

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Bridgend County Borough Council

Name of responsible officer: Andrew Thomas

Job title: Group Manager – Sport, Play and Active Wellbeing

Date of completion: 30 March 2016

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 31st March 2016



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.

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

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

Context

Bridgend County Borough Council has pro-actively made use of the period between the initial play sufficiency assessment and subsequent process of re assessment to engage with local citizens, particularly children and young people. This has been in the format of annual surveys that have allowed trends to be analysed, targeted consultation with population groups (e.g. gender, disability) and through the Citizens Panel network on awareness of play sufficiency matters and its purpose.

The initial evaluation by Welsh Government recognized that engaging with the community and linking play policy to other policy areas was a work in progress.

The importance of using qualitative data collection was identified as a good research initiative to improve policies and connections to play sufficiency and this has been continued. The local authorities' action plan had been identified as consistent and with targets, milestones and financial needs being reported. Throughout this assessment it has been possible to review progress against the action plan targets and also to determine whether targets remain relevant. The availability of resources has consistently been identified as a potential barrier to progression but the additional investment provided by Welsh Government has supported the implementation of a number of initiatives. This however is set against ongoing budget reductions in service areas across the corporate body and this can reduce the pace of progress. Despite the economic position there has been a growth in identified support for play sufficiency from additional service areas within the local authority and a range of community partners

The methodology used to conduct the play sufficiency assessment has been as follows:-

The responsible Director for Bridgend County Borough is the Corporate Director for Social Services and Wellbeing although play sufficiency transcends directorate boundaries and there is a focus on this assessment via the Corporate Directors of Communities and also Education and Transformation Services.

The responsible officer for producing the assessment and action plan has been the Group Manager for Sport, Play and Active Wellbeing building on experience and knowledge gained via the initial assessment and supported by other team members to strengthen the internal resource to support play sufficiency.

A working group and task and finish approach has been applied allocating responsibility for specific areas of assessment and including play development, parks and playing fields, youth support services, highways and transportation, marketing and leisure services.

The local authority is conducting a review of its work with the third sector and facilitated by WCVA. The play sufficiency assessment and related opportunities have been explored within this setting in relation to youth activities.

The importance of the matters relating to the play sufficiency assessment have been identified within the Single Integrated Plan- Bridgend County Together 2013-2018

Changes to the governance structure within the Local Service Board have resulted in play sufficiency matters being reported to the Healthy Board structure. A process of annual review will support scrutiny of the play sufficiency action plans. Subsequently the forthcoming development of the Public Service Board will create changes to current practice.

The Cabinet member for Children's services will remain as the champion for the Play Sufficiency Duty and support the consideration of play sufficiency matters when corporate policy and strategy are being developed.

It is intended that the working group will evolve into the steering group for this next phase of the play sufficiency duty including third sector representation. Since the conclusion of Big Lottery investment there is reduced working with the regional play provider and a number of third sector partners have been affected by reduced external funding from a range of sources.

In this sense, the assessment and action plan recognises the need to redevelop the governance of play sufficiency and engagement of a broad range of partners to continue the growth of understanding of the duty and the value of play.

Partnership working

Key partners involved in the consultation include:-

- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- Special Schools
- BAVO
- Halo Leisure

- Barnardo's
- Y Bont
- Citizens Panel members
- Town and Community council
- Groundwork (Sustainable Play)
- Sports Clubs and Associations
- Communities First
- Sport Wales
- Awen Cultural Trust
- Clybiau Plant Cymru
- BCBC Departments
- Local Service Board

The following partnerships have been involved in supporting the development of the Play Sufficiency assessment and contributing to increasing the quantity and quality of play within Bridgend County Borough :-

-Town and community Councils – Funded a series of free open access play programmes that supported consultation with young people

-Barnardo's – Supported play opportunities for disabled young people and families and impact of play on Families First indicators

-BAVO promoted the consultation and opportunity to contribute to the assessment and action plan via third sector groups

-Primary schools – participated in year 6 strata consultation and also National School Sport Survey

-Secondary Schools – Participated in the year 9 strata consultation and also National School Sport Survey

-Citizens panel network – provided feedback on awareness of play sufficiency and the importance /value of play

-Special Schools- participated in consultation of disabled children and young people

-Bridgend Disabled Childrens team – a review conducted on after school play opportunities for disabled children and options appraisal

-Communities First Cluster supported play programmes supporting engagement with children and families from areas of deprivation

-Halo Leisure- Delivery of play opportunities and inclusion in forward planning for services

-Y Bont Childrens centre Review of plans and contribution at network meetings

- Clybiau Plant Cymru – Review of plans and contribution at network meetings
- BCBC highways and transportation - conducting the Active Travel consultation – including consulting with children and young people during summer play provision
- BCBC Childrens services – conducting the childcare assessment
- Sport Wales – review of plans and contribution at network meetings
- Community Clubs and associations – postal survey on participation, opportunities and barriers to development
- Groundwork – meetings with officers, sharing progress data on sustainable play and support for school programmes
- Awen cultural Trust Evolving discussions on expanding arts and cultural opportunities
- Local Service Board – Scrutiny of draft assessment and action plan

Partners have been provided with a range of opportunities for engaging and contributing to the play sufficiency assessment and action plan including face to face, via network meetings, through qualitative data surveys or via postal or electronic feedback. As indicated within the context section this has been both an ongoing process but also bespoke to the draft assessment and action plan. The work stream approach has allowed the lead officer to review the available evidence and consult with depth, if required, on specific matters.

Consultation and participation

This section should describe how the Local Authority has:

- Obtained the views of children with regards to the play opportunities they currently access, how they would like the community to better support them to play and what barriers stop them from playing
- Obtained the views on play provision from parents, families and other stakeholders
- Analysed the information and have used it to inform future plans

Consultation and participation

This is considered an area of strength for Bridgend that was identified by Welsh Government following the initial play sufficiency assessment and this approach has continued including the following

- Year 6 strata survey (2014) secured responses from 1176 primary school children
- Year 9 Strata survey (2015) secured responses from 1237 secondary school children
- Disabled children survey (2014) secured responses from 116 disabled young people at Heronsbridge school
- Communities First (2015) have secured parental/guardian feedback from 47 households in disadvantaged communities
- The Play your part (2015) survey secured 295 responses from participants at summer play programmes across the county borough
- The National School sport Survey of Sport Wales (2015) achieved a representative sample in Bridgend with 2135 primary

school respondents and 3036 secondary school respondents

The Families First consultation with the families of disabled young people secured 31 responses to date

The Citizens Panel consultation 2012 secured responses on public awareness and value placed on play sufficiency, additional questions have been included for forthcoming consultations during 2016

Active Travel (2015) this consultation has included work with 209 children and young people

Ageing Well 2015 This consultation of older people has identified the need for improved multi generational relationships securing 296 responses

The approach taken by Bridgend supports partners to plan and understand need at a locality level as opposed to a County Borough aggregate of data. It also allows for issues by population groups based on gender, disability, deprivation etc. to be understood. Bridgend is rich in data that can support play sufficiency assessment and this is applied to the matters of the play sufficiency duty. It has been possible to identify remaining data gaps.

Maximising resources

Within the current economic climate and reductions in resource in most areas of the public sector the need for innovative and collaborative approaches is increasing in importance. This is as applicable to play sufficiency as other areas of service. Within Bridgend the following developments have been progressing and can be seen as positive indicators of partner contribution to play sufficiency:-

There has been a commitment to invest in play opportunities by Communities First and a focus on the development of sustainable opportunities within disadvantaged communities,. this has commenced in 2015

The transportation and highways service of BCBC now commissions members of the Sport, Play and Active Wellbeing service to promote active travel and cycling to children and young people

The Children's Service department are supporting members of the play development team to deliver accredited play training to internal and external partners. BCBC has previously supported gaining play trainer status for internal staff for a sustainable approach to workforce development.

The Families First programme via Barnardo's has been supporting access to play for disabled young people but reduced funding will promote a review of options including integrated opportunities where appropriate.

Partnership working with Awen Cultural Trust has seen family based play activity and programmes of learning delivered including story walks and play2learn.

