

## Appendix B General Online Survey Results

### Play Strategy Survey Report, October 2021

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#### 1. Summary

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*Questionnaire format:* Web/online  
*Responses:* 55 Total  
*Date range:* 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### 2. Introduction

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Over the last few years, the council has refurbished existing or provided new play spaces at a number of locations. We have much more work to do and in response to this we have produced an initial draft Play Strategy based on research of best practice and consultation with partners. Before completing the questionnaire, participants were asked to take a few moments to read the proposed Play Strategy first.

### 3. Questionnaire results

Please indicate how important you think the actions within the proposed themes are.

| Theme 1: Raise awareness of play  |                |       |                  |       |         |       |                    |      |                      |    |
|---|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|------|----------------------|----|
|   | Very important |       | Fairly important |       | Neutral |       | Not very important |      | Not at all important |    |
|   | No.            | %     | No.              | %     | No.     | %     | No.                | %    | No.                  | %  |
| Improve participation and usage of current and future provision and maximise the benefits of play | 43             | 79.6% | 10               | 18.5% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0%   | 0                    | 0% |
| Provide a more inclusive approach to play   | 35             | 64.8% | 11               | 20.4% | 6       | 11.1% | 2                  | 3.7% | 0                    | 0% |
| Help to educate children, parents and carers of the importance of play in development             | 35             | 64.8% | 13               | 24.1% | 6       | 11.1% | 0                  | 0%   | 0                    | 0% |
| Reduce negative perceptions of children and young people at play                                  | 34             | 63.0% | 14               | 25.9% | 5       | 9.3%  | 1                  | 1.9% | 0                    | 0% |

| Any other comments or suggestions about theme 1:  |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage all ages to enjoy outdoor play.</li> <li>• Creative and imaginative types of play equipment are important</li> <li>• Level up and make it fair. Some parks (Hasland) get lots more support and events than others (Somersall)</li> <li>• Play areas provide ideal opportunities for children and their friends to develop social skills and create the chance to offer support to each other</li> <li>• Tapton park is really in need of a health and safety inspection. Waterside houses are for families, if they have young children their garden sizes are too small so young families are using the park. I child mind for my daughter who has three children of mixed age groups.</li> <li>• Better information on your website about what play spaces are available - include photos so parents can find out and judge which spaces are best to visit</li> <li>• Need to invest in existing play spaces rather than removing them. E.g. St David's Rise, Foolow Park, Acorn Ridge, Beeley View, Foxbrook Drive, Stanford Way Park, the Inkerman</li> <li>• Playgrounds are a safe space for children to explore. Professionally, as a physiotherapist, I believe that they are vital to support neuro development in children. They challenge balance, co-ordination and strength as well as providing vital cardio vascular exercise</li> <li>• People need to know where these amazing parks are because they are not near me</li> <li>• There has to be agreement about who the major users of each play park/ play facility are</li> <li>• You can only raise awareness if play equipment is provided in a particular area. What's the point of making people aware if the play areas are closed down?</li> </ul> |

| Theme 2: Raising the quality of play   |                |       |                  |       |         |       |                    |    |                      |    |
|--|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|
|  | Very important |       | Fairly important |       | Neutral |       | Not very important |    | Not at all important |    |
|  | No.            | %     | No.              | %     | No.     | %     | No.                | %  | No.                  | %  |
| Promote children's creativity, physical, mental and emotional well-being and healthy growth        | 47             | 87.0% | 6                | 11.1% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Recognise children's needs to test boundaries  | 35             | 64.8% | 16               | 29.6% | 3       | 5.6%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Balance opportunities for risk taking with prevention of serious harm                              | 36             | 67.9% | 16               | 30.2% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Promote social interaction and respect for others  | 47             | 87.0% | 6                | 11.1% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Work with partner agencies to assess the number of children and young people with additional needs | 30             | 56.6% | 15               | 28.3% | 8       | 15.1% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |

| Any other comments or suggestions about theme 2:   |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post lockdown the opportunity for play with others is of great importance particularly for younger children. Areas for young Mums and their children provide the opportunity to offer mutual support and give greater opportunities for their children</li> <li>Local play spaces are dilapidated and need serious investment. Provide a safe space for children to play away from dogs and teenagers</li> <li>Difficult to match all requirements</li> <li>Social interaction can only take place when areas are provided for children to meet and interact in all areas of our town.</li> </ul> |  |

