementation. Areas of particular focus would include maximising usage of any active travel assets being created, supporting the development of street play initiatives within communities, and helping to work with vulnerable groups to reduce transport as a barrier to engaging in opportunities or utilising places and spaces.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Information, publicity, events**How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?**

The development of the new BCBC website has improved the volume and range of information contributing to play sufficiency that is featured. There is a solid level of place-based detail via parks and playing fields sections and family information services have good levels of information on childcare, play and holiday activities. There have been initial challenges with new website formats, but holiday programme information is now simpler to access. BCBC can evidence promoting core services and opportunities but also those of a network of delivery partners that has been a new development. The Summer of Fun, in particular has highlighted the value of an engaging brand to attract interest. Social media-based promotion and advertising has seen growth and proven cost effective. The opportunities to utilise the resources of leisure and cultural partners has been a positive development also.

Have there been challenges?

It has been a challenge to balance the desire to raise awareness of opportunities alongside restrictions on the numbers that have been able to be supported. In some instances, time has been short to develop programmes or approaches that can be promoted. The restrictions on activities and in particular, gatherings has resulted in advance booking requirements which may have had adverse effects for those who are more digitally excluded or most in need.

How can these be overcome?

Being able to support a broader number of smaller and more local opportunities has shown some merit and involved partners in promoting opportunities. Where digital information is connected to on-line signposting (e.g., Dewis) it will need to be current. More targeted approaches to maximise impact will be explored alongside the more universally accessible opportunities.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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. | |

Note – These criteria are specifically about Playwork: Playwork is a highly skilled profession that enriches and enhances play. It takes place where adults support children’s play but it is not driven by prescribed education or care outcomes. This includes both open access and out of school childcare settings.

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| G1 | The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the playwork workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, playwork management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers) | GREEN | GREEN | EYCT Management structure in place and development staff structure. EYCT identifies registers of providers and staff qualifications. Play and early years manager co-ordinates seasonal provision and disability programmes. Full employment records | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | | | | <p>maintained including qualifications.</p> <p>Group Manager- prevention and wellbeing co-ordinates play sufficiency requirements. Support from wellbeing managers on programme delivery and development including partners.</p> <p>Key partnerships and contracts required to maintain workforce records e.g., Halo, Awen.</p> <p>Partnership working with BAVO requests workforce details for externally funded programmes.</p> | | |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| G2 | The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National Minimum Standards | AMBER | AMBER | <p>EYCT subsidises training opportunities for registered providers.</p> <p>CIW mandatory training remains available to childcare workforce.</p> <p>Diverse range of CPD opportunities.</p> <p>Partnership with Agored Cymru continues to support play work 1,2 and 3 training.</p> <p>Holiday programme co-ordination training supported for exempt activities</p> | Workforce for play and holiday activities generally seasonal and recruited for short periods | Develop staff retention approaches and related ongoing training. |
| G3 | The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork | AMBER | AMBER | <p>EYCT have ring fenced budget for training via RSG and also the Childcare and Play grants.</p> <p>Annual service budgets allocate resources for seasonal training</p> | Budgets are not generally ring fenced beyond EYCT but are allocated to support work with children and young people. | Identify overall resources available to support workforce development. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | | | | <p>requirements-holiday provision.</p> <p>Core budget in place to support management related training to support play sufficiency leads.</p> <p>Key partners-leisure and cultural trusts -have training budgets.</p> | | |
| G4 | There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area | AMBER | AMBER | <p>EYCT can support workforce development via RSG and childcare and play grant.</p> <p>Investment has supported play staff and some community partners-inclusability.</p> <p>Particular focus on the play work sector</p> <p>Disability programmes invest in workforce competency to support play programmes and care needs.</p> | <p>Holiday programmes run by BCBC do not have regular staff structures at operational levels to develop.</p> <p>Some staff return regularly and progressively build knowledge and experience.</p> | Develop staff retention approaches and related workforce development. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| <p>24</p> | <p>Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in playwork</p> | <p>RED</p> | <p>AMBER</p> | <p>Some progress has been made but smaller scale developments.</p> <p>Work with BING is supporting more inclusive practice across third sector.</p> <p>Family Active Zone resources supporting parent and family led programmes.</p> <p>Mentoring support for parent carers developing disability play opportunities</p> | <p>EYCT funding is limited and targeted at prioritise. childcare workforce. Formal play training can be high cost.</p> <p>Where WG investment is available investment into training has been possible-but reliant on external resources.</p> | <p>Identify opportunities to pool resources to create training opportunities for volunteers and parents.</p> | <p>Commented [AT1]: BER</p> |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| G6 | The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies | AMBER | AMBER | Childcare sufficiency assessment. EYCT have structured support for providers via RSG and Childcare and Play grant. Play work training supported for senior play team staff | Casual staff have limited access to workforce development opportunities. | Formalise the training matrix for seasonal and casual staff. |
| G7 | The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers | AMBER | AMBER | EYCT works with a range of colleagues to increase training across the sector. Agored Cymru play work training delivered including third sector organisations | Limited number of third sector /community partners delivering play currently. | Work with BAVO to identify levels of need/demand. Secure and utilise additional external investment. |

Note – these criteria are about the Play workforce: This encompasses anyone employed whose role has an impact on children playing – those who may either directly facilitate their play, design for playing, or those with the power to give permission for children to play, or not.

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|----|---|-------|-------|---|---|--|
| G8 | The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play | AMBER | AMBER | EYCT understand the levels of play work training across the early | Numbers of training places is a challenge | Secure additional training opportunities where possible. |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary and above | | | years and childcare sector. Seasonal and holiday recruitment requests recognised qualifications in sport, play, arts, youth work. | | |
| G9 | The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff | AMBER | AMBER | Training support offered by AYP to school staff. Play integrated in leadership pathway for youth volunteers. Medical support, communication training for disability play staff. Holiday activity scheme training for senior staff | Staff are generally casual or seasonal. | Ensure digital and online resources are signposted and available for staff to access. |
| G10 | There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children | AMBER | AMBER | EYCT develops increased training for the sector. Comprehensive training available for CIW registered providers. Diverse range of CPD opportunities supported. | Seasonal and casual staff have less workforce development. | As above |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | | | | Structured sport, recreation and cultural training offered to support exempt activities. | | |
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| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| G11 | Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children’s opportunities to play | AMBER | AMBER | Play Wales safe streets programme. Play Wales schools access programme. Play Wales play sufficiency summary sessions. Opportunities offered to Town and Community Councils | A new rollout of awareness sessions will be required post June 22. | Schedule play awareness sessions |

Securing and developing the play workforce

How has the Local Authority met the requirement to undertake or secure the managerial and delivery functions necessary to achieve sufficient play opportunities

BCBC has ensured that play sufficiency is the responsibility of a corporate director and that the Cabinet Member for Wellbeing of Future Generations has a leadership and advocacy role for Play Sufficiency.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

The Group Manager for Prevention and Wellbeing has lead responsibility for conducting the play sufficiency assessment and engaging colleagues and directorates across the organisation.

There is a specific management and delivery resource regarding the Early Years and Childcare team. BCBC has a Wellbeing Manager-Play and Early Years who manages internally operated programmes, mainly seasonal and holiday exempt opportunities.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides for the workforce development needs of the play workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

There is now closer working and dialogue between the EYCT team and Prevention and Wellbeing services to connect childcare sufficiency and play sufficiency considerations. An example would be shared delivery of Summer of Fun programmes. Also, where activity provision has been needed for Holiday Hunger programmes. The majority of investment support for workforce development is managed by EYCT based on RSG investment and the childcare and play grant. The childcare sufficiency assessment in particular helps identify the workforce development needs of providers.

There are annual service development planning processes conducted with leisure and cultural trust partners including workforce planning and considerations.

Whole school training approaches have been developed to support the play in schools and activity/play pod programmes.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides the playwork workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

EYCT conducts its sufficiency evaluations with providers to understand training requirements inclusive of play work. A resource is in place to plan and support a measured amount of play work training for registered providers.