Town and Community Councils have maintained their contribution to the provision of free school holiday play programmes across the

County Borough

The progressive roll out of play and activity pods to primary schools has been supported via Welsh Government play funding and training of staff promotes ongoing sustainable play programmes.

The local authority has identified Community Asset Transfer as a possible action in appropriate cases and such consideration might include assets relating to play sufficiency and involve community and third sector engagement

School modernisation and 21st Century Schools planning continues to recognise the value of community use of assets created and the needs of communities being integrated in design and operational plans. The expanded use of school facilities will contribute to the Play Sufficiency Action Plan.

The local sport plan includes national school sport programmes of Sport Wales but also focuses on Fundamentals, Active Families, gender, disability and disadvantage in an attempt to redress imbalance in participation.

The Lottery funded community chest scheme supports community groups to develop engaging, lower level activities with an emphasis on fun and development of confidence.

Bridgend has developed a training and mentoring resource to operate its Family Active Zone programmes in early years settings. This has been deemed sector leading by Estyn and Public Health Wales has provided support to work with Flying Start Co Ordinators

The leisure management contract with Halo Leisure considers play sufficiency within annual service development planning and there is a contractual focus on children and young people and meeting their needs

The National Free Swimming initiative for under 16s is available at local swimming pools and includes a session at each site where whole families can swim free

The core staffing and revenue budget for play development within BCBC remains small but the afore mentioned initiatives are indicative of a growing commitment across the organisation to invest in the outcomes that play can deliver. The budgets are not pooled as a single cost centre but there is evidence of shared investment into programmes linked to agreed development plans

There is evidence of partners identifying how play sufficiency is something that contributes to and cross cuts broad areas of policy and

that collaborative approaches can be cost effective.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and the Single Integrated Plan

This section should identify how the Play Sufficiency Assessments form part of the local needs assessment and to what extent the Play

Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan are integrated into the planning, implementation and review of the Single Integrated Plan.

The Bridgend Play Sufficiency assessment and action plan have been identified within the single integrated plan of the local service board – Bridgend County Together 2013-2018

The initial assessment and action plan were reported to the local service board and also achieved approval by Cabinet

The second phase of the assessment and action planning provides the opportunity to provide an update on progress and receive challenge via the Healthy Board sub group

It provides the opportunity to highlight how play sufficiency can cross cut the issues being reviewed at local service board and ensure that duty is appropriately recognised at this level

The timing of the next phase of the single integrated plan ie 2017-18 will provide further opportunities to contribute to the local needs assessment and ensure the integration of play sufficiency within next phase plans

The progress of the play sufficiency action plans can be reported on an annual basis. The second assessment and action plan has been reported to the local service board (March 2016). Discussions have also taken place with partnership co ordinators on the need to include play sufficiency recognition within the developing public service board and the identified actions to contribute to local needs assessment and subsequent plans.

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

Lead Director Susan Cooper

Corporate Director –Social Services and Wellbeing

Lead Elected Member

Councillor Huw David

Cabinet member for Children’s services and deputy leader

The Play Steering and Monitoring group – a review of position

The growth in support for play sufficiency by some stakeholders and the subsequent challenges now being faced by others has required review and a new model of operating determined. The group had worked well during the first two years but developed a reduced level of attendance and commitment during year three. This may have related to declining levels of financial support and a reduced focus on play sufficiency. It is also representative of the broader pace of change being faced by organisations. The following challenges will be addressed within the next phase of implementation

Setting the annual schedule in advance

Developing a series of annual performance measures

Developing a more participative style for the group

Developing a focus on making the best use of resources

Identifying focus points for the group/themes of interest

Diversifying the group membership

For this second phase there is a need to transform this group from one that receives information to one that drives the play sufficiency agenda internally and externally. There is an identified need to quantify the progress that is being made and promote a genuine collaboration between partners and sectors

Play steering group and monitoring group representation

Corporate Director

Cabinet Member

BCBC Communities

BCBC Sport play and active wellbeing

BCBC Childrens services

Communities First

Clybiau plant Cymru

Ybont

BAVO

Groundwork

Halo Leisure

Urdd

DYS Bridgend

This structure is indicative and partner commitment needs to be confirmed before finalisation

Criteria

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

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

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

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

RAG status

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

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

The Shortfall column: should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully 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 General Comments: for each matter should give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance.

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

Matter A: Population

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

RAG Status

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)	green		PLASC data		Improve the data on disabled children and young people
There is up to date data for ages:					
0-3			PLASC Data		
4-7			PLASC Data		
8-12			PLASC Data		
13-15			PLASC Data		
16-17			PLASC Data		
There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group			PLASC Data		
There is up to date information regarding the			PLASC Data		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend Welsh medium schools			PLASC Data		
There is up to date information regarding other recorded cultural factors, including other language, and gypsy traveller children			PLASC Data		

General Comments: Population Measures

The local authority is improving its use and sharing of relevant data that can support better planning and securing or targeting of resources. The need for centralisation of a range of data has emerged from the third sector review. There is emerging evidence of data being used to plan at a locality level (e.g. Llynfi 20 network) and also the use of larger data sets to support local planning (e.g. Wellbeing outcomes and schools) The local authority is improving its understanding of the diversity of needs by geographical area, setting and population groups by linking quantitative data to broader qualitative research. There is a need to provide this information in user friendly formats that support use of the data by partners. Bridgend is building a strong base of data that supports use of the data by partners. Bridgend is building a strong base of data on disability and has partnership working with Urdd and Menter Bro Ogwr to support Welsh medium activity planning.

Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs

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

RAG Status:

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable play programmes being developed by Groundwork School holiday programmes supported by Town and Community Councils Early Years and family Opportunities being supported by Community First Data is collected by postcode in many research programmes or by locality (e.g. 	There is a need to build ownership of play in isolated areas and capability of local people and groups	Engage and support residents to develop a sustainable approach to play in rural areas

			<p>Strata Survey, play your part survey)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding allocations to community groups and projects monitored e.g. Community Chest <p>Play your Part Strata C 1st Audit data Summer Play report</p>		<p>Work with partners to build data to compare engagement</p> <p>Share available data with partners and use to support planning</p>
<p>The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Medium activities supported by Menter Bro Ogwr Development Programmes with Urdd Gobaith Cymru Development of Welsh language activity programmes Welsh medium activities in a community setting eg learn to swim Comparative data on Welsh medium pupils available in some instances Menter Reports Urdd Reports YGG Llangynwyd report 	<p>Improved data needed for comparison on Welsh Speaking children</p>	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCBC Childcare Team offers support to all Welsh Early years childcare provision • TheCCT Development Officer in partnership with Mudiad Meithrin work towards the development of new Cylchoedd Meithrin as identified by MM, where play is a key component to the care provided. • Halo Welsh Medium 		
The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for				Phased approach to data collection put in place during 2017	
The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KKP Survey of disabled young people • ‘The Box’ educational resource for schools • Play your part survey responses (disabled Young people) • Families First participation reports • Discovery Days report (Summer 2015) 	<p>Details on identified needs are improving but this is a challenge to provide for more complex needs</p> <p>Integrated opportunities will not meet the needs of certain disabilities</p>	Review the needs and opportunities of disabled children and young people needing additional support

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls 4 action plan and update report • Survey responses – parents/Guardians on Discovery programmes • “In Sport” accreditations for clubs and BCBC • “Piece of the Action” web information diverse needs 		
<p>Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage container and resources supported by Welsh Government investment • Play pods with equipment and training for local schools • Family Active Zone training and resources being delivered to partners/targeted communities • Training programmes for play being supported by partners 	<p>There is a shortage of play projects and providers generally to drive play development</p> <p>Whilst new projects and providers are being developed, others are becoming less active or ceasing provision</p>	<p>Grow the number of projects and providers using play and increase knowledge of inclusion</p>