| Theme 3: Improving the range and accessibility of play provision            |                |       |                  |       |         |       |                    |    |                      |    |
|---|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-------|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|
|   | Very important |       | Fairly important |       | Neutral |       | Not very important |    | Not at all important |    |
|   | No.            | %     | No.              | %     | No.     | %     | No.                | %  | No.                  | %  |
| Extend children's choice and control  | 36             | 66.7% | 12               | 22.2% | 6       | 11.1% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Make different kinds of play available                                      | 43             | 79.6% | 10               | 18.5% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Promote independence and self esteem  | 43             | 79.5% | 9                | 16.7% | 2       | 3.7%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Reduce barriers to play and increases the level of access to play provision | 43             | 79.6% | 10               | 18.5% | 1       | 1.9%  | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |

### Any other comments or suggestions about theme 3:

- Limited choice at playgrounds across the county. My daughter isn't a climber and struggles with some. The baby bits are too easy yet the next stage equipment is too high or too difficult to climb.
- Stop taking out perfectly good play equipment and completely replacing it. Why not add to what is already there giving more choice and diversity.
- Access to sufficient play equipment for all children is vitally important.
- You could make better use of the streams running through Somersall, Holmebrook and Monkey Park. It would be good to see some pond dipping platforms installed for local groups to use.
- Ensure that play spaces are maintained and if they need replacing that there is the support to enable this to happen and no area loses their play space. I would have liked the area to the rear of the Queen's park sports centre included in the list of spaces

### Theme 4: Informal and natural play opportunities

|   | Very important |       | Fairly important |       | Neutral |      | Not very important |    | Not at all important |    |
|---|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|------|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|
|   | No.            | %     | No.              | %     | No.     | %    | No.                | %  | No.                  | %  |
| Make for effective and efficient use of our play spaces for all types of play       | 44             | 83.0% | 9                | 17.0% | 0       | 0%   | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Provide more opportunities for children and young people in the natural environment | 45             | 86.5% | 5                | 9.6%  | 2       | 3.8% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Stimulate more innovation in play activity  | 40             | 75.5% | 8                | 15.1% | 5       | 9.4% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |

### Any other comments or suggestions about theme 4:

- Leave space for imaginative play in natural environment, trees, water etc.
- I'd love to see some wild play spaces - similar to those offered at national trust sites. They don't need to be complicated but kids love this kind of play.
- Larger range of activities. Space to use in bad weather. The sand in Queen's park is awful, needs a good clean and is in need of topping up
- Children need play equipment, natural play alongside play equipment is fine but cannot replace play parks and equipment.
- Three, dependent on desired provision?
- This should not be seen as an alternative to providing specific play areas and play equipment.
- Stimulate more innovation in play activity - how much innovation is there at the moment? How is this assessed? The implication is that you think there is an insufficient level at the moment but this is an assumption. Could be better to say "facilitate " or "enable".
- Pond Dipping Platforms

| Theme 5: Providing more resources to improve and develop play opportunities                 |                |       |                  |      |         |    |                    |    |                      |    |
|---|----------------|-------|------------------|------|---------|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|
|   | Very important |       | Fairly important |      | Neutral |    | Not very important |    | Not at all important |    |
|   | No.            | %     | No.              | %    | No.     | %  | No.                | %  | No.                  | %  |
| Provide necessary capital funding to develop new play opportunities                         | 49             | 90.7% | 5                | 9.3% | 0       | 0% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |
| Ensure sufficient funding to maintain and manage play sites in accordance with the strategy | 52             | 98.1% | 1                | 1.9% | 0       | 0% | 0                  | 0% | 0                    | 0% |