Beyond this BCBC only retains a wellbeing manager for play and early years to co-ordinate holiday, seasonal and disability programmes. This includes recruitment, training and deployment aspects.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Have there been challenges?

The key challenge post pandemic is similar to that experienced during the pandemic. Beyond EYCT, the workforce needed to operate seasonal and holiday programmes is difficult to recruit and employment for short periods only. This limits the ability to develop the skills, knowledge and capacity of a core workforce.




How can these be overcome?

There needs to be a way of “bolting” roles together that allows people to have more security and continuity of employment albeit across a range of relevant programmes or roles. The current approach of seasonal recruitment is high maintenance and cost and does not create a legacy for play across the County.

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. |  |

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| H1 | The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town and Community Council partnership agreements/ play programmes Third sector play providers and youth network engaged via BAVO/ CVC | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | opportunities for children in its area. | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Partnership agreements with primary and secondary schools supporting play sufficiency ▪ Nex Gen Youth Network -Bringing partners together to support planning ▪ Community Asset Transfer – Workstream increasing partner collaboration ▪ Local and National surveys utilised to support assessment | | |
| H2 | <p>The Local Authority promotes community engagement in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making space available and suitable for play - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - training on the importance of play. | GREEN | GREEN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Play and activity pod spaces with primary schools ▪ Accessible play space projects with Town and Community Councils and local communities ▪ Play and activity roadshow events with both universal and targeted participation ▪ Development of networking approaches to promote inclusive opportunities (e.g., BING) ▪ Natural play space development linked to Valleys Regional Park (Bryngarw Park) ▪ National Play Day celebrations annually involving key partners | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Community engagement and participation.

How has the Local Authority effectively used existing mechanisms for children's participation and family consultation processes with regards to play?

- 'Play your Part' surveys conducted via Active 4 Life programmes for 8-11 years
- Families engaged in reviewing the delivery of free swimming opportunities across Bridgend
- Bridgend Inclusive Network Group developed and supported to engage with parent carers and children with additional needs
- Children looked after and those who are a safeguarding concern engaged via vulnerable hub project development
- Bridgend Youth Matters network group engaged in joint development of youth and young adult opportunities
- Young Carers consulted on current opportunities, barriers and aspirations
- Families engaged in evaluating family activities, resources and use of home space and local opportunities
- Family wellbeing survey for 0-3 years age groups conducted with partner schools
- National School Sport survey will not be progressed until summer term
- Young people with disabilities or additional needs engaged and their households

Have there been challenges?

The participation and consultation has never been more important but partners, particularly schools, have faced other pressures. The timing of some exercises must also be viewed in the macro context regarding the phase of the pandemic and levels of public caution which will have influence on feelings and responses. An array of information has been gathered but it will take time to synthesise and further ongoing dialogue.

How can these be overcome?

It will be important to share data and findings with partners and the broader community to highlight the challenges that have been faced and those that will need to be addressed. Linking this information to Public Service Board and development plans also important

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Matter 1: 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

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

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| I1 | There is a named person on the Local Public Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Well-being Plan | GREEN | AMBER | BCBC Leader of Council and Chief Executive, Mark Shephard are members of PSB | Need to review who will champion play sufficiency within PSB from July 22 onwards. | Identify champion for play sufficiency |
| I2 | The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities | GREEN | AMBER | Due to timelines, the Wellbeing Plan will not have been completed and will be in draft format only. Draft plan connects to many play sufficiency matters. | Play sufficiency assessment will not have contributed to draft Wellbeing Plan | Learning and insight from play sufficiency shared with PSB at draft stage |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Education and schools

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| I3 | Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Partnership agreements with schools include play/recreation.</p> <p>Volume of play and activity pods increasing/WG supported.</p> <p>Whole school training approaches linked to wellbeing planning.</p> <p>Schools supported to develop play policies.</p> <p>Peer led young leader programmes supporting activities.</p> <p>Schools engaging with Ambassador led activities and campaigns.</p> | <p>Not applicable consistently in all settings.</p> <p>Different approaches in some settings based on maintaining Covid safe environments</p> | Progressively expand the volume of schools utilising play within partnership plans. |
| I4 | Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours | GREEN | GREEN | School partnership agreements. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | <p>Family Active Zone programmes supported.</p> <p>Fundamentals programmes.</p> <p>Play and activity pod training and sessions.</p> <p>Extra-curricular activity identified in progress reporting.</p> <p>National and local survey data identifies school based activity.</p> | | |
| I5 | Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Sustainable Communities for Learning programme/developments designed to support community use. (School modernisation programme and principles/cabinet reports)</p> <p>Formal dual use/community use arrangements at most secondary schools.</p> | <p>Pandemic has paused some planned progress.</p> <p>Access more established at secondary school locations</p> | Restart partnership working with Play Wales on community use of school grounds |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | <p>Community use of some primary school assets.</p> <p>Partnership working with Play Wales on community access to school grounds. Formalised community access at both Heronsbridge and YBC</p> <p>Welsh Government capital grants for community focused schools.</p> <p>Support for schools/timetabling and playground design supporting community access</p> | <p>Yard space improvements needed at YBC. Potential relocation of Heronsbridge school</p> | <p>Ensure play sufficiency considered in potential relocation of Heronsbridge school.</p> <p>Identify additional resources to support programmes.</p> |
| I6 | Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school | AMBER | AMBER | <p>National standards cycling programmes delivered directly by BCBC.</p> <p>Levels 1 and 2 programmes accessed by schools.</p> | <p>Demand has grown during the pandemic and may continue.</p> <p>Delivering level 2 programmes require additional resources.</p> | <p>Identify resource to deliver Welsh medium programmes.</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| | | | | <p>Safe routes to school promoted.</p> <p>Sustrans promoting Bikeability programme with schools.</p> <p>WG Kerbcraft programme delivered by BCBC with local schools.</p> <p>National campaigns promoted and supported e.g., National walk to school week.</p> | <p>Ability to deliver Welsh medium programmes due to staffing.</p> | <p>Continue to expand digital approaches to supporting partners and providing guidance/resources.</p> |
| 17 | The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Nex Gen wellbeing network established with stakeholders and partners.</p> <p>Play Wales working with BCBC on school related play programmes.</p> <p>Nex Gen website makes resources available including training and guidance for schools and teachers.</p> | <p>Digital support and availability of resources has commenced but can be expanded subject to resources.</p> <p>The former links with scrap stores needs to be reviewed to maintain play opportunities</p> | <p>Maintain networking approaches and sharing of resources and good practice, learning and insight.</p> <p>New scrap store approaches to be investigated linked to recycling and sustainable communities.</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | AYP offering Planning for Improvement workshops-high levels of engagement-training, resources, guest presenters and networking. | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Town and Country Planning

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| 18 | The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities | GREEN | GREEN | LPA is preparing the 2018-33 replacement local development plan. Full suite of policies seeking to facilitate new POS and retain existing POS and GI. Bridgend Local Development Plan Green Infrastructure Audit Outdoor play and sports audit. | | |

Traffic and Transport

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| 19 | The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in | GREEN | AMBER | Safe routes to schools investments and links to national standards cycling/active travel plans. | In regards to a connection to "play sufficiency" the links | Play sufficiency contribution recognised in any future short-term plans within the longer-term strategy. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| | offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities | | | <p>HIA of Bridgend Local Transport Plan 2015-30.</p> <p>Bridgend Local Transport plan 2015-30 targeting “encouraging safer, healthier and sustainable travel.</p> <p>Links between Local Travel Plan and other policy areas e.g., LDP, Education are explicit.</p> | could be more explicit. | |
| I 10 | The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised. | AMBER | AMBER | <p>LTP identifies transport barriers and implications for demographic groups.</p> <p>Targeted exploration of public transport, community transport, taxis as innovative responses.</p> <p>Development of coherent and co-ordinated active travel networks-multi modal transport corridors.</p> | <p>More focus needed on close to home opportunities to reduce journeys.</p> <p>Community transport will have capacity issues.</p> <p>Transport more imperative for some young people e.g., disability, rural communities.</p> | Needs of targeted population groups beyond work or schools purposes to be understood and supported. (i.e., ability to navigate local communities.) |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>Accessibility of opportunities identified as potential challenges.</p> <p>Kerbcraft, Bike It and Cycle training identified as interventions to support infrastructure use.</p> <p>Bridgend walking and cycling strategy.</p> <p>5.7.2 identifies that the LTP complies with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child-all children and young people have the right to be healthy and safe.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Early Years Plans