			<p>(e.g. childcare, communities first)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance packs for schools and Town and Community Councils via play Wales available • Resources to support Balanceability available 		
<p>There is a well known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiered programmes have developed via Families First and Disabled Childrens team based on 4 tiers of need and assessment • Some disabled provision is linked to short breaks and respite assessment processes • In Sport accredited Community groups supporting disability specific opportunities • Leisure facility based 	<p>Potential for certain children and their needs to be caught between categories of need</p> <p>Need to improve clarity of mechanisms used for parents and carers whilst promoting local opportunities more broadly</p>	<p>Determine the mechanism for assessing play need and relate to play opportunities for more complex needs</p>

			<p>disability specific opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral system in place for disability after school play opportunities and “all about me” review process • Referral system in place for discovery days programmes linked to disabled childrens team 		
Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property assessments of play space • Parc Derwen Spec developed in partnership • Welsh Government investment – accessible equipment • Bryngarw House and DDA investment • Play Value assessments by play trainer 	Access audits have been focused on infrastructure and facility design	Apply access audits to services, projects and programmes
Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites	Not applicable	Not Applicable	Bridgend doesn't have any gypsy traveller sites		

<p>The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young carers consultation report • Families first and Action for Children Programmes • Community Chest investment into young carers • Sports Plan initiatives including young carers • Halo service development plan including young carers • Young Carers programme participation • Survey data identifying caring responsibilities of participants 	<p>Follow on research required to build on initial data gathered</p>	<p>Additional information to inform action plan for young carers</p>
<p>The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for</p>				<p>This is an area where identified good practice may help progress</p>	<p>Review National LGB data and apply to local provision</p>
<p>The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgend Community Transport has achieved licence (public service) required to secure investment • Volunteer driver 	<p>Most provision tends to be centralised There is an ability to connect those with lower needs to doorstep and integrated opportunities</p>	<p>Promote integrated opportunities to disabled young people with less</p>

			<p>scheme supports disabled children’s team to transport, children and young people to play programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport provided for visits during holiday play schemes • After school programme scheduled to minimise transport requirements • Free parking for blue badge holders retained at leisure facilities <p>Active travel consultation</p>		<p>complex needs</p> <p>Increase the volume and range of locally available opportunities</p>
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General Comments: Providing for Diverse Needs

Through it’s collection of data and related evaluation, BCBC has identified the diversity of need in relation to play sufficiency based on geographical and population differences. The need to use this data to highlight need and the value of play sufficiency is identified within the action plan.

There has been a growth in play opportunities in rural and semi rural communities and stronger engagement with communities. This has been supported by Communities First investment. The roll out of initiatives such as mini play4life has achieved success and is included in future plans. There has been collaborative working with schools in these catchments supported by the Groundwork sustainable Play Programme. The focus will be on developing community ownership of play and building capacity

Through partnership working (Halo, Menter Bro Ogwr, Urdd) there is a growing and sustainable approach to Welsh Medium opportunities and a range of community based activities has developed. There will be a focus on developing activity leadership programmes and sustainable community based opportunities and groups also. Improved data on primary school children in Welsh Medium schools will be a target

Bridgend has not made progress on identifying the play requirements of children from different cultural backgrounds. The size of this population is potentially small but nonetheless important and a phased approach to data collection will be put in place during 2017

Despite changes in the resources available for disabled children (mainly via Families First) there is progress on embedding the play needs of disabled young people in short breaks and respite planning whilst also growing integrated opportunities in a community setting. An educational resource is being developed and training resources for parents and partner organisations being created. Bridgend has gathered a range of data on disabled young people that is supporting planning and improving management information also.

Supported by Welsh Government investment a range of resources are now in place to support inclusion. This has strengthened the partnership working with schools and community partners also
Resources of information have been purchased for issue to key partners. The Play pods development at schools have been successful and a planned area for growth. A new enabling approach is being developed whereby packages of training and resources are provided to partners (FAZ)

BCBC through its approach to the Families First programme has developed a mechanism that identifies four tiers of need and this is being applied to the need for integrated or segregated opportunities. There are some issues with this approach in aligning the universal need for accessible play with other dimensions of personal need. Referral mechanisms are in place where segregated opportunities are available (e.g. after school club, holiday schemes) although demand usually outweighs supply. Initiatives to support parents and guardians to develop and maintain opportunities are in progress

A range of quantitative and qualitative audits are in place. The assessments by the property department have been supplemented by qualitative play value assessments by play specialists. There is evidence of this combined approach being taken forward when new facilities are being planned and developed. In addition to infrastructure, frameworks such as In Sport have been used to assess the inclusivity of community groups for disability

Bridgend does not have any gypsy traveller sites

Bridgend has consulted with a number of young carers and commenced activity programmes in partnership with local agencies. The focus on young carers has been integrated progressively within a number of internal and external plans and there is evidence of securing investment in leisure access. The surveys conducted by Bridgend have started to monitor those expressing their caring responsibilities

There has been no progress in relation to LGB children and the understanding of play needs although some examples of planning for gender identity in service provision have been recorded

Whilst there may be room for improvement in regard to traffic, transport, and disabled children. Bridgend has an established volunteer driver programme and an emerging community transport programme. An area of focus will be the development of opportunities at locality level that reduce transport needs particularly for those with less complex needs.

Further research will be conducted on the impact of transport and other related barriers

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.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			natural green space) for all new housing developments.		
The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing			My Greenspace project Community nature reserves Play value assessments KKP accessible natural greenspace study 2012	A programme of periodic updating to be identified Schedule of review of assessment and collation of data	Review benefits of new approaches to hazard removal in public spaces
The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			Property service records Specific project based information e.g. Parc Derwen and Bryngarw House DDA Standards have been adopted from Fields in Trust for those open space typologies that are covered by these standards. Elsewhere appropriate standards have been utilised. The Local Development Plan (policy COM11)	Evidence of method being developed but more applied to formal play spaces currently Property documents have assessed technical standards and provided ratings To be progressed on conclusion of Play Value assessments 2017/19 Standards adopted from the Fields in Trust are not specific to the County Borough of Bridgend and have not been based on a full	Develop partnership to assist hazard identification Identify and promote potential play assets that might be appropriate for CAT Continue to use the FIT standard as a basis for assessment.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			produced by the Local Authority sets out the Council's adopted open space standards:	open space assessment as detailed in TAN 16.	
The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			UDP and links	Integrate play value into considerations of supplementary planning guidance relating to open space. Continue with review process and recognition of play in supplementary planning guidance	
The Local Authority undertakes and actions Play Space assessments which include actions to make public space clear from hazards			New parks inspection and responsive work regime established supporting a more proactive approach. Parks inspection records and works reports. Council reporting on use of parks/open spaces	Partnerships with organisations and general public to support monitoring and review Develop more collaborative working with users of open space and link to asset management	Regular cascading of the positive outcomes from the planning process in terms of funding for play provision, new equipment and open space.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play			Community asset transfer framework created by local authority CAT officer appointed to support community groups Space Saviours programme supported with Groundwork Third Sector review programme established My Greenspaces In instances where sites are declared surplus, the possible end uses are assessed prior to disposal.	The potential of such assets to play sufficiency can be more broadly understood The focus of partners on play assets as part of CAT needs to be increased Continue co-ordinated approach between relevant Council departments.	

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces					
Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance			UDP updated baseline of assets in progress Parks asset list of directly controlled facilities Open space audits		Continue to update the open space audits.
The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance			70% of sites assessed to date	Completion of play value assessments during 2016/17	Remaining play value assessment to be completed
The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			Property assessment records Where new developments and improvements take place access audits are an integral part of the process	Need to engage with planning and developers on potential design considerations	Case study produced of Parc Derwen and checklist for new project considerations
The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard			Under development – review of supplementary planning guidance	In considering the future provision of all types of play areas within the County Borough of Bridgend the FIT standards detailed in LDP Policy COM11 will continue to form the basis of the Council's determinations.	Continue to use the FIT standard as a basis for assessment

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			Integrated play value assessment documentation		Work with partners to action play priority areas and install signage
The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds			BCBC cabinet report		
The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community			Signs are no longer erected but no removals actioned Limited number of signs identified		
The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community			Signs have been purchased in preparation for next phase of installation	Venues and criteria to be developed at a locality level	
The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made			UDP Open space protected in the LDP. Outputs from the Open Space Assessment inform decisions on land disposals (i.e. in considering Planning Applications and the	Open space assessment / audits to be regularly updated.	
					Continue to identify actual and future land use provision within the Local Development Plan.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			production of site specific Development Briefs).		
The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields			UDP statutory consultation is conducted via the Planning Application process.	Local Development Plan preparation incorporated public consultation exercises at key stages of the process (i.e. the identification of land for development or safeguarding its existing use.	