| Any other comments or suggestions about theme 5:  |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lacking in the play area at Holmebrook Valley Park by the pavilion</li> <li>• It is absolutely useless to provide play facilities then fail to maintain them adequately as happens so often in Chesterfield</li> <li>• Play areas are often vandalised and broken and not repaired. There needs to be more maintenance, also visible maintenance, as this will deter people from causing damage</li> <li>• In Walton we have lost the St David's Rise play area which only leaves the Stanford Way area for a large population. The development of Stanford Way and the reopening of St David's should be seen as important.</li> <li>• Serious under funding means the majority of play spaces in our area are not safe</li> <li>• It'd be lovely to see the park off Foljambe/Greenways/St David's Rise renovated/reopened</li> <li>• Make sure new play equipment is built to last rather than look good short term and follow trends. All of the sturdy swings and slides that have lasted years have been taken out and replaced by smaller less effective equipment which very often doesn't look like it will last</li> <li>• Funding must be made available to update play equipment and manage all our play sites.</li> <li>• It should not be down to communities to have to raise money for new playground equipment. The council should do this. And money paid by developers and house builders should be used to improve local play facilities.</li> <li>• The installation of goal posts and, scooter/bike racks would encourage more play and green commuting</li> <li>• The year of outdoors has provided many extra play opportunities and variety, this needs to continue. Support for friends groups or community engagement to develop play is essential</li> </ul> |

| Theme 6: Strategic Management and Growth Sites   |                |       |                  |       |         |      |                    |      |                      |    |
|--|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|------|--------------------|------|----------------------|----|
|  | Very important |       | Fairly important |       | Neutral |      | Not very important |      | Not at all important |    |
|  | No.            | %     | No.              | %     | No.     | %    | No.                | %    | No.                  | %  |
| Identify funding opportunities through community infrastructure levy for sites in proximity to housing growth areas  | 37             | 68.5% | 14               | 25.9% | 2       | 3.7% | 1                  | 1.9% | 0                    | 0% |
| Continue to negotiate for on-site play provision on new developments with management agreements for ongoing maintenance agreements and/or off-site contributions to play facilities at existing play facilities and/or community parks | 45             | 83.3% | 5                | 9.3%  | 3       | 5.6% | 1                  | 1.9% | 0                    | 0% |
| Continue to influence excellent design and provision during the planning process   | 43             | 79.6% | 7                | 13.0% | 3       | 5.6% | 1                  | 1.9% | 0                    | 0% |

| Any other comments or suggestions about theme 6:   |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage developers to leave more trees and natural spaces.</li> <li>• More information on your website and social channels about how local residents can get involved in fundraising for local equipment</li> <li>• Too many play spaces are being lost to make way for new developments</li> <li>• Very often the play equipment on new housing estates is not fit for purpose, usually a very small space with one or two tiny bits of equipment (usually the springy ride ons which break)</li> <li>• Why have CBC closed and even removed some play parks?</li> <li>• It is very important to ensure that proper maintenance is carried out on existing play equipment and provide refurbishment or replacement of play equipment that has become obsolete.</li> <li>• Most developers do not provide play areas in their new developments and the council seems to have little power to insist on this.</li> <li>• These are key points and are essential to the management and growth of sites</li> </ul> |

**Do you have any other suggestions or comments to make about the proposed strategy?**

- With global warming play areas are needing to be shaded. Trees are the best answer but until the trees have grown other shading may need to be provided.
- Maximise participation and support of local voluntary / community groups to coordinate and assist with maintenance of local play facilities and to publicise local facilities and encourage use, providing necessary funding for them to do this.
- Maintenance of existing provision is essential. Too many play areas in Chesterfield are in an unsafe state of repair, with responsibility for fundraising falling to communities.
- The Badger Recreation ground in Brockwell is referred to as a LEAP, however this site has been removed, unless you're now claiming the pub garden, then the ownership in the table is wrong.
- Yes, disabled children play too and are often overlooked. My son is severely disabled and gets bored when we go to the park with his sister as he can't do anything.
- I would like to see more seating areas and areas where people walking their dogs with their children can sit and watch their children play. It is difficult with dogs being banned from play areas, maybe a few benches on the perimeter of play areas would be a good idea
- We are grandparents who have seen the value of play with our own children and now see a lack of facilities for our grandchildren to play with others as a barrier to their social development. Post pandemic their mental health needs would be improved by the chance to play with other children
- Regular inspection of the run-down parks, spend the funding where it's needed most
- Play areas should be utilised more effectively. I've seen parks in Chesterfield with only one play item (play areas should surely have at least three, or one multifunction one), in small spaces some painted paw prints or hopscotch lines or something similar on the ground
- I would be happy to provide more detailed feedback. My two children (aged 8 and 5) love to play outdoors and explore. We have a number of play spaces on and around our estate but these have been neglected for a number of years and are no longer safe.
- All areas need play equipment (not just the ones willing to badger the council until they get what they want). All children should have access to some open green space and play equipment within walking distance of their home.
- Money spent on Brimington Common park was a waste, please tell us where these amazing parks are because there's none in Chesterfield
- Outdoor play is incredibly important and there is a lack of good play areas in the area. One near us is padlocked and another in much desperate need of updating although it is very loved. We need to follow examples such as the Monkey Park in Brampton
- Both prescribed and creative solutions are not mutually exclusive
- As a consultation you should have been asking what residents want to see. This is a series of closed questions creating comments on the outcomes that have already been decided. An open consultation of residents' views should have been conducted prior to the development of the strategy
- The play strategy makes no mention of the work of the "Friends of" groups. Reintroduce Friends Group forums. Sign up all parks to Fields in Trust and the Green Flag Community Award. To reduce stranger danger, install better lighting and CCTV
- Would be fabulous to cater for a range of ages and abilities. Safe environment for toddlers.