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| I 11 | 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 | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Flying Start support offered in 12 community hub locations.</p> <p>Facilities designed to support deep, ongoing and rich play experiences.</p> <p>Play is integral to the Flying Start offer-staff holding play qualifications or supported to attain these.</p> <p>Level 3 play work training for early years staff evidenced/also cross sector availability.</p> <p>Social media promotes play and playful childhoods resources.</p> <p>Opportunities for adventurous/risky play and training for workforce and parents on benefits.</p> | The structure of required training programmes could increase the emphasis on play work in similar mode to child development. | Identify ways of increasing focus on play work within the Early Years and Flying Start workforce nationally. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Family policy and initiatives

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| I 12 | Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Family Information Services now centralised via the BCBC customer service team.</p> <p>Partnership working and information sharing with EYCT.</p> <p>Digital information and resources promoted-web, Facebook.</p> <p>Communities supported to develop information networks e.g., BING, Nex-Gen.</p> | There is potential challenges to maintaining awareness of all information via a centralised approach. | <p>Review communication pathways to maximise impact of any central information management.</p> <p>Explore use of libraries as customer information points in respect to signposting.</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| IA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | <p>Seasonal opportunities promoted centrally and via partners.</p> <p>Key partnerships e.g., Halo Leisure and Awen Trust have core marketing and information sharing channels also.</p> | | <p>Develop 3-year plans and connections to broader resources beyond Families First.</p> |
| I 13 | <p>The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities</p> | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Education and family support teams are supported by the former Families First programme.</p> <p>Early Years and Childcare team included in this support, promoting play work and opportunities.</p> <p>IAA provided to support families regarding play opportunities.</p> <p>Legacy investments supporting children and young people's programmes, youth opportunities, volunteering,</p> | <p>Reliant on annual funding cycles which restricts planning.</p> | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| I 14 | Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities | AMBER | GREEN | <p>young carers and disability opportunities.</p> <p>Active Bridgend planning including care experienced children, children and young people who are a safeguarding concern, young people with disabilities and young carers.</p> <p>Trauma informed programmes developed by children's social services and prevention/wellbeing.</p> <p>Early Help service includes joint screening of police notices where there are child welfare concerns. Young people connected to support and opportunities.</p> <p>Holiday Hunger programmes led by Education and Early Help/EYCT teams.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <p>Healthy and Sustainable preschool scheme (HSPSS) supports a clear vision of play-information and strategy support for parents.</p> <p>HENRY scheme being developed in partnership with PHW.</p> | | |

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| I 15 | There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity | AMBER | GREEN | Broad range of approaches can be evidenced | | |
| I 16 | There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages | GREEN | GREEN | <p>Free swim to age 16 years.</p> <p>Bridgend Youth Matters network extending age groups 8-18 plus.</p> <p>Roadshows/activity days are multi-generational.</p> <p>Family activity sessions including siblings.</p> | | |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| A Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | Disability play is multi-generational including families and siblings. | | |

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

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| I 17 | The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge | AMBER | AMBER | <p>EYCT comply with National Minimum Standards and guidelines to deliver play (standard 7)</p> <p>Providers supported to gain and retain registration by meeting NMS.</p> <p>New corporate risk management matrix applied in 2022.</p> <p>Existing risk assessments and session plans support risk and challenge.</p> <p>HSE guidance made available to delivery partners.</p> | <p>Former risk assessments for community programmes will need review and align to risk evaluation matrix.</p> <p>The pandemic has introduced higher levels of controls on activities than previous</p> | Joint development of approach clarifying corporate position on risk and challenge developed with Health and Safety colleagues. |
| I 18 | The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the | AMBER | AMBER | <p>Positive current examples where this is evidenced.</p> <p>Play service session planning.</p> | A formal corporate position on risk-benefit is yet to be established in | A formal corporate position needs to be established on risk benefit and HSE guidance. |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| LA Ref No | Criteria | RAG Status 2019 | RAG Status 2022 | Evidence to support strengths | Shortfalls | Identified actions for Action Plan |
|-----------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| | Health and Safety Executive (HSE) | | | <p>AYP risk assessments.</p> <p>All About Me forms and developing personalised support.</p> <p>Vulnerable hub programmes and risk management approaches.</p> | regard to play sufficiency | |
| I 19 | The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils | RED | AMBER | <p>There are some arrangements in place of this nature.</p> <p>Halo leisure sites</p> <p>Awen trust sites</p> <p>BCBC owned but community run community centres.</p> <p>Town and community councils can access the policies</p> | Insurance not provided for broader third sector. | Review with BAVO how the third sector works regarding collective insurance arrangements. |

Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities. New regional approaches are being conducted to develop the population needs assessment and wellbeing plan across the three local authorities and the Cwm Taf Morgannwg health board footprint. The timelines will not align with the play sufficiency assessment but will be able to contribute at draft stage.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Following the forthcoming elections there will be an opportunity to review how play sufficiency can be best connected into PSB mechanisms and considerations. The assessment is identifying many of the contributors to play sufficiency matters.

It has been a difficult period to progress play sufficiency with schools, but activities are cautiously resuming, and schools are supporting the establishment of a wellbeing and lifestyle baseline that can help policy considerations across areas. Play sufficiency is also now centrally considered within performance management within education and family support services. There has also been good use of digital approaches to create and share resources. There has been a growth in engagement regarding schools' national standards cycling that supports active travel. The replacement LDP is in progress and identifying the importance of play needs of children and young people. There is an identification in the assessment as to how the Local Travel Plan connects with the LDP and other local policies. Early Years and childcare team have evidenced strong approaches and support for the sector inclusive of play work. The additional investments that have been available have promoted greater internal collaboration and also partnership working with the third sector. There is good evidence of work to centralise family-based information and also other community led approaches, particularly more targeted approaches. In regard to supporting the more vulnerable children and young people good progress has been made and there is also evidence of pooling the anti-poverty resources that have been made available by government. The additional support has seen an increase in opportunities for youth age groups up to 24 years and new partnerships with community owned youth organisations.

Have there been challenges?

It has proven difficult to get engagement in regard to the wellbeing plan development, but the opportunity remains at draft planning stage. In regard to educational aspects there is much good work that has progressed, and some innovation has been sparked. It is likely that the picture may be inconsistent as schools will naturally prioritise educational matters in the short to medium term. Working with headteachers and clusters on a way forward will be important. The return of school swimming has been significantly impacted for logistical reasons and may have created a broad gap in ability across whole year groups, particularly in regard to more disadvantaged communities. Work commenced with Play Wales on creating play friendly schools and play friendly streets in association with public health has needed to be paused as restrictions hindered any progress.

Review of the local travel plan identifies clear links to the role of transport in supporting play sufficiency although its role in contributing to play sufficiency could be more explicit. The large volumes of additional investment whilst being welcomed have had time and other resource limitations to use to most effect. That said, some interesting new partnerships have emerged, and new population groups have been reached. Effective management of information and sharing with communities might be one of the most significant gains but it brings challenges in terms of maintaining currency and staff awareness.

Where targeted programmes have been developing across policy areas, they have required new approaches and a shared commitment to working in different ways. The results have been worth it and evaluation of impact will need to continue as alternative ways of supporting young people. The partnership working with youth groups has been challenging to mobilise in short periods of time, but engagement has been positive. This adds to the inter-generational aspect of local play sufficiency. The pandemic has created an atmosphere of caution for many people and communities that has been reflected in risk management approaches. There will be a need to ensure play sufficiency plays an active role in community covid recovery.

How can these be overcome?