Other Comments on Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

- The parks and playing field service maintains records of outdoor unstaffed designated play space in relation to directly controlled facilities
- The baseline of related assets is being reviewed as part of the update of the UDP which is in progress
- Supported by Welsh Government the local authority had deployed a play trainer to conduct play value assessments at approximately 70% of locations. There will be a need to share such assessments with partners and increase understanding of play value
- The physical accessibility of play space has been assessed within property audits although there is evidence of more scrutiny in relation to development of new facilities or enhancement of existing
- The local authority has invested in inclusive equipment via Welsh Government (Bryngarw) and also supported design of new developments (Parc Dderwen) supported by Play Wales
- In terms of fixed play provision standards are emerging
- A new inspection and repair regime introduced by the parks and playing fields service has improved levels of responsiveness to

issues identified

- The introduction of smoke free playgrounds has been approved by Cabinet during the previous phase of the action plan
- Play priority signs have been purchased and will be allocated to strategic partners for installation during 2016/17
- The UDP has appropriate provision for the protection of playing fields during land disposal consideration

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.	

Play work provision

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			Holiday Play4life Mini play4life Family Active Zones Community Schemes Discovery days	Unknown scope in wider community	Progressively increase data on externally provided play provision
The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			The local authority provides limited play provision directly BCBC childcare team supported activity through out of school childcare grants	Play does not have a third sector network to support play opportunities in comparison to other youth activities	Maintain existing play provision within available resources and support programme development by community partners

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance			Guidance is provided where appropriate to partners	The approach is ad hoc and requires partners to be proactive and request support	Formalise the range of support available and promote to partners
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Direct provision is limited to Breakfast and after school clubs, Play4life and discovery days	These are mainly sessional/short term seasonal activities Maintaining standards can be resource intensive Additional supported placements for children funded by WG or LA Grant support is only available to settings who are CSSIW registered	Review options for commissioning and partnering delivery of staffed play provision Review the implication of new competency and registration standards as to what BCBC can support
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Menter Bro Ogwr Families First Halo Contract Play4life schemes Discovery schemes	New regulatory criteria will influence the ability to maintain previous levels of provision	Develop a voluntary code of good practice and promote to the limited provider network
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Groundwork wales Programme Halo contract Awen trust	New regulatory criteria may influence the ability to support partners or develop a focus on broader recreation, arts etc	BCBC Childcare Officers have undergone training in the implementation of

<p>services set out under Core Aim 4 for sport, leisure and culture</p>			<p>people “hooked on sport” Sport Plan recognised as contributor to active wellbeing National school sport programme participation exceeding targets Play and fundamental programmes integrated into sport plan Improved attainment in swimming ability Halo service development plan identifies play sufficiency and support for increasing opportunities Leadership pathway recognised by Estyn</p>	<p>Local authority youth services significantly reduced Sport Plan is reliant on Sport Wales investment in many areas Cultural Trust establishes opportunities to engage with play sufficiency but new entity Greater expectations of third sector for services and assets</p>	<p>Sport review at local level -Develop an action plan with the new Awen cultural trust -Include universal youth opportunities within third sector review programme with WCVA -Maintain synergy between Halo service development plan and Play Sufficiency Identify opportunities for collaborative working including cross boundary Continue focus on population groups with lower participation rates eg disability disadvantaged girls Further develop whole household approaches to play and activity Increasing pressure on community groups requires support</p>
<p>The local “Creating an Active Wales” plan is increasing play and recreational activities for children</p>			<p>Sport Wales review documents Sport Plan</p>	<p>The Sport Wales review of community sport may influence the availability of focus of resources going forward</p>	
<p>Local Authority Partnership Agreements</p>			<p>Sport Plan inc LAPA Annual performance</p>	<p>Junior free swim rates are lower overall but</p>	

(LAPAs) are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			reports Scrutiny reports	positive in relation to structured support	
The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			Sport Plan Halo Service Plan Performance reports	The need to tackle inequalities in participation is identified	
The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			New cultural trust established 2015	Need to engage with cultural trust and promote play sufficiency	Develop cultural and arts response to play sufficiency
The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children’s opportunities for leisure and association			Estyn inspection evidence file 446 / Youth Review identifies areas most in need of provision Commissioning arrangements with Third Sector to provide universal services Mapping exercise to identify Third Sector open access provisions	Reductions in budgets have influenced levels of service and focus on early help Reduction in universal services to identify vulnerable young people	Support third sector development to provide youth activities Individual plans for “most disengaged wards”

General Comments:

Supervised play provision

- BCBC retains a record of supervised provision that it delivers or co ordinates. There is growth in information relating to partner programmes and activities developing as awareness and partnerships grow
- Through partnership with BAVO there is access to a third sector network of organisations who can engage with play development initiatives
- There is evidence of integrating play sufficiency planning against assessed need at a locality level and involving partners (e.g. BCBC Childcare Officers have undergone training in the implementation of ITERS/ECERS assessment tool that will be offered through Llynfi 20)
- The provision of activities for children and young people in leisure facilities is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis
- There is evidence of reports being received via partners on their activities and participation eg Menter Bro Ogwr, Groundwork but more that could be done against this theme
- Childcare provision is recorded on the FIS database and partnership approaches to understanding and assessing play value are beginning
- Evaluation reports are produced on key programmes (e.g school holiday play) with some participation data linked to council performance and scrutiny reporting
- The local authority supports a play development post and also a play trainer resource who support the design of rich play activities including for disabled children and young people and holiday schemes
- Core staff have attended the pilot training programmes for competence to deliver holiday schemes and will develop an internal capacity to deliver training to community groups and partners
- The registration of premises to support temporary/seasonal play programmes is potentially problematic and may result in curtailment of programmes or reducing levels of play provision to fall within the standards
- The issues of regulation and compliance will potentially result in the local authority reducing its support for previous play programmes that do not meet standards or reducing the volume of provision to meet quality requirements.
- Should a reduction in regulated play take place there will be a review of other compensatory activities that can support local communities e.g. recreation, structured sport, leisure opportunities, cultural
- The local authority will be developing a system of assurance that can evidence its compliance with national standards. It will also be a target to promote standards to the community and partner organisations
- There are a range of mechanisms in place to ensure that partners recognise the need for compliance with standards and a focus on quality e.g. Healthy Living partnership contract, Awen cultural Trust contract, Families First agreements, service level agreements with schools

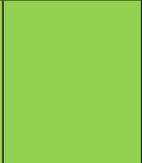
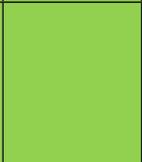
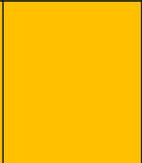
- There are similar partnership agreements between community clubs and the Active Young Peoples service and also a bi-annual survey and database
- The Community Chest programme invests circa £100k into recreational activity annually and monitors quality and standards
- There is a specific focus on water safety and supporting the “every child a swimmer” aspiration linking with the national teaching plan
- There is evidence of some facilities being available at “no cost” to support play activities but it is unlikely that this will be sustainable for the public sector
- As part of the third sector review and the community asset transfers work stream this may become more pertinent for third sector groups and community management arrangements
- The local authority has employed a Third Sector partnerships officer to identify current youth support service provision, and to build capacity within the Third Sector to ensure young people’s needs are met in areas where there is little to no current universal provision.
- BCBC Childcare Officers have undergone training in the implementation of Childcare Team currently developing ITERS/ECERSa cross-cutting QA scheme assessment tool that will be offered to include all childcare provision, including supervised play provision, i.e. Out of School Childcare Clubs
- Childcare Team aware of all childcare provision in county borough. the BCBC Childcare Team, ensures information about all current after school clubs is up to date and available via the Family Information Service.