#### 4. Social Media

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Summary of social media impressions/engagements/engagement rate etc

- Impressions - the amount of times our content is displayed. One person could have multiple impressions for a single piece of content.
- Engagement - the amount of comments, likes, post clicks and shares our content gets

| Social media platform | Impressions | Engagements | Engagement rate |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Facebook              | 7247        | 219         | 3.02%           |
| Twitter               | 1573        | 23          | 1.46%           |
| LinkedIn              | 244         | 10          | 4.09%           |
| Instagram             | 84          | 3           | 3.57%           |
| Total                 | 9148        | 255         | 2.79%           |

#### 5. Equality monitoring

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##### Q1 What is your gender?

| Q15: What is your gender? |                    |                           |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|                           | No. of respondents | Percentage of respondents |
| Male                      | 9                  | 23.7%                     |
| Female                    | 27                 | 71.1%                     |
| Prefer not to say         | 2                  | 5.3%                      |
| <b>Base Number</b>        | <b>38</b>          |                           |

##### Q2 Is your gender identity the same gender you were assigned at birth?

| Is your gender identity the same gender you were assigned at birth? |                    |                           |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|
|   | No. of respondents | Percentage of respondents |
| Yes   | 38                 | 100%                      |
| No  | 0                  | 0%                        |
| Prefer not to say   | 0                  | 0%                        |
| <b>Base number</b>  | <b>38</b>          |                           |



**Q3 How old are you?**

| <b>Q16: How old are you?</b> |                    |                           |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|                              | No. of respondents | Percentage of respondents |
| Under 16 years               | 0                  | 0%                        |
| 16 to 24 years               | 0                  | 0%                        |
| 25 to 34 years               | 5                  | 13.2%                     |
| 35 to 44 years               | 12                 | 31.6%                     |
| 45 to 54 years               | 7                  | 18.4%                     |
| 55 to 64 years               | 6                  | 15.8%                     |
| 65 to 74 years               | 6                  | 15.8%                     |
| 75 years and over            | 0                  | 0%                        |
| Prefer not to say            | 2                  | 5.3%                      |
| <b>Base number</b>           | <b>38</b>          |                           |

**Q4 Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

| <b>Q17: Do you consider yourself to have a disability?</b> |                    |                           |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  | No. of respondents | Percentage of respondents |
| No   | 31                 | 81.6%                     |
| Yes  | 7                  | 18.4%                     |
| Prefer not to say  | 0                  | 0%                        |
| <b>Base number</b>   | <b>38</b>          |                           |

**Q5 What is your ethnicity?**

| <b>Q18: What is your ethnicity?</b> |                    |                           |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|                                     | No. of respondents | Percentage of respondents |
| White British                       | 33                 | 86.8%                     |
| Black or Black British              | 0                  | 0%                        |
| Asian or Asian British              | 0                  | 0%                        |
| Mixed ethnic group                  | 1                  | 2.6%                      |
| Any other ethnic group              | 1                  | 2.6%                      |
| Prefer not to say                   | 3                  | 7.9%                      |
| <b>Base number</b>                  | <b>38</b>          |                           |