Any data emerging from the play sufficiency assessment will benefit from being shared with key stakeholders and across policy areas. This will be particularly true in regard to education/schools who will be able to utilise the data to support whole school planning in regard to wellbeing. Where gaps and challenges are identified a collaborative response from partners will be important. Play Wales can play an important role in this respect in rebuilding partner engagement and awareness. There is the potential to work with communities and third sector to create more locally available opportunities that minimises the need for extensive journeys and contributes to carbon reduction plans. Similarly, there are strong plans for walking and cycling infrastructure development and a related need to nudge or encourage young people to use these approaches as part of a generational change. The third sector have been supportive both in terms of helping to distribute and account for investment and also to deliver community programmes. This approach needs to be part of a broader conversation on ways of cross sector working. There are opportunities to establish communication channels and approaches between partners that improve the effectiveness of centralised approaches to promote and manage information. For some of the more targeted approaches there will be a need to view these less as short term externally funded projects and more as high value opportunities that need ongoing investment and support. It will be important to ensure that a focus on youth activity and the role of the third sector continues during the next 3 years of this plan. In regard to community covid recovery it will be helpful for BCBC to promote the risk and challenge aspects of play as identified by HSE and to review and formalise an internal position on this.

112 Conclusion

This section should identify the key priorities for the Local Authorities in accordance with the regulations and described in the Statutory Guidance.

From a governance perspective there will be a need to identify the leadership approach for play sufficiency going forward and a formalised commitment to a “One Council” approach to developing sufficient quantity and quality of play across the County Borough. Beyond this the matters that contribute to play sufficiency need to be connected to the Wellbeing Plan and an increased awareness of play sufficiency at PSB level. Bridgend has identified its aspiration to be a “Play Friendly County”, and this will require a collaborative approach both internally and externally.

Bridgend will retain a delivery aspect for play opportunities particularly in relation to supporting the more vulnerable and redressing imbalances in access to opportunities. Beyond this Bridgend will need to work collectively and pool resources to secure sufficient play for children and young people. This will connect with town and community councils and the third sector in particular. The broad volume of partners have been identified through the assessment.

Whilst consultation and engagement with children, young people and families has been a feature of the assessment there are opportunities for a more long-term conversation with people and communities on the future of play. There is also a need to connect the various resources and investments to best effect, although there are positive approaches currently identified. The assessment has the potential to be a more living process that runs through the three-year period, including new data and insight, and securing more engagement in the process from stakeholders.

Most recently the additional investments via Welsh Government in terms of Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing have helped establish new partnerships across the third sector particularly in relation to youth activities. There will be a challenge to work collectively in similar manner in regard to future opportunities.

In terms of monitoring progress there is an opportunity to weave play sufficiency and its components into Corporate Performance processes to encourage more regular scrutiny and overview. Play sufficiency has the potential to add value to approaches aimed at stimulating community covid recovery and bringing people back together again. This is particularly true for children and young people whose wellbeing will have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. There will be a need to rebuild community opportunities and to support community anchor organisations and place-based activities and opportunities.

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Bridgend has good base population data but also some gaps in what would support planning for play sufficiency internally and externally. There will need to be a focus on centralising relevant data and making it more meaningful at a locality level where possible. This is particularly true for targeted population groups who are underrepresented.

There has been positive progress in terms of focus on diverse needs, but this focus may need to increase, with a particular focus on barriers and accessibility for some population groups.

In terms of open spaces and play facilities, the replacement LDP will establish the policies to support play sufficiency. The mapping of assets and sharing information has seen improvements. The focus on Community Asset Transfer will see more play space and facilities managed differently and the need for shared understanding of play value, accessibility and suitability will become more critical. This is aligned to plans to invest in play infrastructure and the opportunity to make significant gains in terms of quality aspects. There will be a need to increase awareness and understanding in terms of national guidance on play value and accessibility in particular.

The Early Years and Childcare Team provides strong support to providers including meeting National Minimum Standards. Beyond this, the Bridgend offer is based on programmes that meet exemption criteria with a focus on holiday periods. The forthcoming holiday play works investment via Welsh Government offers support to expand this approach, and to look externally also. More training and support opportunities for community partners is one area for consideration

In terms of structured recreation, the partnerships with Halo and Awen have supported play sufficiency, and this will become more embedded in annual service development planning. The Active Bridgend plan is supported by Sport Wales and continues to support school and community activities and development programmes. Sport Wales will however be introducing new investment principles, the impact of which are not as yet fully understood. Similarly, Disability Sport Wales will reduce their direct investment into local authorities which may create localised challenges. There are opportunities for growth in relation to creative and cultural activity and also youth development programmes. The wellbeing plan draft assessment is identifying an expressed need for low cost and no cost activity opportunities by children and young people. This has been a core focus within Bridgend and will remain with such an approach encouraging targeting of resources whilst recognising the need for more universal access also.

Bridgend has commenced work with Play Wales on developing play friendly streets, but this was paused during the pandemic. Connected to this is the aspiration to make more places and spaces child friendly and suitable to support play and recreation. The investments into infrastructure to support young people and families to navigate their communities without car journeys will need to connect to programmes such as national standards cycling and nudging campaigns e.g., walk to school weeks.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

In terms of sharing information BCBC has been developing a more centralised role and has the potential through its communications and marketing team to raise awareness of core and partner activities. Progress is being made in this respect. In regard to targeted interventions more direct marketing and promotional approaches will be needed via network groups that are being built.

Where BCBC directly delivers seasonal or holiday programmes the recruitment, training and deployment requirements can be high cost and high maintenance for management and alternative approaches may benefit from being explored across the Council, identifying a workforce that can more flexibly support a broad range of Council led programmes. Similarly, the partnership working with BAVO to invest into community delivery can be strengthened and better supported. Again, workforce development both internally and externally will be a key component but subject to resource being available.

Principles of co-production and working with people with lived experience have been evidenced in the creation and design of opportunities but more can be done going forward, particularly where facilities or venues are being enhanced. Developing a community commitment to securing play sufficiency is relevant in this context.

Our work with schools has always been a strength and connected to partnership working agreements. Continued investment into whole school planning and training, resources such as play pods and working with Play Wales on community access schemes align to the action plan. Similarly, investing in the skills and knowledge of young ambassadors/volunteers to offer peer led activities will remain important. The key challenge will be to ensure the above areas are not disparate and have the ability to be conjoined within overall governance approaches.

Way forward

The play sufficiency assessment has reviewed progress since the previous assessment whilst also recognising the impact of the pandemic. Whilst there are areas of regression, in many instances there has been progress made, and some examples of innovative approaches and development of new partnerships. The focus of this next phase of action planning will need to be on securing sufficient quantity and quality of play by working in partnership. This applies within the local authority as much as it does in terms of external relationships. The assessment has been conducted in association with the various directorates across the Council and also by engaging with children, young people and partners as described within the community engagement section of the assessment. The leadership of this assessment has been provided via the Prevention and Wellbeing service but there is an opportunity to embed play sufficiency more within the policy functions of the local authority and in terms of key strategic partnerships such as Public Service Board and Regional Programme Board where a wellbeing impact can be attributed to this work.

There has been significant additional resource available during 2021-22 via Welsh Government support but the principle of making best use of resources going forward will grow in importance. As the pandemic continues to ease, there will be a need to have greater governance and oversight of play sufficiency and use of core and external investments across the Council.

Whilst there are data sets available they will benefit from being collated into usable formats to support planning internally and externally.

There has been progress made in supporting children and young people with diverse needs but not in all categories and more work can be undertaken to support what is required with people with lived experience. This is set alongside the broader challenge of more universal support being needed to maintain or improve wellbeing.

Again, there has been good progress in identifying the various play places and spaces available across the county borough and the updated LDP will be sighted on deficiencies. Where fixed play infrastructure is to be enhanced the rationale will need to be clearly understood alongside the focus on play value and accessibility. Similarly, a recognition of how play space is suitable for young people up to 17 years of age and the ability to safely navigate their way within communities will be important

The investments into Welsh Government programmes have engaged more third sector partners and community groups in developing and delivering opportunities and this would benefit from being continued. For summer 2022 additional resource will remain available but this may

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

change in subsequent years. The local authority may wish to review its role as a deliverer or facilitator of opportunities going forward. EYCT offer robust support for childcare providers and similar support may benefit from being developed in regard to play sufficiency.