Matter E: Charges for play provision

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

RAG status

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families			Benefits records Free school meals entitlement		Improve data on low cost and no cost activities and premises at play provider
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation			Communities First records Benefits records		
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas			Reach records Ward data		
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.			DCT caseloads Discovery referrals and records School club records	Existing data is incomplete But improvements are being made in identifying diversity of needs	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			All about me records		level
The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision			Summer play records Web information Marketing resources Free swimming data Communities first data	Records apply to directly provided opportunities and are limited to broader community opportunities	
The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision			Summer play report Web information Marketing resources Free swimming data	Broader data needed on opportunities for third sector support	
The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			WG investment records Community Chest Community First SLAs Menter Bro Ogwr reports Families first data	BCBC has no direct grant funding to support play providers BAVO identify and promote funding opportunities for the third sector	Encourage play providers to be part of BAVO third sector network
The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			Some provision is provided for disabled children BCBC targets a reduced transport need by Borough wide provision	No formal provision and no resource likely to emerge to fund initiative	

General Comments: Charge for play provision

- The working relationship between the disabled children's team (DCT), play development and active young people department is positive and assists awareness of the caseloads relating to higher tier needs and families needing support through play
- This has traditionally provided free holiday play opportunities for disabled children and young people with less complex needs being supported by Families First investment. This may not be the case going forward and more sustainable approaches will be required
- There is evidence of partnership working with Ysgol Bryn Castell and Heronsbridge school and an after school play programme regularly operates at Heronsbridge
- There is also partnership working with "Y Bont" disabled children's centre to support earlier years and funding submissions being developed to support future opportunities
- There is a range of no cost provision that is recorded and developed in partnership with Town and Community Councils. These include play schemes, Play4life activities, Mini Play4life activities, family active zone, Communities First schemes, Groundwork sustainable Play, discovery days and teens and disability after school club. Looked after children are supported with free access to leisure facilities. The Access to Leisure scheme also provides low cost access to a broad range of activities for societies most needy
- In most instances there has been no facility costs applied by BCBC to the school holiday programmes. There are questions over the sustainability of this approach based on declining public sector resources
- Where additional Welsh Government investment has been available this has been made available to partner organisations to develop play in a community setting, evidenced via proposed funding use schedules
- The local authority has provided annual funding to Menter Bro Ogwr for holiday play programmes, Barnardo's via Families First investment and Y bont for Saturday morning club activities
- There is evidence of service level agreements for play development between Communities First and local authority with a focus on disadvantaged communities
- The local authority has used its community chest investment via Sport Wales to invest in recreation and play with a focus on tackling inequalities
- In terms of transport and play, support is available for disabled children and young people via volunteer driver schemes
- To minimise transport need a borough wide approach to play provision has been taken based on centralised locations
- A provisional allocation of £101,563 is available to the BCBC Childcare Team for 2016-17

Matter F: Access to space/provision

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

RAG Status

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas			Bridgend doesn’t currently have any enforceable 20mph zones Green cones scheme records		Road Traffic order records are maintained by Transportation section
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			Traffic Surveys conducted Evidence of speed checks Transport department records		
The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of			Road Safety delivery plan Active travel Plans		

speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists			Walking and cycling strategy Safe routes to school LDP Sewta priorities for road safety grants		
The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas			Bridgend walking and cycling strategy LDP Kerbcraft training evidence Year 6 & 9 Strata data		
There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities			Road safety Delivery plan		
The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national			A structured programme of Cycle training to Level 1 and Level 2 National standards is provided from WG		

standards			Road Safety Grant funding Records are available Bike Bridgend records Balanceability programme supported by Sport Wales		
The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children			Kerbcraft training records Agreements between Communities and Wellbeing Services School agreements		
The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes			There has been no progress in formalising advice or mechanism to temporarily close roads	To date there has been no demand for this The starting point will be to identify a small number of case studies with partners	Identify partners interested in developing play friendly streets programmes
The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm			Manual for streets is available to engineers and relevant officers		

<p>The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities</p>			<p>Relevant documents referred to in design brief for cycle route schemes Standard of the cycle routes in the Borough including parts of the National Network are on the BCBC website</p>		
<p>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</p>			<p>Road Safety delivery plan</p>		
<p>The Local Authority considers children’s needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure</p>			<p>Identified users needs are sought and public consultation carried out prior to investment Active Travel consultation</p>	<p>Existing data on childrens play needs can be shared more effectively with transport colleagues</p>	<p>Review sharing of data on play needs with partners</p>

Information, publicity and events:

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility)			BCBC updated Web pages And use of link sites Lets go Bridgend link web pages Piece of the action website for targeted groups	Finalise and launch website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage partners in contributing to web based information Add detail on specific local facilities/organisations
The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required			BCBC media releases Social media messaging BCBC Web Screen Shots Partner publications	The LA would benefit from stronger coordination with the Third Sector in terms of linking in with social media campaigns to reach a bigger audience.	

The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			Web and link pages	Need to increase partner and community access and use of signposting information	
The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			Media releases Media coverage Advertisements Play reports		

General Comments: Access to space/provision

- BCBC has identified Play Sufficiency within it's web pages and supported by Welsh Government funding has developed a bespoke web resource "Lets go Bridgend" This contains a range of information and will be added to progressively
- The local authority can evidence a range of marketing information including postcards, that signpost to web information, media releases, posters and flyers etc. There is evidence of joint promotional activity (e.g. Communities First, Halo Leisure, Bridgend Library Service
- The range of media used to promote play is communicated to partners within programme reports
- The Family Active Zone programme has been positively reviewed by Estyn and adapted to support early years/families supported by Public Health Wales
- There has been strong support for the improved publicity for play by BCBC marketing, communication and engagement team
- BCBC is pro-actively developing an improved stock of imagery that can be used to promote play
- The Lets Go Bridgend web resource creates the opportunity to centralise information as a one stop shop approach to play information but will need to be adequately resourced and regularly updated

- BCBC has traditionally supported a range of town centre and community events. Whilst financial pressures may impact on the scale of what can be sustained there are opportunities for increased partnership working and also promotion of partner events and activities
- Where partnerships are established and investment secured, there is a need to appropriately recognise the support of partner organisations e.g. Town and community councils
- There is a need identified to promote inclusive and integrated play opportunities for households with disabled children and young people
- There is also an opportunity through collaborative working to achieve greater value for money through information and publicity
- Supported by Welsh Government the local authority has secured resources e.g. shelters and banners that can help promote the value of play
- Bridgend County Borough Council ensures that the design of all walking and cycling schemes takes account of current relevant guidance where appropriate including, but not limited to LTN 2/08 Cycle infrastructure design (DfT 2008) Manual for Streets (DfT/CLG/WG, 2007) LTN 1/12 Shared use for Pedestrians and Cyclists (2012) Cardiff cycle design guide (Cardiff CC, 2011) Active Travel Wales Act 2013 design guidance and NCN Guidelines and Practical details (Sustrans 1997)
- The transport service identifies no enforceable 20mph zones but conduct traffic surveys where required to recommend speed reduction reviews. They identify a difficulty in enforcing such measures where established
- Bridgend statistics for road accidents involving children and young people are relatively low although there is ongoing scrutiny and monitoring. The consultations with young people indicate however there may be a perception that streets are less safe than the evidence would suggest and this is a factor to overcome
- There is strong evidence of a planned approach including the Road Safety Delivery Plan, the Walking and Cycling Plan and the local Development Plan also
- Bridgend competes for resources for road safety grants and shows success but, greater available investment would allow more to be done
- There is a commitment to walking and cycling initiatives such are Kerbcraft and Likeability and partnership with Sustrans in operation to support Bikeability. The strata surveys however indicate cycle to school rates are low and broader understanding of cycle use by children and young people would be beneficial
- Safe routes to schools funding applications are joined up with route plans for wider Active Transport Network
- Highways services have processes in place supporting road closures but this has not been properly considered in relation to play and safer streets
- Public transport and its impact on removing barriers for children and young people to engage in activities or use spaces requires further consideration. There is significant pressure already on transport budgets including school based attendance

- Internal links have been developed to support school cycling, active travel and road safety awareness initiatives between directorates
- Family Initiatives such as Balanceability are being expanded and integrated into school programmes via the evolving network of play pods
- Cycling and scooter programmes are integrated within planning of holiday activity schemes
- National walk to school and cycle to school week are promoted and Story Walks with library service to encourage active navigation of communities

General Comments Information, publicity, events

- BCBC has identified Play Sufficiency within its web pages and supported by Welsh Government funding has developed a bespoke web resource “Lets go Bridgend”. This contains a range of information and will be added to progressively
- The local authority can evidence a range of marketing information including postcards that signpost to web information, media releases, posters and flyers etc. There is evidence of joint promotional activity e.g. Communities First, Halo Leisure, Awen Bridgend Library service
- The range of media used to promote play is communicated to partners within programme reports
- The Family Active Zone programme has been positively reviewed by Estyn and is being adapted to support early years/families supported by Public Health Wales
- There has been strong support for the improved publicity for play by BCBC marketing, communication and engagement team
- BCBC is pro-actively developing an improved stock of imagery that can be used to promote play
- The Lets Go Bridgend web resource creates the opportunity to centralise information but will need to be adequately resourced and regularly updated
- BCBC has traditionally supported a range of town centre and community events. Whilst financial pressures may impact on the scale of what can be sustained there are opportunities for increased partnership working and also promotion of partner events and activities
- Where partnerships are established and investment secured, there is a need to appropriately recognise the support of partner organisations e.g. Town and Community Councils
- There is a need identified to promote inclusive and integrated play opportunities for households with disabled children and young people
- There is an opportunity through collaborative working to achieve greater value for money through information and publicity
- Supported by Welsh Government the local authority has secured resources (e.g. shelters, banners) that can help to promote the value of play.

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

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, play management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers)			Sport Play and active wellbeing structure Job Descriptions Recruitment records seasonal and sessional Staff training records Leadership pathway Halo leisure contract Management structure in place SLA with YMCA College Wales offers Play specific training opportunities	The focus is on internal resources and formal partnership arrangements Low levels of uptake on specific and tailored courses, these need to be promoted more among the Third Sector	Review current models of programme delivery and review alternative options
The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh			Core staff have been supported to gain accreditation Training records and	Difficult to achieve for short term seasonal recruitment	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Government's National minimum Standards			qualifications		Explore partnering and commissioning approach for play delivery Develop skills in workforce to secure and negotiate play sufficiency Formalise the levels of training support available to partners and promote
The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive			Support is available for core staff (Play) Good evidence for recreation training records The BCBC Childcare Team working in partnership with the YMCA college and the BCBC Play Team to offer a fully funded playwork qualification at level 3 award	No resource for seasonal and sessional staff development	
The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies			Workforce development is under review due to reducing resources in the public sector generally	Review workforce development needs for alternative approaches to securing play sufficiency beyond delivery or programme coordination	
The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			WG investment records Family Active Zone Leadership pathway/schools Play trainer support for partners WG Strategy Grant Commissioning arrangements to the Third Sector	The approach is not formalised, not resourced in some instances and not connected	
The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training			Training records of core staff Attendance at pilot training for competency – holiday	The play workforce is 1.5 staff other than for seasonal/sessional	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary	Yellow	Red	schemes	deliverers There are questions over the ability to directly deliver activity	Identify the demand for playwork training and review how it can be resourced
The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork	Red	Green	Budget reserved for the Sport Play and active wellbeing service Broader external investment secured also	Budget is relatively small and may reduce over time	
The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff	Yellow	Yellow	Staff training (core) records Discovery records Summer play report Leadership pathway Sport plan investment	There is a shortfall in relation to playwork but no scale of core staffing	
There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area	Yellow	Red	Training records (core staff)	There are limited numbers of playworkers in the area No core budget and no firm external budget	Develop steering group and network knowledge and awareness
There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children	Yellow	Yellow	AYP training programmes Leadership pathway School support programmes Coach education Family Active Zone Third Sector Youth Support Services Network	There is a gap in playwork CPD and resource to deliver related programmes	
Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on	Yellow	Yellow	Schools play training Play trainer resource within service	Investment is limited and reliant on securing external resources	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
skills in play work			C1st programme records Groundwork sustainable play	Very little uptake on Play courses from Third Sector	
Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children’s opportunities to play			LSB reports Scrutiny reports Working group Schools workshops Central South consortium training records	Whilst partners are engaged there is a need to develop a more meaningful play network and integrate training	

General Comments 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?

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*)?

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

- BCBC maintains records of its direct employees and provides the playwork workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country*)
- The scale of the workforce is small and reducing in line with available resources and there is a reliance on supporting sustainable partner led opportunities in a community setting
- BCBC has supported an in house play trainer to develop staff knowledge and capacity although most staff are sessional or seasonal
- BCBC retains a play and early years development officer and staff have participated in pilot training programmes to develop competency for play scheme management and delivery
- The requirements of this framework may put at risk the continued direct operation of holiday play schemes due to the seasonal

approach taken and lack of an in house play team

- The future of such programmes and activities may require increased partner investment, delivery by partners or a focus on activities that are exempt (e.g. sports coaching, arts and crafts)
- During the past three years the Local Authority has used Welsh Government investment to support partners (e.g. Clybiau) to deliver workshops to community groups
- It has been identified that there can be a disconnect between the content of workshops and the level of need of community groups. It is important that these issues are aligned in any future development
- There is a strong leadership pathway supporting young people to lead activities and peer mentor other children and young people
- There is some potential for recreational programmes to be expanded to play activities supported by young leaders
- The sustainable play programme led by Groundwork will be beneficial to the development of sustainable community play opportunities led by communities
- Since the conclusion of the Big Lottery Fund Programme there has been no engagement with the regional play association and no evidence of lasting benefit from this investment. This highlights the need for community led approaches
- Capacity building programmes for third sector groups and the emerging play network will be of paramount importance
- The local authority can evidence the training of its seasonal employees and those working with special population groups e.g. disability
- There is a small training resource budget within the sport play and active wellbeing service but emerging partnerships to support accredited training (e.g. Communities First, Childcare Team, schools)
- The local authority can evidence the requirements to meet competency standard in recruitment exercises
- The local authority is in a position to promote and coordinate training for partners but is reliant on external investment being secured or made available
- There is evidence of some innovative partnership working with schools and community groups (e.g. play pods and FAZ, Mini Play4life)
- Whilst there are opportunities for CPD they are not centrally resourced or coordinated and are spread across the local authority
- The youth service has seen a considerable reduction in resource and CPD with new focus on early help and family interventions
- Much of the work previously undertaken via the Youth Service is now commissioned to the Third Sector, and with a formal agreement between the LA and the YMCA College Wales, a training needs analysis between the two sectors will identify training needs of frontline staff, play features within the YMCA College course options, therefore, the opportunity for CPD is available.

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

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage youth groups, school councils, school governing bodies, community groups and other relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.			Leadership case study Schools agreements Community chest applications Community Council Support Strata surveys Play consultation data Play4life reports Community 1 st Data Girls Network case study Bridgend Youth Council aimed at promoting the needs of young people	More information needed on 15-17 years Bridgend Youth Council need guidance on promoting specific matters among young people including Play	Data to be integrated into planning and shared with partners Review 4-5-6 research information Consultation to be carried out among older children and young people around Play
The Local Authority promotes community engagement in: - making space available and			Groundwork report Space Saviours Promotion Parc Dderwen data	The promotion of the benefits and importance of play	Formalise the resource to support and advise communities and partners on play provision

<p>suitable for play</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - training on the importance of play. 			<p>School Play Pod allocation Summer play report Llynfi 20 action plan Community play schemes and links to clubs/groups Open access Youth Clubs provide an alternative curriculum for young people</p>	<p>to children and young people</p>	<p>Promote increased community support for play programmes and events Promotional plan on play value and benefits to young people, households and communities</p> <p>The importance of play and the delivery of Play activity mechanisms need to become embedded within alternative curriculum delivery in universal provisions</p>
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General Comments Community engagement and participation.