The structured opportunities through core partnerships with Halo Leisure and Awen Cultural Trust offer opportunities to reach more people and diversify the traditional approaches that have been taken, particularly for targeted population groups. There will be a need to ensure youth activities and also opportunities for young adults are duly considered. For the Council, the internal resources to lead such work are small and the workforce retained to directly deliver programmes are seasonal. Alternative models may offer advantages and will need to be reviewed.

There is good evidence of a range of low cost and no cost opportunities, and this is an area being identified within the Wellbeing Plan consultation as important, reducing cost as a barrier to engagement and participation.

There are positive examples of planning and policy in regard to active travel, walking and cycling and schools-based programmes. There is an opportunity however to increase awareness of the links and connections to play sufficiency. Earlier work on play friendly streets with Play Wales has the potential to be restarted.

There has been positive evidence of sharing of information and presenting play in a positive light. Some of this has been seasonal, reflecting the programmes that have been directly operated, but this picture is changing and an opportunity exists to promote throughout the year, including opportunities run by partner organisations or commissioned providers.

As the local authority works more closely with providers and delivery partners the emphasis may need to increase on supporting workforce development. Currently, EYCT will have an external focus but this may not be mirrored in terms of community play development. As previous, the Councils internal play workforce is small and seasonal and high cost to maintain. Where there is targeted work on supporting specific population groups the Council can evidence a more structured approach and investment into staff.

Play sufficiency has an important role in bringing people and communities together as part of broader community covid recovery planning and approaches. This can be in a variety of formats including activity days, roadshows, events and these provide further opportunities to engage with young people and families to inform service development planning or design of places and spaces.

The Council, most importantly, will have a role in providing leadership for play sufficiency and supporting partners to work collaboratively and secure its future. It will be important that the key policy areas do not work in isolation and connect to deliver maximum impact. Whilst good practice can be seen within policy areas the opportunity exists to develop this further by working across policy areas as "One Council" working together with its partners.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Signed: Andrew Thomas.....

Date: 20th June 2022.....



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Actions to be taken to address the issues / shortcomings recorded in the Play Sufficiency Assessment

Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2024

| Matter | Priorities | Targets | Links to other Matters | Resources, | Funding source (new or existing funding streams) |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Statutory Guidance-policy framework | Increase awareness and develop a “One Council” approach to play sufficiency. | Develop a steering mechanism across directorates for play sufficiency. | Matter I | Core | N/A. |
| Matter A: Population | Improve the usable data on children and young people to improve planning for play sufficiency | Bring together the diverse data that supports play sufficiency planning at a) County level b) Local levels (including rural areas) Include review of census data released in 2022 Recognise changes in approach via PLASC and maintain sight of alternative data capture approaches that might emerge | Matter B Matter D Matter H Matter I | Coordination costs Production of data | BCBC earmarked Covid reserve |
| Matter B: | Develop new approaches to engagement and data | Deliver an engagement exercise and capture data regarding children with different cultural backgrounds | Matter A Matter D Matter G | Consultation Exercise | BCBC earmarked Covid reserve |

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| <p>Providing for diverse needs</p> | <p>capture to inform action planning</p> | <p>Further engage young people with disabilities/ additional needs recognising diversity and whole household considerations</p> <p>Review opportunities for BCBC disability focused programmes to better connect young people into community opportunities</p> <p>Continue engagement with Young Carers and Young Adult Carers and influence partners and providers to develop supportive offers</p> <p>BCBC to engage and ensure that the requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for</p> | <p>Matter I</p> | <p>Consultation Exercise</p> <p>BCBC Leisure and Cultural Partnership resources</p> <p>BCBC Leisure and Cultural Partnership resources</p> <p>Consultation Exercise</p> | <p>BCBC earmarked Covid reserve</p> <p>Social Care recovery investment</p> <p>Social Care recovery investment</p> <p>BCBC earmarked Covid reserve</p> |
| <p>Matter C: Space available for children to play</p> | <p>Ensure accessibility is considered to maximise the value of open spaces</p> <p>Consider Play Value in relation to the design, development or</p> | <p>Identify the levels of accessibility at open spaces and the remedial costs to improve accessibility</p> <p>Play Value training/ awareness raising for key BCBC staff and stakeholders. Schedule of play</p> | <p>Matter B Matter F Matter I</p> | <p>Access audits at identified sites Staffing costs</p> <p>Awareness sessions</p> | <p>Use of core resources (following relevant training)</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

| | operation of open spaces | value assessment needs to be established | | | |
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| <p>Matter C: Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces</p> | <p>Play Value and accessibility to be key areas of focus in play space development</p> | <p>Identify the most effective approach to BCBC integrating play value assessment into all refurbishment or new play space development</p> <p>BCBC to identify accessibility needs for play spaces, including those that may be subject to asset transfer</p> <p>Play value and accessibility training developed for key BCBC staff and stakeholders</p> <p>BCBC fixed play investments to include Play Value and accessibility in procurement related specifications (in particular for new developments or significant enhancements)</p> | | <p>Play Value training Support for procurement approaches</p> <p>Play Wales Training and awareness sessions</p> <p>Play Wales Training and awareness sessions</p> <p>Technical support for specification or evaluation</p> | <p>BCBC earmarked Covid reserve (New)</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> |
| <p>Matter D: Supervised provision</p> | <p>Early Years and childcare providers to continue to meet standards</p> | <p>EYCT to utilise WG resources to support providers to gain and retain registered status and related support</p> | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter E Matter F Matter G</p> | <p>WG and core investments</p> | <p>Exiting funding stream</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Multi Activity activities programmes developed to deliver play value and comply with exemption criteria.</p> <p>Ensure quality issues are prioritised when engaging providers to deliver opportunities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mapping of annual activity opportunities and links to local/ national investment streams (e.g., holiday Playworks) ▪ Ensure understanding by providers of requirements and standards ▪ Review whether a more sustainable approach to retaining a play workforce is feasible as opposed to short term seasonal recruitment <p>Review and further develop the partnership approach with BAVO to invest into third sector providers and grow a provider network</p> | <p>Matter I</p> | <p>Coordination staffing costs</p> <p>Review exercise conducted (commissioned)</p> <p>Grant investment review Establish cross sector approach/ platform</p> | <p>Existing core resources</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> <p>Welsh Government investments / coordination (existing)</p> |
| <p>Matter D: Structured recreational activities</p> | <p>Ensure that the Active Bridgend Plan considers Play Sufficiency matters</p> | <p>Include Play Sufficiency matters in consultation and engagement on long term Active Bridgend planning</p> <p>Continue to operate 'low cost' and 'no cost' opportunities in leisure</p> | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter E Matter F Matter G Matter I</p> | <p>Sport Wales annual partnership plan investment</p> <p>Halo management fee</p> | <p>Sport Wales (existing funding stream)</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Ensure the Cultural and Arts agenda contributes to recreational activities for children</p> <p>Ensure youth opportunities provide for children's opportunities for leisure and association</p> | <p>settings for young people with Halo/BCBC</p> <p>Play Sufficiency considered in Awen Trust service development plans</p> <p>Utilise WG investments to support cultural and creative recreational activities</p> <p>Further progress partnership working with Bridgend Youth Matters third sector organisations</p> <p>BCBC youth service provision continued and expanded including Youth Hub at Central Bridgend</p> <p>Targeted youth interventions developed and expanded subject to resources (e.g., Get on Track, Ascent)</p> <p>Vulnerable Hub programmes provided to support children and</p> | | <p>linked to service planning</p> <p>Programme development and delivery costs</p> <p>Provider delivery costs</p> <p>5 additional youth offers and staff plus digital youth engagement</p> <p>Programme development and delivery costs</p> <p>Programme development and delivery costs</p> | <p>Welsh Government All Wales Play Opportunities grants (existing funding stream)</p> <p>All Wales Play Opportunities grants (existing funding stream)</p> <p>BCBC core investment</p> <p>WG Legacy investment (existing funding stream)</p> <p>Social Care recovery funding (New)</p> |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | | young people with disabilities, care experienced children, young carers, safeguarding concerns | | | WG Play Opportunities grants (existing funding streams) |
| Matter E: Charges for play provision | <p>BCBC and partners are better informed to plan opportunities and secure investments for 'low cost' or 'no cost' opportunities</p> <p>BCBC recognise the challenges for venue operators to rebuild services and activities</p> <p>BCBC to recognise that community led opportunities may prove more cost effective and support local activity</p> <p>BCBC to recognise that transport may need inclusion in project planning for targeted programmes</p> | <p>Key data and local evidence based priorities to be shared as 'One Council' and with partners to secure investment</p> <p>Venue costs to be included within grants/ investments into play to support 'low cost' or 'no cost' access</p> <p>BCBC to further progress work with BAVO to support third sector to secure grant or project investment</p> <p>Transport to be integrated where needed for programmes supporting disability, care experienced, young carers, disadvantage</p> | Matter A Matter B Matter C Matter F Matter I | <p>No additional costs to previous</p> <p>All Wales Play Opportunities grants – Summer of Fun, Holiday Playworks</p> <p>BAVO project development support</p> <p>No additional costs. Integrated in other costs presented</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>All Wales Play Opportunities grants – Summer of Fun, Holiday Playworks 300k</p> <p>All Wales Play Opportunities grants (overhead costs) (Existing funding stream)</p> <p>Not applicable</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| <p>Matter F: Access to space/provision Traffic and transport</p> | <p>Continue to encourage children, young people and households to use Active Travel options</p> <p>Work with partners and communities to develop safer and play friendly streets</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deliver next phases of the walking and cycling strategy ▪ Engage with communities and stakeholders to develop safe routes and active use of infrastructure ▪ Deliver WG plans to increase 20 mph zones in residential areas ▪ Work with Play Wales/ PHW on development of play friendly streets/ community ownership of play ▪ Review mechanisms for traffic orders/ temporary road closures and implications | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter C Matter D Matter F Matter H Matter I</p> | <p>Annual plan delivery costs – National standards</p> <p>BCBC to target WG investment for strategic schemes (annual submissions)</p> <p>BCBC to identify costed plan based on WG requirements</p> <p>Play Wales coordination and support. Funding by PHW Resources via AWPOG</p> <p>Staffing resources only.</p> | <p>National standards cycling (WG) (existing funding stream)</p> <p>Welsh Government (existing funding stream)</p> <p>BCBC core and WG investment (existing funding stream)</p> <p>Public Health Wales (existing funding stream)</p> <p>Not applicable</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Recognise the barrier that transport can create for vulnerable groups</p> | <p>Establish greater engagement with young people and young adults with additional needs identifying barriers faced</p> | | <p>No additional costs</p> <p>Integrate focus on transport within engagement exercise. No additional costs</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> |
| <p>Matter F: Access to space/provision Information, publicity and events</p> | <p>Ensure information on other databases is current, post pandemic</p> <p>Improve the profile of Play Sufficiency and key aspects within NBCBC web and media</p> <p>Increase BCBC advocacy for play and impact on wellbeing of young people</p> | <p>Review content on Dewis and update. Work with BAVO and info- engine data to update</p> <p>Re-think how Play Sufficiency can be found on BCBC web and connections to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment and action plan ▪ Other links to services contributions to Play Friendly Bridgend ▪ Support communities and third sector groups to capture and share impact – digital stories, case studies | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter C Matter D Matter E Matter F Matter I</p> | <p>Existing staffing resources – no additional costs</p> <p>Web review and potential design of micro site</p> <p>Resource of cameras, podcast equipment for loan scheme to capture evidence and impact</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserves (New)</p> <p>No identified funding source currently</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | Utilise branding to increase awareness of 'low cost' and 'no cost' opportunities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help promote community and partner opportunities being supported by play investments <p>Connect local opportunities to national media, websites and branding e.g., Summer of Fun, Holiday Playworks, National Free Swimming initiative</p> | | Existing marketing and communications, staffing resources and media platforms | BCBC earmarked reserves (New) |
| Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce | <p>Develop staff retention approaches and related ongoing training</p> <p>Identify overall resources available to support workforce development</p> | <p>Review whether non-seasonal recruitment approaches can be justified and add more value</p> <p>Identify whether commissioned support options offer any advantages over direct provision</p> <p>Links expanded between EYCT, Wellbeing and key partners on the overall resources available to develop workforce</p> | Matter B Matter D Matter H Matter I | <p>Internal review utilising core resources. No additional resource</p> <p>Market test provider interest in delivering services on behalf of BCBC/ TCC's</p> <p>Internal staff collaboration to maximise best use of resources Welsh Govt investment</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> <p>All Wales Play Opportunity grants (existing funding streams)</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Identify the levels of interest amongst the third sector to build capacity or grow services</p> <p>Develop a range of resources to increase knowledge and confidence regarding play sufficiency</p> | <p>Identify resources that can support the development of volunteers and parents</p> <p>Work with BAVO to increase understanding of community levels of interest</p> <p>Develop digital and online resources and make available to play workforce</p> <p>Develop awareness resources and sessions to support decision makers</p> | | <p>Community navigator and network building roles to support community engagement</p> <p>AYPD staff resources linked to Nex Gen web</p> <p>Develop new and additional content</p> | <p>Regional integration funding (New)</p> <p>Prevention and Wellbeing core resources (existing funding stream)</p> |
| <p>Matter H: Community engagement and participation</p> | <p>Continue partnership working with Town and Community Councils</p> | <p>Complete the information sharing that has commenced with TCC's as part of Play sufficiency assessment</p> | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter C Matter F Matter I</p> | <p>Staffing costs as core contribution</p> <p>TCC investments into Active 4 Life programmes</p> | <p>TCC contributions (existing funding stream) BCBC and WG play capital (existing funding stream)</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Bringing population groups together to potentially co-produce and own play opportunities</p> <p>Broader the engagement on Play Sufficiency beyond current levels</p> <p>Synthesise the data and feedback that has been gathered as part of the Play Sufficiency assessment</p> | <p>Establish network groups to support engagement and ongoing dialogue to support planning</p> <p>Utilise the citizens panel mechanism to secure feedback</p> <p>Work with larger partners to support engagement of broader population</p> <p>Collate the various sets of information gathered and include in subsequent reports to cabinet, PSB, third sector</p> | | <p>Network group project support costs</p> <p>Existing BCBC consultation and engagement resources No additional costs</p> <p>Consultancy support for larger scale wellbeing survey evaluation</p> | <p>Welsh Government All Wales Play Opportunities grant (existing funding stream)</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>Play Sufficiency support grant (WG) (existing funding stream)</p> |
| <p>Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas</p> | <p>Raise awareness and understanding of Play Sufficiency and opportunities to offer support</p> | <p>New cabinet member to be appointed as Play Sufficiency champion</p> <p>Reporting on assessment, issues and progress made to cabinet and scrutiny</p> | <p>Matter A Matter B Matter C Matter F Matter H Matter I</p> | <p>Core staffing resources</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> |

Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Connect Play Sufficiency issues and actions into the PSB and Wellbeing Plan</p> <p>Utilise play to support wellbeing of young people in educational settings</p> <p>Develop digital approaches to support partners to deliver Play Sufficiency</p> <p>Recognise the connection of traffic and transport policy to Play Sufficiency</p> <p>Review how Playwork can be better supported within broader early years an childcare support programmes</p> | <p>Data from engagement to be shared with PSB</p> <p>Presentation on assessment, issues and key actions shared with PSB</p> <p>Re-establish partnership working and agreements with Schools</p> <p>Play Sufficiency matters integrated into whole school planning</p> <p>Nex Gen web resources centralised, and access provided for partner use</p> <p>E learning approaches further developed</p> <p>Highlight the contribution that traffic and transport can make in any short term plans linked to the longer term strategy</p> <p>Develop closer working between EYCT and wellbeing in relation to use of investments</p> <p>Increase support for play in holiday childcare settings</p> | | <p>Core staffing resources</p> <p>Project development costs</p> <p>E learning resource development</p> <p>Core staffing resource No additional cost</p> <p>Utilise holiday Playworks to support play in childcare settings</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>Sport Wales partnership agreements</p> <p>BCBC earmarked reserve (New)</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>Holiday Playworks (existing funding stream)</p> |
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Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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| | <p>Reduce risks in the centralised approach to managing 'Family Support' initiative information</p> <p>Corporate position on risk benefit in regard to Play Sufficiency required</p> | <p>Increase awareness amongst BCBC and partners as to how 'Family Support' information is centrally managed/Opportunities to share .</p> <p>Provide details as to how relevant information can be up streamed</p> <p>New risk evaluation matrix to be considered in regard to HSE risk benefit and play guidance</p> | | <p>Core staffing resource No additional cost</p> <p>Core staffing resource No additional cost</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>Not applicable</p> |
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Note-original budgets and funding profiles to be reviewed following inflationary increases and implications to costs/services.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COMBINED MEETING OF SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 3 AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 DECEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER - LEGAL & REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) Present the Committee with the Forward Work Programme (**Appendix A**) for consideration and approval;
- b) Request any specific information the Committee identifies to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) Request the Committee to identify whether there are presently any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 4.3;
- d) Present the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet (**Appendix B**) to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at the previous meetings;
- e) Advise that the Committee's updated Forward Work Programme and Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet will be reported to the next meeting of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC).

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
- **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently

as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution requires Overview and Scrutiny Committees to each propose items for the Forward Work Programme having regard to the Council's Corporate Priorities and Risk Management framework.
- 3.2 The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the additional role of having oversight and coordination of the Forward Work Programmes for the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees to develop and implement an effective overall Forward Work Programme for Scrutiny.

Best Practice / Guidance

- 3.3 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's (CfGS) Good Scrutiny Guide recognises the importance of the Forward Work Programme. In order to 'lead and own the process', it states that Councillors should have ownership of their Committee's work programme, and be involved in developing, monitoring and evaluating it. The Good Scrutiny Guide also states that, in order to make an impact, the scrutiny workload should be coordinated and integrated into corporate processes, to ensure that it contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.
- 3.4 Forward Work Programmes need to be manageable to maximise the effective use of the limited time and resources of Scrutiny Committees. It is not possible to include every topic proposed. Successful scrutiny is about looking at the right topic in the right way and Members need to be selective, while also being able to demonstrate clear arguments for including or excluding topics.
- 3.5 The CfGS guide to effective work programming 'A Cunning Plan?' makes the following reference to the importance of good work programming:

'Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well it can help lay the foundations for targeted, incisive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done badly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any work done is likely to be minimal.'

Forward Work Programme

- 3.6 Following the approval of the schedule of Scrutiny Committee meeting dates at the Annual Meeting of Council on 18th May 2022, the scheduling of standing statutory reports to Scrutiny Committees upon: the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Performance, the Corporate Plan, Budget Monitoring, etc. were mapped to the appropriate timed COSC meeting dates into a draft Forward Work Programme.
- 3.7 The draft Forward Work Programme for each Scrutiny Committee has been prepared using a number of different sources, including:
 - Corporate Risk Assessment;

- Directorate Business Plans;
- Previous Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme report topics / Minutes;
- Committee / Member proposed topics;
- Policy Framework;
- Cabinet Work Programme;
- Discussions with Corporate Directors;
- Performance Team regarding the timing of performance information.

3.8 There are items where there is a statutory duty for Policy Framework documents to be considered by Scrutiny, e.g. the MTFS including draft budget proposals scheduled for consideration in December 2022, following which the COSC will coordinate the conclusions and recommendations from each of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees in a report on the overall strategic overview of Cabinet’s draft Budget proposals to the meeting of Cabinet in February 2023.

3.9 An effective FWP identifies the issues that the Committee wishes to focus on during the year and provides a clear plan. However, at each meeting the Committee will have an opportunity to review this as the Forward Work Programme Update will be a standing item on the Agenda, detailing which items are scheduled for future meetings and be requested to clarify any information to be included in reports and the list of invitees. The FWP will remain flexible and will be reported to each COSC meeting with feedback from each SOSC FWP and any updated information gathered from FWP meetings with Scrutiny Chairs and Corporate Directors.

4. Current situation/proposal

4.1 The Committee approved its Forward Work Programme at its previous meeting.

4.2 The Committee’s Forward Work Programme will also be reported to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, for coordination and oversight of the overall FWP.

Identification of Further Items

4.3 The Committee is reminded of the Criteria Form which Members can use to propose further items for the FWP which the Committee can then consider for prioritisation at a future meeting. The Criteria Form emphasises the need to consider issues such as impact, risk, performance, budget and community perception when identifying topics for investigation and to maximise the impact scrutiny can have on a topic and the outcomes for people. Criteria which can help the Committee come to a decision on whether to include a referred topic, are set out below:

Recommended Criteria for Selecting Scrutiny Topics:

PUBLIC INTEREST: The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;

ABILITY TO CHANGE: Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence, and add value to;

PERFORMANCE: Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council is not performing well;

EXTENT: Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the County Borough; or a large number of the Authority's service users or its population;

REPLICATION: Work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort.

Reasons to Reject Scrutiny Topics:

- The issue is already being addressed / being examined elsewhere and change is imminent.
- The topic would be better addressed elsewhere (and can be referred there).
- Scrutiny involvement would have limited / no impact upon outcomes.
- The topic may be sub-judice or prejudicial.
- The topic is too broad to make a review realistic and needs refining / scoping.
- New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected within the next year.
- The topic area is currently subject to inspection or has recently undergone substantial change / reconfiguration.

Corporate Parenting

- 4.4 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a Local Authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent', therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend.
- 4.5 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how each item they consider affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee assist in these areas.
- 4.6 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.
- 4.7 The Forward Work Programme for this Committee is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 4.8 The Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committee's recommendations at the previous meeting is attached as **Appendix B**.
- 5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**
- 5.1 The work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equality Act 2010 implications

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

- 7.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long-term - The approval of this report will assist in the planning of Scrutiny business in both the short-term and in the long-term on its policies, budget and service delivery.
- Prevention - The early preparation of the Forward Work Programme allows for the advance planning of Scrutiny business where Members are provided an opportunity to influence and improve decisions before they are made by Cabinet.
- Integration - The report supports all the wellbeing objectives.
- Collaboration - Consultation on the content of the Forward Work Programme has taken place with the Corporate Management Board, Heads of Service and Elected Members.
- Involvement - Advanced publication of the Forward Work Programme ensures that the public and stakeholders can view topics that will be discussed in Committee meetings and are provided with the opportunity to engage.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to:
- a) Consider and approve the Forward Work Programme attached as **Appendix A**;
 - b) Identify any specific information the Committee wishes to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
 - c) Identify any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 4.3 of this report;

- d) Note the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at the previous meetings, attached as **Appendix B**;
- e) Note that the Forward Work Programme, Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet and any updates from the Committee will be reported to the next meeting of COSC.

Kelly Watson

Chief Officer – Legal & Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

6 December 2022

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Background documents: None.

**Forward Work Programme
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3:**

APPENDIX A

| <u>Date of Meeting:</u> | <u>Report Topics:</u> |
|--|---|
| Monday 18 July 9.30am | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination - Nomination to the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel - Draft Outline Forward Work Programme |
| Monday 26 September 4pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shared Prosperity Fund - Levelling Up Fund |
| Monday 14 November 4pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A report upon accessible playground equipment in play areas and access to play areas, parks and playing field pavilions, for the disabled community across the County Borough, and the latest Assessment and Action Plan in accordance with Equalities legislation. |
| Monday 12 December 4pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play Sufficiency Assessment |
| Monday 23 January 4pm (Provisional) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23 to 2025-26 and Budget Proposals |
| Monday 20 February 4pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A report upon Porthcawl Regeneration to include Porthcawl Regeneration projects, the PRIF (Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus), Cosy Corner and the Grand Pavilion |
| Monday 17 April 4pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bridgend 2030 Net Zero Carbon Strategy Local - Biodiversity Action Plan move - Future Waste Services Work Streams |
| To be Scheduled | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate Joint Committees Regional Responsibilities |
| To be scheduled | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homelessness Strategy |

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Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| 18 July 2022 | Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination | Councillor Jonathan Pratt was nominated to represent Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 as an invitee to meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting. | Scrutiny / Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy | ACTIONED – Membership of Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee updated and formally reported to Cabinet 19 July 2022. |
| 18 July 2022 | Nomination to the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel | Councillor Colin Davies was nominated to sit on the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel. | Scrutiny | ACTIONED – Membership of Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel updated and initial Briefing session arrangements underway. |
| 18 July 2022 | Forward Work Programme Update | The Committee requested the following representatives be invited for the following reports scheduled for the September meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the Shared Prosperity Fund report, the appropriate lead Officers. - For the Levelling Up Fund report, the appropriate lead Officers and a representative of Awen Cultural Trust, as management of the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl. | Scrutiny | ACTIONED – Requested Invitees have been invited to attend the September meeting of the Committee. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee Recommended that concern is expressed over the risks involved of both insufficient funds to complete the project in addition to achieving the project proposals within the allocated time. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee Recommended that further concern is expressed regarding the lack of resources and expertise within the Directorate and its ability to cope with the additional work associated with the project. Members did not agree that it was appropriate to transfer staff from other roles and projects as this would be counterproductive. The Committee also noted that the landscape for Local Authorities applying for funding is changing with timescales being very limited and criteria issued at a late stage in the process, meaning the Authority has a narrow timeframe to develop and formalise substantial bids. The Committee therefore recommended that priority needs to be given to resources within the Communities directorate to ensure that not only is it able to successfully take forward this project, but to ensure that the infrastructures are in place to enable the | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
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| | | <p>Authority to be best placed to apply and make the most of any future funding opportunities. As well as a strategic plan being developed, Members recommend that potential projects underneath this be drafted so that when the opportunity arises, they already have the basis for the application.</p> | | |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | <p>The Committee Recommended that strong concerns are expressed over the poor return that Bridgend County Borough had received in their allocation from the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and the unfairness around the funding mechanism behind this. The Committee therefore agreed to write directly to those within the UK Government responsible for the SPF to highlight the issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The fact that the allocation does not take into account that Bridgend is one of the fastest growing areas in Wales; b) The limited time the Authority has had to both put together proposals and then to utilise the fund and achieve its aims, is unreasonable and potentially puts the project and public funds at risk. <p>The Committee requested that this letter be copied to both local MPs; Dr Jamie Wallis and Chris Elmore.</p> | Scrutiny / Chair of SOSC 3 | Scrutiny requested contact details for the letter and will liaise with Chair of SOSC 3. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|--|--|
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee requested a copy of any presentation made to the Town and Community Council Forum on Bridgend's Local Investment Plan proposals. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee requested further information on how claims will be processed by RCT as the Lead Authority as well as detail on the reporting and accountability process. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sept 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee requested further detail on the project proposals when available including breakdowns of the funding within each proposal. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|--|--|
| 26 Sep 2022 | Shared Prosperity Fund | The Committee requested clarification as to whether there would be clawback on the funds should the outputs as set out in the proposals, not be achieved. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager – Economy, Natural Resources & Sustainability | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Levelling Up Fund | The Committee Recommended similarly to the discussions around the SPF, concern is again expressed over the tight timescales surrounding the applications for the Levelling Up Fund as well as the timescales to complete the projects, particularly if there was no extension allowed. The Penprysg Railway Bridge was particularly at risk due to the level of work that this would involve to complete. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager Planning & Development Services | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Levelling Up Fund | The Committee Recommended that they strongly supported the work around alternative or temporary arrangements and locations during the interim period of the Grand Pavilion in Porthcawl being closed. Particular emphasis, however, was placed on making sure Porthcawl would not lose footfall and revenue. Members | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager Strategic Regeneration | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
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| | | <p>requested feedback on these plans and mitigating measures when available but furthermore recommended that as part of this work, a feasibility study be undertaken on the potential for a temporary facility being put in place in Porthcawl whilst the Pavilion is closed. The proposal was made to explore the option of utilising the Section 106 aspect of the development contract in relation to mitigate the impact of the building closure on the community.</p> | | |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Levelling Up Fund | <p>The Committee requested the timeframe for the completion of the Maesteg Town Hall project. Concerns were raised about whether the Town Hall would be completed before the Grand Pavilion closed for redevelopment. Members also requested information on what this meant for Awen revenue.</p> | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager Strategic Regeneration | <p>Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.</p> |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Levelling Up Fund | <p>The Committee requested Further information (including a possible feasibility study requested in the above recommendations) on any proposed temporary facility and alternative arrangements whilst the Pavilion is closed.</p> | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager Strategic Regeneration | <p>Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.</p> |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
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| 26 Sep 2022 | Levelling Up Fund | Concerns were expressed regarding the Penprysg Railway Bridge around funding, completion and the potential impact of heavy traffic in the area. The Committee requested a briefing paper once the project had been approved, illustrating the plans that were to be put in place to monitor and mitigate the impact of traffic on both sides of the proposed bridge. On the subject of parking in Porthcawl linked to redevelopment projects such as the Grand Pavilion and the aim to increase footfall in the area, the Committee were advised of a Parking study that was currently taking place in Porthcawl as part of its Regeneration and Placemaking plans. The Committee requested that they be involved in the development of a Strategic Transport Plan for Porthcawl and that this be added to the Committee's FWP. | Scrutiny / Corporate Director, Communities / Group Manager Planning & Development Services | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 26 Sep 2022 | Forward Work Programme Update | The Committee: - expressed concern that taxis are only permitted to use the one DVSA accredited MOT station appointed by BCBC and that if the vehicle fails, the fixing work cannot be done there so the vehicle has to be booked in to another garage to get the fixing work | Scrutiny / Licensing Committee | ACTIONED – referred to Chair of Licensing Committee and Bridgend's Licensing Officer. Acknowledgement received that a paper would be brought to the Licensing Committee on this topic. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
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| | | <p>completed, then rebooked in to the permitted MOT station for an additional fee and a further test, which can result in taxi's being off the road for longer, higher costs and a significant loss of earnings. The garage is also very busy with testing of South Wales Police and BCBC vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - referred to other Local Authorities, e.g. Cardiff allowing the use of any DVSA accredited MOT station which makes things easier for operators and fairer for all DVSA registered MOT stations. - expressed concern about the potential further impact this may be having locally regarding the shortness of availability of taxis in the County Borough generally and particularly later at night. - queried how performance / reliability of taxi's was monitored through licence renewals or otherwise and how the Authority reviews cancellations, late night cancellations, availability after hours and what is being done to enable improvement and a reliable taxi fleet. <p>The Committee referred the topic to the Licensing Committee for consideration and action.</p> | | |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
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| 14 Nov 2022 | Housing Position Statement Report | That the Committee write to The Group Manager Planning and Development Services and ask how to ensure better consultation between Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and housing developers regarding the types and corresponding numbers of accommodation being built and the prioritisation for properties for RSLs | Scrutiny / Group Manager – Development | Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided. |
| 14 Nov 2022 | Housing Position Statement Report | The Committee further requested information on how many veterans/ex-service personnel have presented homeless to the Authority and requiring accommodation. | Housing Solution Manager | ACTIONED: response and information circulated 6 December 2022. |
| 14 Nov 2022 | Housing Position Statement Report | The Committee requested information from Development Control regarding previous social housing developments and how many social housing units had been diminished in return for 106 monies. | Scrutiny / Head of Partnerships Services | Information request circulated requesting response - to be provided. |

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Responsibility | Outcome |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 14 Nov 2022 | Housing Position Statement Report | The Committee requested that the Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) be asked if they could possibly provide information about the availability of the Physical Adaptation Grant (PAG) and the impact it has on housing waiting lists for people with disabilities or awaiting Disabled Facilities Grants. | Scrutiny / Head of Partnerships Services | Information request circulated requesting response - to be provided. |