- Bridgend has continued to engage with large numbers of primary and secondary school children via bi annual strata surveys.
- The leadership pathway engages 120 young people across every secondary school in training and mentoring programmes to support extracurricular and community activity
- There are a range of youth network groups in place including a girls network group that has developed social enterprise status
- There are partnership arrangements in place, based on a 3 tier system at 95% of primary schools with support in the form of equipment and training
- Every secondary school has developed a partnership agreement with the local authority
- The views of the general public have been assessed in relation to play sufficiency via Citizens Panel consultation
- Over 100 disabled children and young people have been engaged resulting in “Calls for Action” investment via Sport Wales
- Communities First have used play to engage with families in disadvantaged communities and to create regular opportunities
- The local authority has ensured that participants in community play programmes have contributed to consultation programmes across the County Borough
- The Family Active Zone programme has supported families to integrate play into their lifestyles
- The Groundwork sustainable play programme is supporting engagement with targeted communities
- Training programmes have been developed with local primary schools to integrate play into school programmes

- The Families First programme has secured responses from parents of disabled children on the value gained from play programmes
- Town and community councils continue to support play development programmes and receive progress reports on play value
- The Space Saviours programme has been promoted in partnership with Valleys to Coast housing and Play Wales
- There is evidence of support being provided to residents associations eg Parc Dderwen to plan appropriate play space and installations. This approach could benefit from expansion
- The summer Play4life programmes have borough wide coverage and involve a range of facilities e.g. leisure centres, schools, pavilions
- Regardless of a significant reduction in open access Youth Clubs for young people in Bridgend, activities are still promoted to young people through an alternative curriculum. Although the curriculum is needs based and non-formal in its approach, play work and the importance of play needs to be considered.

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

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

RAG Status

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

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There is a named person on the Local Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Single Integrated Plan			<p>Bridgend County together Single Integrated Plan</p> <p>Play sufficiency identified in single integrated plan</p> <p>Report to healthy board (2016) on assessment and action plan</p>	<p>Need to progressively improve understanding of the play sufficiency matters and related actions</p> <p>Need to develop the champion role at LSB level</p>	Develop regular reporting and information sharing with local service board

Education and schools					
Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day			SLA agreements with schools School training records Guidance packs for schools FAZ case studies Play Pod investment	Progressively expand to all schools and resources become available	Identify resources to expand support for all schools to support play sufficiency
Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			SLA agreements Extra curricular activity After school club details Strata reports		
Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			Dual and community use agreements Big lottery fund contracts Mini play4life records and play4life		
Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school			Programme participation in Kerbcraft, Bike it, Balanceability, walk to school week	only a limited number of primary schools are registered with Bike It (Sustrans programme)	
The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			Integrated into SLA's Training and support programmes commenced Play trainer support resource	Progressively expand to all schools as resources become available	

Town and Country Planning

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities			Unitary Development Plan	Need to ensure play sufficiency is recognised within any supplementary guidance or development	Play to be integrated in working group reviews

Traffic and Transport

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities			Active travel plans, evidence consultation with all age groups Bridgend walking and cycling strategy	Available funding influences the priorities of improvement programmes	Completion of Active Travel plan consultation and mapping
The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.			Active Travel plans Local transport plan Citizens Panel reports	Difficulties engaging with hard to reach groups	

Health and Wellbeing

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority plans and agenda to promote health and well-being recognise the importance of play for children’s and families’ physical health and well-being			Families First Programmes Healthy Living partnership project National survey schools Wellbeing network Bridgend sport Plan FAZ programme records Early help resources		

Child Poverty

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority's tackling poverty agenda and plans recognise the importance of ensuring that play opportunities are available to all families regardless of their income.			Community First Cluster plans and investment Families First programme data Leisure access for looked after children Sport Plan (disadvantaged communities) Street Games plans Mini Play4life and play4life schedules Access to leisure scheme Groundwork sustainable play		

Early Years/Childcare

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Early Years, and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger			Childcare Strategy Flying start Health Challenge Wales agreement		Early Years and flying Start settings continue to deliver provision that is based on the foundation Phase

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
children					Curriculum Framework where through play children practise and consolidate their learning
The Childcare Strategy offers guidance to ensure local childcare providers understand the importance of and provide a rich play environment as a routine part of the care they provide			<p>Bridgend CBCs Childcare Team supports all childcare settings as outlined in the Childcare development plan. The importance of play is integral</p> <p>Development of Family Active Zone</p> <p>Childcare team records and evidence</p>	The Childcare Team's training budget is limited and priority must be given to the provision of mandatory training for CSSIW registration.	<p>Where training budget allows, provide CPD training on the importance of play, in response to identified need.</p> <p>Playwork training arrange and delivered in partnership with the BCBC Play Team and YMCA College</p>

Family policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for			Families First programme Early help services		

parents to enable them to support their children to play			Family Active Zone DCT discovery and Y Bont programmes Communities Frist records Mini Play4life Community based preventative workers for the valleys areas		
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Inter-generational policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			Ageing well survey highlights an interest from older people	Need to develop greater links with Ageing Well programmes	Integrate play into leadership and volunteer development
There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages			Holiday schemes run for 8-13 year olds across key stages Leadership pathway supports peer led activities Volunteering opportunities established in community settings	Most positives relate to recreation as opposed to play work	

Community Development

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding the rights of children to play within their communities			No Community Strategy but play is included in the Single Plan		
The Community Strategy supports communities to provide play opportunities for their children			N/A		
The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding how providing play opportunities contributes to community cohesion			N/A		

Community Safety

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Community Safety Strategy makes a clear statement which recognises the rights of children to play in their communities			N/a		

The Community Safety Strategy includes actions which provide a safe environment for children to play in their communities			N/A		
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Health and Safety

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge			BCBC Health and Safety Policy Service Risk assessments	Need to understand the implications of competency standards for play scheme operation being developed and implications for corporate risk management	Develop an updated position with Health and Safety unit
The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)			Play department risk assessments and activity plans	More work required with Corporate health and Safety team on aligning approach to HSE recommendations	
The Local Authority offers the provision			Cost effective insurance offered to organisations	Insurance not in place generically for third party play	Explore insurance for

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils			managing Council assets e.g. community centres Insurance in place for council assets used by play providers	providers Resource unlikely to be forthcoming	play providers and promote via web pages

General Comments: Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

Education and schools

- The Active Young People department have developed service level agreements with schools that have integrated play, recreation and structured activity
- Play pods and related equipment have been allocated to schools in disadvantaged areas
- Play related training and also support for motivating young people to be more active has been provided to 18 schools
- Advice packs for play in schools have been purchased via Play Wales and supported by Welsh Government
- There are examples of primary schools making facilities available for play activity and some good practice but the approach is generally sporadic
- There is good use of secondary school facilities by the community to support holiday activities and regular community recreational programmes
- The Balanceability programme is integrated in primary school partnership agreements to support family cycling approaches. There is evidence of school fundraising to retain resources on site
- There are other cycling programmes such as Bike It and Kerbcraft that are now directly delivered by the local authority having trained staff
- The play development staff have provided some support to primary schools to better understand play and this could be mainstreamed as an offer
- Regular after school play programmes for disabled children and young people are in place at Heronsbridge school
- There are partnership agreements in place with every secondary school to operate extra curricular programmes designed and led by young people

LSB

- Play Sufficiency is recognised within the single plan
- There is a mechanism to report on play sufficiency to LSB that is periodically used
- During the development phase of future plans there is a need to ensure visibility of play sufficiency is maintained
- The need to champion play across policy areas will be strengthened during the next phase of the duty

Town and Country Planning

- The current Unitary development plan is strong on recognising the importance of play space and playing fields
- A working group approach to reviewing supplementary planning guidance will commence
- It will be important to maintain the current recognition of play sufficiency related issues

Health and Wellbeing

- The introduction of Health and Wellbeing legislation is focusing plans and partnership with schools relating to sport, play and active wellbeing
- Childrens services have developed a strong focus on early help and family support
- The local leisure contract utilises annual service development planning and an outcome framework based on healthy living, children and young people and strong communities
- The Bridgend Sport plan has a focus on wellbeing and whole household approaches to engagement

Child Poverty

- Play development and family engagement have been built into Communities First agreements and supported via cluster plans
- Play and recreational opportunities have been supported by Families First plans and programmes (eg programme 6)
- Targeted support for looked after children and young carers can be evidenced and this focus is increasing
- There are sport and recreation plans for disadvantaged communities on emerging partnerships network and evidence of focused investment into tackling inequalities
- Seasonal play programmes are supported by Town and community councils and distributed across areas of disadvantage
- The low cost, whole household Access to Leisure scheme has been maintained in the leisure contract and indicates growth in participation

Family Policy and Initiatives

- Connecting families and young people to local play and community approaches is part of the Families First programme
- The Family Active Zone programme has been recognised as excellent by Estyn

- Public Health Wales have invested in expanding FAZ to early years settings including Flying Start
- Households with disabled children and young people are supported with after school club and holiday programmes linked to short break and respite provision
- The mini play4life programme supports family play for early years groups
- The Lets Go web resource will attempt to create a one stop shop for information for parents and carers on play and recreation

Intergenerational policy and initiatives

- There is good progress in relation to secondary school pupils and primary school pupils participating together
- The disability programmes also support children of all ages in after school and holiday programmes
- The leadership pathway builds the skills and confidence of young people to lead activities with younger children
- The potential to apply this successful approach to play work needs to be evaluated
- Bridgend has conducted an extensive survey on Ageing Well that highlights the desire for multi generational engagement by the over 50's
- There are some programmes and projects emerging (e.g. try it do it) and these can be further developed during the next phase

Health and Safety

- The local authority has corporate policies on managing health and safety and the assessment of risk
- There is a need to formally review the position on risk and challenge and what that might mean for programme design
- This will be pertinent in terms of new standards of play co ordination of schemes and these will need to align to the policies of the organisation
- BCBC is insured for it's own delivery and for partner use of assets
- As provider networks grow in relation to a reduced delivery approach by BCBC there will need to be a growth in review of partner competence and capability

Conclusion

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

The play sufficiency assessment has assisted in identifying actions for most of the matters relating to the duty and has identified areas where progress has been made, where good practice is emerging but also where things have not gone forwards and may even have deteriorated. It should be noted that in some instances an identified reduction in performance may relate to an improving understanding of play sufficiency matters and awareness of what can potentially be aspired to be achieved

A refreshed approach to the leadership and governance of play sufficiency is required and a need to capture and communicate the outcomes and impact of good quality play. There is also a need to establish meaningful measures relating to play sufficiency and to integrate these into corporate business planning and performance management processes. There is an opportunity for play to contribute to the new values of Bridgend Council by evidencing good use of limited resources through collaborative approaches, recognising unmet needs and supporting vulnerable groups and developing play across the public, Private and third sectors to support a sustainable economy.

The assessment identifies the potential for a mixed economy of play provision and an evolving role to support the ownership of play by communities whilst developing their capability. The need for inclusion to be integrated into such an approach is recognised whilst, through the third sector review, the infrastructure that supports play and the development of play value can be reviewed as part of community asset transfer or partnership

The assessment identifies a number of examples of good practice including the following

- The use of play in the planning network group to improve levels of activity, health and nutrition in the Llynfi 20 programme
- the development of inclusive and accessible play infrastructure with the community, planners and developers as part of the Parc Dderwen estate
- The focus on play and support for families in areas of disadvantage through “mini play4life” and Communities First investment
- The development of Family Active Zone resources (supported by Public Health Wales) to engage early years groups in partnership with Flying Start
- The development of partnership agreements with schools, installation of play pods and supporting schools with play training that meets their needs and adds value to school objectives also
- The development of the family friendly “Lets Go Bridgend” website to be signposted via the BCBC landing pages
- The continued partnership working with Town and community councils
- The use of Families First investment to support disabled children and young people to meet play needs

The assessment has also served to identify a number of areas that are struggling to progress and highlights further risks for achieving play sufficiency in Bridgend County Borough

-There have been structural changes and movements of key personnel that have previously contributed to play sufficiency and this can be anticipated going forward also

The need for succession planning within organisations is recognised

-There is a variance in the levels of understanding of play sufficiency across the local authority and a corresponding variance in commitment to the action plans. As such it will be important to increase the breadth and depth of understanding and commitment

-Bridgend has started from a small base with a small capacity in house play team and focus on sessional and seasonal programmes. There will be a challenge to influence the development of third sector and community led play as part of a sustainable approach to play sufficiency

- Although Bridgend has shown commitment to gathering population data, the assessment identifies the gaps or those areas where insufficient data is in place to support planning (e.g. cultural backgrounds, LGB, Welsh Language, Young carers)
- Whilst the formalised standards for holiday scheme registration and staff accreditation are recognised these are identified as creating logistical and cost based challenges to maintain current provision and rationalisation may emerge

In summary the assessment reveals a mixed picture. The local authority can evidence where it has used its own resources and collaborated across service areas to improve the quantity and quality of play. There is also evidence that where resource has been forthcoming via Welsh Government or other external sources there has been an innovative response and an improved play offer. There is also evidence of phased progress against some larger tasks (eg play value assessments) but some areas where it has not been possible to make progress.

With limited resources the need to pragmatically focus on tangible targets within an annual action plan is an appropriate way forward and with a focus on engaging and influencing a broad range of partners to improve and understand play sufficiency.

Way forward

This section should briefly introduce the Action Plan which sets out what steps need to be taken to improve the opportunities for children to play within the Local Authority area, including what mechanism and criteria were used to agree and prioritise actions. It should also describe the actions the Local Authority will take with regards to change in infrastructure, partnership working or mechanisms to ensure that it is well placed to deliver on the duty to secure sufficient play opportunities.

The need to improve the visibility of play sufficiency and the engagement and understanding of partners is recognised by Bridgend Council. Play Sufficiency has featured within the Single Integrated Plan but there is an identified opportunity to strengthen communication and dialogue with the Local Service Board and subsequent public service board.

The assessment and action plan has been reported to the local service board in March 2016 with a recommendation to report annually on progress made.

The benefits of including play sufficiency in the needs assessment for the next single integrated plan has been communicated to the partnership and transformation service

Play sufficiency has been integrated within the role of the Corporate Director –Social Services and Wellbeing. This role represents children and young people with diverse needs and can also champion play sufficiency within the local service board structure. The Group Manager with responsibility for play sufficiency assessment is a direct report to the Corporate Director

The need to broaden responsibilities for play sufficiency across the organisation has been identified and the approach taken during the assessment has encouraged key people across the organisation to contribute to identifying priorities for the action plan

This exercise has been used to identify the targets for the three year programme prior to a group meeting to identify those aspects that can be progressed during year 1

There are a number of variables that have needed to be considered ranging from the importance of local play sufficiency needs , financial resource availability, complexity of task, people resource for leadership and delivery, external factors and timing in relation to other programmes and initiatives

The assessment has identified that Bridgend is limited in its capacity to directly deliver but has good connections to its communities and organisations. The third sector review that the local authority will progress during 2016-17 will identify a new relationship with the third sector and play sufficiency can be considered within this context. The local authority will identify how it can support the third sector by building

capacity, brokering collaborative working, sharing resources and more. As such the focus will be on securing play sufficiency through partnership approaches whilst focusing direct delivery on meeting diverse needs

The need for a refreshed play network group has been identified but with an emphasis on driving play sufficiency forward as opposed to monitoring progress. This network will require broader representation for sections of the local authority relevant to the matter and also representatives of the third sector. A key focus of the play network group will be to scrutinise play across all areas of policy and to identify good practice that can be applied at a local level

Signed:

Date:

Play Sufficiency Action Plan



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of local authority:

Name of person responsible officer:

Job title:

Date of completion:



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

Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017

(Funding source: funding from Local Authority own budgets and to be included in the Single Integrated Plan).

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Milestones	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
Statutory Guidance-policy framework					
Matter A: Population					
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs					
Matter C: Space available for children to play					
Matter D: Supervised provision					
Matter E: Charges for play provision					

Matter F: Access to space/provision					
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce					
Matter H: Community engagement and participation					
Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas					