

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Torfaen

Name of responsible officer: Julian Davenne

Job title: Play Service Manager

Date of completion: 8/03/2016

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.

Principle Statement

This section should be used to articulate the Local Authority's acknowledgement of the value and importance of play in the lives of children.

Torfaen County Borough Council is committed to increasing, developing and sustaining the amount of quality play opportunities provided and ensuring that the play habits of all children and young people are supported. Torfaen believes that it is essential to promote and enhance children and young people's opportunity to play both freely and safely within the community. Great emphasis is placed on addressing a wide spectrum of play related issues and measures have been put in place to address factors that concern the restriction of play and the removal of barriers to children's play within the general environment. Positive play experiences are essential to enable children and young people to develop and this is something that Torfaen is committed to continue to support both within the school environment and out of school leisure time. Torfaen is now in the position of being able to review for a second time how it delivers and supports play and play provision with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable and hard to reach groups.

Context

This section should describe the methodology used to undertake and approve the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan and any consultation with partners on the Assessment/Action Plan. It should also list the key partners that engaged with the process and identify any challenges in undertaking the Assessment. It should describe the mechanism that the Local Authority proposes to use to take forward the identified actions for the action plan.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment process 2015/16 has been successful as a result of collaborative partnership working. From working with a wide scope of partners, we have been able to collate the required information and address any issues or barriers which have arisen since the previous assessment. The section below details the methodology used throughout the process coupled with the strengths and challenges faced whilst gathering the information required. It should be noted that as this was the second time we have gathered this information the process run more smoothly. This was because we knew who to contact to obtain the relevant information.

Due to the success of the last assessment, the Local Authorities Play Service was appointed as the lead service to carry out the audit. It was felt that the Play Service was best placed to carry out this work due to their experience and knowledge.

An officer from the Play Service was appointed to lead on collation and inputting of all data (Play Policy Officer) similar to the first assessment.

Taking on board the previous assessment process we made an early start on collating specific data which took a significant amount of time to gather. This included all of the consultation processes including children, young people, the workforce, professionals, elected members, Town and Community Councils as well as the wider community.

The next step of the process entailed identifying which partners needed to be involved in the assessment. Partners were identified from a wide scope of areas to ensure that we obtained a well-rounded view of the current issues relating to play and play provision in Torfaen.

A mapping exercise took place which broke down the assessment into specific areas. This then enabled us to identify which officers/services we needed to contact to update the information. This also allowed us to determine whether the officer was still in their post or whether we would need to identify an alternative contact. This mapping exercise provided us with a definitive contact list of who needed to provide us with information.

We worked intensively to ensure that the Play Sufficiency Audit was on as many agendas within key meetings as possible. A series of briefing sessions took place to inform essential partners of the details around the audit.

Assessment Toolkit

The chart below details the full scope of partners who have been involved within the Play Sufficiency Assessment

Population and Data Officer	Parks	Health Board
Participation Officer	Countryside	Torfaen Training
TOGs	Forward Planning	Families First
Hope GB	Bron Afon	Greenmeadow Community Farm
Community Nursing Team	Haford Housing	Space Saviours
Disability Sports	Melin Homes	Family Information Service
Action for Children	Childcare Business Officer	Transport Officer
Children with Disabilities Team	Early Years Manager	Street Games
Gypsy Traveller Officer	Early Years Workforce Development	Flying Start
Welsh Language Officer	Parenting Coordinator	Sure Start
Menter Iaith	Play Team	Community Safety Team
URDD GOBAITH CYMRU	Groundworks Sustainable Play Project	Health and Safety Officers
Young Carers Officer	Sports Development	Partnerships and Policy Manager
Community Halls	Arts Development	Regional Collaboration and Improvements Officer
Youth Service	Torfaen Leisure Trust	Elected members
Autism Officer	Cwmbran Centre for Children and Young People	Head of Forward Planning and Access (Education)
Randomz	The Woodlands Field	Healthy Schools Officer
Coldbarn Farm	Communities First	Inclusion Officer
Pontypool Community Council	Cwmbran Community Council	G I S Officers
Blaenavon Community Council	Ponthir Community Council	Planning and Commissioning Manager
Llanyrafon & Croesyceiliog Community Council	Torfaen Voluntary Alliance	Insurance Officer
Schools	Children and young people	Parents /carers
Play and Recreational workforce	Cheeky Monkeys	Zoopadoopas
Llantarnam Community Action Group (LAARS)	St Dials Community Action Group	Friends of Pontypool Park
Kerb Craft Officer	Head of Environment	Libraries
Youth Ambassadors	Armed Forces	Road Safety Initiatives.
YSGOL FEITHRIN PONTYPWL.	Church Groups	

The next stage included arranging a series of meetings and information gathering sessions to ensure that we had the most current and up to date information to be included within the assessment. This process took place between November and February.

Along with the information gathering meetings we also held Strategic Action Plan meetings as well as our regular Play Sufficiency Monitoring Group.

The Torfaen Play Sufficiency Assessment Strategic Action Plan Group

This strategic group is the main writing group for the action plan but many partners have been involved in the process at various stages. Due to the success of the Strategic Action Group from the initial assessment we felt it best placed to maintain the listed membership. Where officers were no longer in post another representative has taken their place.

Group Membership

Julian Davenne – Play Service Manager TCBC- Lead on Play Sufficiency Audit

Andrea Sysum- Play Policy Officer TCBC – Lead on writing the document

Peter Kennedy - Torfaen Voluntary Alliance – 3rd Sector Representative

Helen Cole – Early Year & NHS Health Board Representative

Stuart Lawrence – Sport, Youth, Leisure & Culture Representative

Steve Horseman – Parks, Open Spaces, Countryside

Mark Horton/ Allison Daley – Education Representative

Cath Stenson – Bron Afon – Housing Representative

Dana Eynon – Transport & Planning

Emma Crambray Stacey – Communities First/Communities

It should be noted that the above group met twice over the consultation period. The first meeting took place at the beginning of the process outlining the plan for carrying out the assessment. The second meeting entailed analysing the findings and agreeing to the action plan for 2016/17

Partnership working

This section should demonstrate to what extent the following (and others) were involved in the undertaking of the Assessment and the development of the action plan:

- Town and Community Councils
- Third sector organisations, particularly regional play associations
- The private sector if appropriate
- Community groups
- Community First Partnerships

It is clear from the information provided previously on page 9 of this document that a broad scope of partners has been involved throughout the Play Sufficiency Assessment process.

We have consulted with partners through a variety of mechanisms including surveys as well as consultation workshops. We believe that we have provided clear opportunities for all partners to contribute and we warmly welcomed their feedback and opinions.

We were keen to ensure that nobody was left out of the consultation process. For those who did not choose to provide electronic responses we also provided “Drop in “sessions so that partners could provide verbal feedback if they wished.

The following Town and Community Councils were consulted with :-

Pontypool Community Council
Cwmbran Community Council
Blaenavon Community Council
Ponthir Community Council
Llanyrafon and Croesyceiliog Town and Community Council

Assessment Toolkit

In relation to third sector organisations, the following were consulted with. Within Torfaen there is not a Regional Play Association which could have been included.

Groundworks Sustainable Play Project
Hope GB
Torfaen Leisure Trust
Torfaen Opportunity Group
Action for Children
Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
Randomz
Bron Afon
Melin Homes
Hafod Housing
Menter Iaith
The Urdd
YSGOL FEITHRIN PONTYPWL.
Church Groups

In relation to consultation with the Private sector, we have consulted with the following:-

Cheeky Monkeys
Zoopadoopas

In relation to consultation with Community Groups, have consulted with the following:-

The Woodlands Field
Coldbarn Farm
St Dials Action Group
LLARCS
Armed Forces
Friends of Pontypool Park
Gurkha Community

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 Process

Consultation has been carried out with children and young people, the workforce, other professionals as well as the general public. The mechanisms used to collate data have been quite diverse to reflect the ways in which people feel comfortable to respond. The result of

the consultation process has shaped our action plan with additional actions added to address the findings.

Children and Young People

A significantly large number of children and young people have been consulted with to help us shape the assessment. This was achieved via a variety of methods. Consultation workshops were held in local primary schools as well as within play clubs and playschemes. These workshops used methods such as games, group discussions and art to collate the views and opinions of children and young people. In addition to this, a drawing consultation went out to primary schools with playworkers on the school yards during lunch time breaks.

What has the Children and Young Peoples Consultation told us?

66% stated they felt safe when they played outside
A high percentage stated that Strangers, Bullies/Teenagers and traffic were their main concerns when playing outside
49% felt that there were enough play opportunities within their community
A high percentage of children stated that they had been told off whilst playing out in the community
43% felt that the parks and play areas in the community were of a good standard
66% were allowed to play out in the community without an adult present
43 % felt there were enough leisure, youth, sport and culture clubs in their community
74% Felt that they had enough time to play

How has this impacted our action plan?

To continue to provide a wide variety of staffed play provision across the borough (over 90 different Play Projects)
To continue to provide a wide variety of leisure, sport, youth and culture provision across the borough
To continue to provide outreach youth and play provision cross the borough including “Street Games”
To work closely with the Anti-Social Behaviour team to deliver staffed play provision within targeted areas
To continue to ensure that the parks and play areas are monitored and expected regularly in line with standards.
To increase the delivery of play awareness sessions within community settings for the public to access

The Workforce (Play, Leisure, Sport, Early Years, Youth, Culture and Recreational Providers)

A workshop was delivered where over 80 workers attended from play, leisure, sport, youth, culture, uniformed groups, communities first,

church groups and early years. There was a good mix of representation from both the local authority and third sector. The workshop enabled the workforce to be consulted with on key issues which affect them including aspects such as training, sharing information as well as workforce development.

What did the consultation with the Workforce tell us?

The Play and Recreational Workforce had a good knowledge of where children play and “hang out” in Torfaen.
The Play and Recreational Workforces concerns for children playing outside were similar to that of the children’s concerns highlighting a good knowledge of children’s play habits
It highlighted a need for a more joined up approach to find out what other services provide and deliver from a grassroots perspective
The Welsh language was promoted broadly across most service areas however; there was a lack of fluent Welsh speakers across all areas.
The support for children and young people with disabilities was more consistent in some services than others. This linked to factors such as training of staff and cost implications.
Training needs raised within the workshop included – First Aid, Food Hygiene, Epilepsy Buccal and Midazolam, Sign Language, Playwork Qualifications (2 and 3), Team Teach, Gypsy Traveller Awareness, Personal Care, Understanding Challenging Behaviour, Welsh Language Awareness, Communication and Information Sharing.

How has this impacted our action plan?

We will continue to provide a quarterly Inclusion Forum for all partners to share information , training and resources linked to inclusion
We are introducing a quarterly information sharing network meeting for all grassroots workers under Core Aim 4 / Early Years
We are working with Torfaen Training to deliver level 2 and level 3 Playwork Qualifications
To work with partners to roll out training linked to inclusive practice for play and recreational workers.

The Public

Initially we devised a survey for the public to complete which would contribute to the assessment findings. This survey was posted on the local authorities “My Say” online consultation portal however, the response to this was rather low. With this in mind, we changed our approach and utilised the power of social media instead. This provided us with more feedback and demonstrated its power as an effective tool for communication with the public. We also asked the general public at busy events to complete questionnaires.

What has the Public consultation told us?

A high percentage of the public felt their community was unsafe for children to play outside in
The main concerns for the public in relation to children playing outside were traffic and “stranger danger”
A large percentage felt that school grounds should be available to play out of school hours but only if these sessions were staffed due to issues such as vandalism.
The majority look to social media in relation to what opportunities are available for children and young people to engage in.
39% felt that there was enough staffed play opportunities within their community
94% felt that children had enough time to play

How has this impacted our Action Plan?

We are looking to deliver a series of play awareness sessions within community settings for the public to access
We are currently consulting with schools in relation to utilising school grounds for play and recreation out of teaching hours
We will continue to use social media as an active tool to communicate with the public

The full consultation document has been collated and is available for partners to utilise as a useful resource.

Maximising resources

This section should provide an overview as to how partners currently use their existing budgets to support children's access to play opportunities. It should identify how budgets have been reprioritised as part of the 2013 Play Sufficiency Assessments and subsequent plans.

Please use this section to highlight what has changed since the 2013 Play Sufficiency Action Plan in terms of how resources are allocated.

Please also highlight how Welsh Government programmes have been used locally for the provision of play and how they have addressed priorities from your 2013 play sufficiency assessment:

The following currently funds staffed play provision within Torfaen. Since the 2013 Play Sufficiency Action Plan there has been no significant changes in the way play has been funded in the borough however, we feel that the action plan has contributed to securing funding. It should be noted that even though money is received from a broad range of areas this is only small pockets of funding.

Core Budget	Funds 1 post and play opportunities
Families First – Welsh Government	Funds staffing to support children with disabilities and complex families to access play provision all year round
Social Care and Housing	Funds 1-1 support for children with additional needs to attend Summer Playschemes
Childcare Grant –Welsh Government	Funds Play Lending Library post and a Play/care club that runs twice weekly / wraparound play/care sessions within the half term and summer
Education	Individual schools pay for lunch time <i>Play Project on the Playground</i>
Town and Community Council	Half term and summer play provision is funded within specific areas

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.

Torfaen's Single Integrated Plan sets out the following key principles.

1. Torfaen has a healthy population with a good quality of life
2. People in Torfaen are safe
3. People in Torfaen are educated for life
4. People in Torfaen enjoy a prosperous economy
5. People in Torfaen live in quality affordable homes
6. People in Torfaen live in clean, green, sustainable communities
7. Frail people in Torfaen are happily independent

The concept of play and play provision is embedded throughout the local needs assessment.

Torfaen has a healthy population with a good quality of life

The Play Sufficiency Assessment provides details on the numbers of children and young people in Torfaen who access regular play provision in their community and are engaged in regular physical activity. The result of the Play Sufficiency Assessment also strengthens the requirement to address the health needs of children and young people. Regular play provision can contribute to tackling obesity and as a result decrease the proportion of the population who are obese. Furthermore, the assessment also provides information and statistics to other play and well-being projects linked to the Healthy Schools Plan and how they contribute to increasing the health and wellbeing levels of primary school children. The Play Sufficiency assessment places great emphasis on including the needs of children and young people with disabilities ranging from mild additional needs to complex health and medical conditions. The Play Sufficiency assessment recognises the importance of inclusive practice in relation to play and recreational provision which is delivered by the Local Authority and Third Sector Partners. Finally, the assessment provides up to date statistical data relating to population and areas of deprivation as well as a detailed audit on all play and recreational provision in Torfaen for children and young people aged 0 -18 years.

People in Torfaen are safe

The Play Sufficiency Assessment has highlighted a clear need for regular staffed play opportunities for children and young people in targeted communities. Staffed play opportunities can act as a diversion to anti-social behaviour and provide a positive environment for children and young people to engage in community based activities. Strong links have been made between play and the Anti-Social Behaviour Review in Torfaen. The consultation process carried out with children and young people, parents, carers, professionals and the wider community highlights the need for children and young people to feel safe to play in their community.

People in Torfaen are educated for life

The Play Sufficiency Assessment considers the education achievement of young people in terms of volunteering and trainee placement opportunities. This includes work based experience as well as the opportunity to engage in accredited and non-accredited training. The Assessment also focuses on education and the role of play within schools both as a direct learning tool and a recreational activity. From the consultation carried out with both children and young people there is significant evidence to suggest that play has an integral role within the school day and that schools can develop and build upon increasing opportunities for play during and out of school time. The Play Sufficiency Assessment also details the training needs analysis of the current play workforce both paid and voluntary.

People in Torfaen live in quality affordable homes

The Play Sufficiency Assessment has identified strong links with partners such as social landlords and recognises that by working together we can improve the lives of residents in Torfaen. This will ensure areas for play are identified and are fit for purpose within residential areas.

Frail people in Torfaen are happily independent

The Play Sufficiency Audit reinforces the development and sustainability of regular play opportunities for hard to reach groups such as Young Carers, children and young people with diverse needs, and disabilities.

People in Torfaen live in clean, green, sustainable communities

The assessment makes strong reference to the importance of parks and open spaces for children and young people to play in. Additionally, there is great emphasis volunteering throughout the document as a contributing factor to sustaining community play provision.

People in Torfaen enjoy a prosperous economy.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment addresses the anti-poverty agenda by assessing and removing charges to play and recreational

provision where possible. In addition to this, the assessment supports transport initiatives which subsidise travel costs to and from play and recreational provision.

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

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

Lead Director	Dave Congreve
Lead Member of Children and Young Peoples Services	Cllr David Yeowell / Cllr David Daniels (lead on play)

The Play Sufficiency Action Planning Group

This group evolved as part of the 2012/13 assessment. The group meets quarterly to feedback on and monitor Torfaen's Play Sufficiency Action Plan. The group is well attended and represented by a wide scope of partners who contributed individually to the assessment. The group feeds directly into Core Aim 4 and many partners from the umbrella of Core Aim 4 are represented within the group.

As well as assessing and monitoring the Play Sufficiency Action Plan the group is used as a vessel to discuss any funding opportunities linked to play and play provision as well as any new policies and initiatives. One of the benefits of such a widely represented group is the level of expertise, knowledge and experience. In addition to this, there is a clear understanding of how individual service areas no matter how diverse link to play and play provision. All meetings are well attended and if members are unavailable to attend then a representative from the same areas are sent.

Group Membership

Play Service	Torfaen Voluntary Alliance	Autism Officer
Youth Service	Housing	Hope GB
Sports Development	Education	Action for Children
Disability Sports	Traffic and Transport	T.O.G.s
Bridges to Work	Parks and Open Spaces	Gypsy Traveller Officer
Torfaen Training	Countryside	Young Carers Officer
Childcare Business Manager	Communities First	Blaenavon Community Council
Family Information Service	Pontypool Community Council	Cwmbran Community Council
Welsh Language Officer	Health and Safety Officer	Parenting co-ordinator
Flying Start	Health	3 rd sector youth and play providers
3 rd Sector Representative (TVA)	Parent/Carer Representative	Sustainable Play Project
Families First	Community Nursing Team	Engagement Officer

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
A1) There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)			Data is held at an household level and can be extracted by LSOAs		To continue to keep up to date accurate information received from household, NHS and Education For information to be published and utilised as a resource for providers and potential of play and recreational provision
A 2) There is up to date data for ages:			Data is updated regularly from the schools and captured at a household level		
0-3			Data is updated from the NHS which gives information on births at a household level		
4-7			Data is updated regularly from the schools and captured at a household level		
8-12			Data is updated regularly from the schools and captured at a household level		
13-15			Data is updated regularly from the schools and captured at a household level		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
16-17			Data is updated regularly from the schools and captured at a household level		
A3) There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group			Data is held at household level in Social Services.	We only have this information in relation to ward not age group	
A4) There is up to date information regarding the number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend Welsh medium schools			Data is held by Education		
A5) There is up to date information regarding other recorded cultural factors, including other language, and gypsy traveller children			Data is derived from Census 2011 and mapped at ward level		

General Comments: Population Measures

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

The requested data and information has been gathered in line with recommendations. Statistical charts and maps have also been provided which are included within the Play Sufficiency Full Findings document.

The information provided will be used as supporting evidence to help us address and shape the future delivery of play and recreational provision across Torfaen and will be promoted as an essential tool for play and recreational providers. Current play provision in Torfaen has also been mapped out within the Full Findings Document. The information collated has proved particularly useful in planning future play provision in regards to location.

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
B1) The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for			Provision is still provided regularly within Pentwyn	A lack of population in Garn y Rhiw has resulted in us withdrawing play provision within this area	To continue to provide play opportunities where needed in isolated rural areas
B2) The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for			Term time and holiday time provision is provided within both the early years and play sector. Training provided to Play Sector workforce to ensure the Welsh language is promoted in all settings. All literature is bi lingual	Welsh speaking workers although not non-existent are still often hard to locate.	To continue to deliver welsh medium and bi lingual play provision To continue to train workers in promoting the Welsh language

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
B3) The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for			The gypsy traveller community is provided for with both weekly and term time provision from both the play and early year's sector. Training is provided in gypsy traveller awareness across all services under Core Aim 4. Syrian refugees have become a new focus. Play packs and toys have been provided as well as a future plan for family play sessions		<p>To ensure that training on inclusive practice is delivered regularly to the workforce</p> <p>To introduce regular play sessions for Syrian refugees</p> <p>To continue to provide a wide program of play to children and young people with disabilities</p>
B4) The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			A wide scope of provision is available for children of all ages and abilities to play. This includes both weekly and holiday provision. Additionally, weekend play and recreational sessions are provided. A wide spectrum of partners are currently involved in the inclusion process. Cross boundary inclusive play is provided in partnership with Monmouthshire County Borough Council	There is a high demand for support and future funding is uncertain	<p>To continue to provide inclusive resources within the Play Lending Library</p> <p>To continue to share resources and training with partners.</p>
B5) Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion			The Play Lending Library has a wide variety of inclusive equipment which is hired out regularly to providers from both Torfaen and Monmouthshire. Additionally, Schools and partners from health also share their inclusive resources and training with partners		<p>To continue to deliver quarterly inclusion forums</p> <p>To continue to provide and support partners to deliver separate play provision</p>
B6) There is a well-known and agreed mechanism which is used to			Where needed separate provision is provided for children and young		

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
identify the need for separate provision for disabled children			people with disabilities. Examples of this are Action for Children, Hope GB as well as Torfaen Opportunity Group.		To update and complete access audit.
B7) Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			There is currently a draft audit in place which assess all venues utilised by staffed play providers	The audit needs updated to include venues utilised by recreational providers. This audit then needs to be shared with providers	
B8) Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites			<i>There is currently no specific play area on the existing Shepherds Hill Gypsy & Traveller site, the main issue being the lack of safe space on the site. This said, children tend to play in all areas of the site, predominantly within the car park area. We did consider including a play area in a recent Welsh Government grant bid, but unfortunately we were unable to locate an appropriate space. However, the new development has recently started adjacent to Shepherds Hill which will include 10 pitches and a play area. The play equipment has not been finalised as yet, but residents have been consulted on what they feel would be appropriate. Interestingly, most parents feel that play areas are not a particularly good idea on Gypsy/Traveller sites due to the fact that children tend to argue a lot when playing which can then</i>	Lack of play space on current site.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<i>escalate to parents arguing amongst themselves. This seems to be the case when there is only one item of play equipment such as a single slide or swing but in order to address this issue, we have considered installing play equipment that can be used by several children simultaneously</i> Gypsy Traveller Officer		To continue to support young carers to access regular play provision
B9) The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for			Young carers are supported to attend weekly and summer play provision. All play sector staff are trained to understand the needs of young carers. Training is also available for all other providers to partake in.		To ensure that workers have a key understanding of the needs and requirements of young carers as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) children
B10) The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for			All workers are trained to provide inclusive practice. Specialist support and guidance is available form youth services.		
B11) The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives			Children / young people with a formal diagnosis are eligible for the Disabled Children's Team can a apply for a bus pass In addition children and young people with additional needs can apply for Disability Living Allowance which has a specific component for mobility. This can be used to fund travel expenses. Those children or young people who are in receipt of 'high rate' DLA can access Motability schemes.		To continue to adhere to TCBC policies in relation to traffic and transport initiatives.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan

General Comments: Providing for Diverse Needs
 The data collated will be utilised to inform providers of the wide scope of needs of children and young people requiring support to access play provision. An extensive amount of work has been carried to develop an inclusive model which enables all children regardless of their ability and social background to access regular play provision. This has been successful through partnership working and replicating the support and resources provided in school to be mirrored within play, leisure and recreational provision. Torfaen are keen to support neighbouring authorities in developing their inclusion model. The barriers to access provision have been challenged greatly and many obstacles have been removed such as attitudes and access to space and resources. The key barrier which continues is that of finance and sustaining budgets within the current climate. A robust training program will be rolled out to ensure that the workforce is trained in the relevant key areas.

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

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

RAG Status

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

Open Spaces

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>C1) The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance</p>			<p>An Open Space Assessment is in place The report focuses on reporting the findings of the extensive research, consultation, site assessment, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpins the study. The specific objectives of this audit and assessment were to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *An audit of existing open space and recreation facilities (allotments, play areas, and outdoor sports facilities) detailing their quantity, quality, accessibility and wider value to the community. *A review and development of new criteria to reclassify important urban open space. *A robust evidence base to develop planning policies as part of the LDP other local development documents. *Demand based assessment of need for allotments and playing pitches. *Identification of local needs (both current and future), taking into account anticipated demographic changes. *Justifiable and defensible identification of deficiencies and surpluses in provision and options for dealing with them now and in the future. *Recommendations for improving provision across the County Borough to meet identified needs. 	<p>Sites under 0.2 hectares were not included in the report unless identified during the site visits or through consultation</p>	<p>To ensure that any new play sites or allotment sites are added to the document</p> <p>To ensure that all new play sites are mapped on the councils GIS system and PI Computer System</p> <p>To continue to provide good access to open space as part of the grounds maintenance work.</p> <p>Continue to look use the KKP report when any section 106 money becomes available so that areas of deficiencies are prioritised for funding.</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
C2) The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing			<p>In 2009 Knight Kavanagh & Page prepared an Open Space and Recreation Assessment for Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC). The report included GIS linked database identifying and detailing provision including size, ownership, existing use and condition. The Local Authority has also undertaken the Countryside Council for Wales Natural Greenspace Tool kit assessment</p>		<p>To continue to carry out playground inspections and grounds maintenance works to keep play spaces free from hazards.</p>
C3) The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			<p>Knight Kavanagh & Page prepared an Open Space and Recreation Assessment for Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC). The report focuses on reporting the findings of the extensive research, consultation, site assessment, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpins the study. The specific objectives of this audit and assessment were to provide: *An audit of existing open space and recreation facilities (allotments, play areas, and outdoor sports facilities) detailing their quantity, quality, accessibility and wider value to the community. The report has outlined the accessibility of the open space within the Borough. Open spaces are maintained by the <i>Street Scene</i> team of TCBC and any issues with accessibility to open space are</p>		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			addressed as part of the routine maintenance of these sites		
C4) The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			TCBC follow the <i>Fields in Trust</i> regulations when considering planning for any open space or play sites. The fields in trust regulations have been used as a guide in the report prepared by KKP and a few areas of deficiency have been identified and will be prioritised if any funding becomes available to make improvements. The Local Authority has adopted the FIT standards and will continue to use this standard in the LDP once adopted in line with PPW guidance.		
C5) The Local Authority undertakes and actions Play Space assessments which include actions to make public space clear from hazards			TCBC carry out weekly visual and monthly in depth inspections of play areas, any health and safety issues are addressed as a result of these inspections. Open spaces are maintained by the Streetscene team of TCBC and any issues with accessibility to open space are addressed as part of the routine maintenance of these sites		
C6) Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play			<i>The Council does not have funding for the provision of play areas through its own budgets and is therefore, reliant on the development of residential sites to provide funding through the Section 106 process in order to address any need that arises from that development i.e. new</i>	<i>The Council does not have funding for the provision of play areas through its own budgets</i> <i>There may also be cases where no Section 106 funding is available for play areas or open space due to viability issues or</i>	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p><i>residents. However, if there is an existing play area within the vicinity of the development (if the play area satisfies the walking distance requirements from Fields In Trust) money could be used to upgrade an existing play area. There may also be cases where no Section 106 funding is available for play areas or open space due to viability issues or the greater weight attached to competing agendas e.g. affordable housing. It should also be noted that brownfield sites by their very nature are more constrained than greenfield sites and therefore, potential could be more costly to develop and could reduce the amount of funding available via Section 106 agreements due to viability. Housing provision is made on both brownfield and greenfield land with the Deposit LDP allocating 60% of the housing target up to 2021 on brownfield land. The Council has an adopted Section 106 Supplementary Planning Guidance which identifies payments for a number of requirements associated with the development of residential sites i.e. children's play and adult recreation. This may result in a pot of money becoming available in the future to upgrade existing play areas or provide new play areas in areas of</i></p>	<p><i>the greater weight attached to competing agendas e.g. affordable housing</i></p>	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p><i>the County Borough where there are shortages against the Council's adopted standard for provision i.e. the Fields In Trust standard. As and when this situation arises decisions will need to be made about where to site any new children's play provision while taking into account the Field In Trust design requirements for walking distances and over looking along with planning policy and at this stage it would not be possible to say where these sites would be brownfield or greenfield as each circumstance would be different. -</i></p> <p>Forward Planning</p>		

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
C7) The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory			Records of all visual and in depth inspections of playgrounds are kept for a period of 20 years.		TCBC record all visual and in depth inspections on our Playground inspection computer

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Guidance					system
C8) The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance			Although play value is assessed to a certain extent it is felt that a greater partnership working between the parks department and the play department could build on the development of this.		To continue to use the KKP
C9) The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			The safety inspections of playgrounds include access to the sites and any improvements that are necessary are carried out as a result of these inspections		To take a collaborative approach between play and park services to agree a fixed play provision standard
C10) The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard			Initial plans have been made to develop a fixed play standard		
C11) The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			The quality of play spaces was made as part of the KKP report		
C12) The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds			All 42 playgrounds are now smoke free		To continue to ensure that all playgrounds in Torfaen Remain Smoke Free
C13) The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the			"We do not issue "No Ball Games" signs. We advise that children should be allowed to play in green spaces as long as they are supervised (depending on		To work together with partners to remove" no ball game signs"

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
community			their age) and are not causing any damage to property/cars in the area” Bron Afon. The Local Authority can confirm that some signs have been removed however each site is assessed individually.		
C14) The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community			All outreach play provisions utilise play priority signs. This includes both term time and holiday provisions		To continue to utilise play priority signs
C15) The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children’s play when any disposal decisions are made			TCBC follow the <i>Fields in Trust</i> regulations which take into consideration the value of play, sport and recreation when any disposal decisions are made. The Council's Adopted Local Plan contains a policy in respect of the loss of children's play areas, recreation and open space areas and the LDP once adopted will also contain a similar policy.		To continue to adhere to <i>Fields in Trust</i> Regulations To increase partnership working between parks and play department in relating to consulting with communities
C16) The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields			TCBC follow the <i>Fields in Trust</i> regulations which take into consideration the value of play, sport and recreation when any disposal decisions are made. Consultation with children and families will remain a priority.		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			Local residents within close proximity would be consulted as part of any planning application for the redevelopment of children's play areas, recreation and open space. Site notices would also be displayed within the vicinity of the site in order to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act.		

General Comments: Open Spaces

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments (OSAs) and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play?

The Open Space Assessment and the Play Sufficiency Assessment both complement each other. Both documents champion children's play and identify suitable and safe places to play.

A strong and supportive response from both parks and open spaces and social landlords such as Bron Afon has enabled us to critically review the current themes linked to children's play and open spaces. A commitment from the local authority and Bron Afon to push the agenda for of play priority signs and indeed the removal of no ball games signs will ensure that there are more safe areas for children to play within their community close to their homes. In relation to the consultation carried out within this section many children, young people and the public highlighted concerns in relation to their local play area. The council is committed to working towards safer communities and challenging the issues often faced within open spaces. Many children expressed their concerns of teenagers taking over their static play areas and they don't feel comfortable accessing them. This is an issue we are currently working closely with the anti-social behaviour team on. It has been identified that a stronger partnership working is required in relation to consulting with the community on play areas. This will

allow for the experience and knowledge of all partners to be pulled together. The action plan will take forward the findings of this chapter to reflect the local authorities committed to ensuring quality outdoor unstaffed designated play space.

Other Comments on Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

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
D1) The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			A record of provision is maintained and kept up to date. The local authorities website maintains this data as does the local authorities play social media pages and family information service		To continue to provide an up to date record of supervised play provision. To continue to provide rich and varied play environments.
D2) The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			All early years and play provision is measured and assessed to ensure that quality play environments are provided,		To continue to support partners to provide rich and varied play environments through the early years sector
D3)The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance			An Advisory Teacher and two Early Years Support Officers support Flying Start Childcare Settings. The Torfaen Flying Start curriculum and planning formats are based upon		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>the expectation that children should learn through first hand, play based experiences and discovery. There is a clear link with early language development, play and the Foundation Phase. Quality is monitored and improved in our Flying Start settings by the use of an annual ECERS ("Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale"-) observation which ensures that children in our childcare settings have access to play spaces with high play value. A wide range of resources are used to support planning. Flying Start children – Clinical Psychologist support is also available in Flying Start</p>		<p>To continue to adhere to the National Minimum Standards within all early years play provision and adhere to the National Minimum Standards as a good model of practice within open access play settings</p> <p>To continue to adhere to a quality assurance program within early years and closed access play settings</p> <p>To priorities quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children within Early Years settings</p>
<p>D2)Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards</p>			<p>The local authority strives to support partners to develop positive play experiences for children and young people. Staffed early years play provision that the local authority funds, Flying Start childcare and</p>		<p>as leisure and youth provision for children</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>education places for 3 and 4 year olds, are required to meet the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards and to be registered with CSSIW. This requirement is identified in the SLA they have with the local authority. The SLA has recently been reviewed and updated to ensure that funded settings have safeguarding policies and procedures in place including a Designated Safeguarding Officer. Compliance is monitored termly by the Flying Start Advisory Team (Flying Start) and the EAS (Non maintained education places). The Monitoring Proforma has also been updated.</p>		
<p>D4)Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards</p>			<p>The local authorities play provisions are currently unregistered however; we adhere to the National Minimum Standards as a mechanism of good practice. An intense mapping exercise has</p>		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>been carried out which maps out the recommended standards to current service delivery. This process is reviewed both in relation to open access term time and holiday play provision. This entails continuous review in relation to key factors such as staffing ratios, premises, training of staff, safeguarding and recruitment. All early years play provision is subject to CSSIW and adheres to National Minimum Standards.</p>		
<p>D5) Staffed play provision that the Local Authority’s partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards</p>			<p>Any provision that is funded through early years is monitored through a service level agreement and checked on a termly basis to ensure that the setting complies with the requirements of the SLA are being met.</p>		
<p>D6) Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme</p>			<p>All early years provisions adhere to a recognised quality assurance program</p> <p>All open access play settings adhere to the</p>		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			National Minimum Standards as good practice. No open access schemes are registered		
D7) The Local Authority priorities quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.			The local authority currently commissions out the delivery of recreational activities for early years via Flying Start. This is monitored through a Service Level agreement		
D8)The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) play provision for children			All of the community halls are now voluntarily managed halls; As a result it is less easy to find free provision in those areas. The halls are encouraged by the Council to see play provision as a preferred activity and to provide concessions for the times used, but limited resources mean that some charges do have to be made for the hire of the halls.	Funding availability restricts the number of halls who could offer free provision as all are voluntary run	

Structured recreational activities for children

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>D9) The Local Authority is delivering on its responsibility to secure the services set out under Core Aim 4 for sport, leisure and culture</p>			<p>A wide program of provision is provided under the umbrella of core aim 4 through both the local authority and 3rd sector</p>		<p>To continue to deliver a varied program of activity through services linked to Core Aim 4</p> <p>To continue to provide a wide program of sport and recreation</p>
<p>D10) The local “Creating an Active Wales” plan is increasing play and recreational activities for children</p>			<p>The Vision of Creating an Active Torfaen focuses on a number of key features which link to encouraging physical activity. Many outcomes link closely to play and play provision in addition, wider agendas are also addressed within the document which link to play and recreational provision. These includes traffic and transport initiatives as well as access to open spaces, education, sports, leisure, Early years youth and culture provision.</p> <p>Torfaen’s Action Plan for Creating an Active Torfaen 2011 - 2016 makes several references to areas included within the Play Sufficiency Assessment. The action plan for the play</p>		<p>To continue to support the delivery of art and cultural activities.</p> <p>To continue to deliver youth provision to children and young people</p> <p>To introduce a grassroots information sharing network</p>

			Sufficiency Assessment will endeavour to include these actions.		
D11) Local Authority Partnership Agreements (LAPAs) are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			There are plans and provisions detailed within Torfaen's LAPA agreement which relate to recreational activities which place a focus on sport and free play. These sessions allow children and young people to play and engage in activities of their choice within a leisure environments		
D12) The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			An extensive range of provision is provided linking to sport and recreation		
D13) The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			A wide variety of art and cultural provision is provided through both the local authority and third sector		
D14) The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association			The Youth Service provides a range of provision both during term time and holiday periods as well as specialist provision for vulnerable groups.		

General Comments: Supervised play provision

It is clear from the above that a wide program of supervised play provision takes place across the borough which encompasses play. This includes over 90 different play projects including weekly play clubs, projects linked to schools, half term and summer playschemes as well as specialist play projects. Records of where provisions are kept up to date both by the provider as well as publicly through the Family Information Service and the local authority's web page. All provisions linked to play, leisure, youth, culture and sport are co-ordinated under the umbrella of Core Aim 4. Stronger links between partners across the play, leisure and recreational workforce have been identified and this has subsequently been addressed within the action plan.

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

Although not directly identified as a specific item, play is assessed in terms of adequate space, ample, pleasant and varied space both indoors and out, convenient access to outdoor space, staff set up activities suitable for individual or small group use, centres selected to provide a variety of learning experiences, materials are easy to access, full range of recreational and learning activities, portable materials for individual and group games are accessible, varied furnishings, children are able to self-select. HM

In addition to this, Play training on creating rich and varied play environments is delivered to early year's staff who work in closed access settings. Furthermore, a team of playworkers deliver regular workshops within early year's sessions providing play activities and promoting equipment which can be utilised by providers through the Play Lending Library.

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

Play provision that the local authority delivers is not registered as childcare and therefore it does not come under the umbrella of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment although it is recognised that many parents utilise open access play settings as childcare. The quality of play provision is monitored on a quarterly basis taking into consideration quality play experiences as well as aspects such as health and safety, risk assessments, recruitment, ratios and all factors linked to running and effective and efficient provision for children and young people. A wide variety of play training is provided to the workforce to ensure that rich and varied play environments are provided.

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
E1) The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families			Information held and up to date		To ensure that records are up to date on the number of children living in low income families, living in areas of deprivation, living in rural areas, disabled children and those with particular need To record the availability of no cost provision and no cost / low cost premises used for play provision as well as potential
E2) The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation			Information held and up to date		
E3) The Local Authority keeps records of the number of			Information held and up to date		

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
children living in rural areas					funding support
E4) The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.			Information held and up to date		To continue to ensure that all play provision is accessible to all
E5) The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision			Within the borough only open spaces are available free of charge. A list of potential low cost venues for play is available for providers to utilise,		
E6) The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			The Torfaen Welsh Church Fund provides a grant to help towards church buildings and activities, community groups which operate and benefit the residents of Torfaen. This fund has been access frequently to support the development of play provision in Torfaen		
E7) The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			Transport is provided to young carers as well s the community play project at Victory Church		

General Comments: Charge for play provision

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

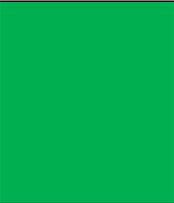
The local authority believes it is paramount that all open access play provision remains free of charge to ensure that all children and young people have equal opportunity to access regular play provision. Play provision is delivered from venues within the hearts of communities which are easy to access. A list of low cost venues is available for providers. In addition to this, wide programs of free community events which promote play provision are delivered across the borough. Play provision is paramount particularly within disadvantaged geographical areas. This concept is a key factor of consideration when planning and identifying areas for play provision.

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 2012/13	RAG Status 2015/16	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
F1) The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas			Criteria fulfilled in line with existing TCBC practice. The records are updated when new schemes are implemented		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.
F2)The Local Authority has an identified			We consider the criteria too vague and open to multiple interpretations. See comments on right hand side. The council has	However playing “outside” as in the	To continue to work in line with existing

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2012/13	RAG Status 2015/16	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities			an identified process for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures to improve road safety generally and for children's safety in particular. Enabling children to get to "outside" play venues such as parks, forms part of our assessment process.	street does not form an express part of the current decision making process, nor is it intended to become so unless it forms part of the national road safety strategy. See further comments at the end of this section.	TCBC practice.
F3) The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists			We fulfil the criteria where it is appropriate to do so as funding permits.		To continue to work in line with TCBC existing practice
F4) 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			We fulfil the criteria where it is appropriate to do so and as funding permits.		To continue to work in line with TCBC existing practice
F5) There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play			We consider the criteria too vague and open to multiple interpretations. See comment to right hand side. There is always an opportunity/need for further road casualty reduction interventions, excess speed reduction interventions and further walking & cycling route improvements, subject to funding. Access to off-highway play facilities forms an important part of our decision making process,		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice, where funding permits.

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2012/13	RAG Status 2015/16	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
opportunities			provided the funding rules permit such consideration.		
F6) The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards			We use RSG funding to train children to national standard cycling. We also support the continuance of traditional cycle proficiency safety training in the playground for primary school age pupils, which we offer to all primary schools and which the majority take up.	There is limited funding available and national standard cycling is relatively expensive. Funding is allocated across a range of road safety initiatives of which national standard cycling is just one.	To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice
F7) The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children			We use RSG funding to provide pedestrian safety training. We undertake Kerb craft training at all Torfaen schools for Year 2 school pupils. We also undertake Year 6 Transition pedestrian training at some schools prior to pupils moving to secondary schools.		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.
F8)The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes			The council has an established procedure for requesting road closures and has actively promoted awareness of the procedure for past major events such as the Olympic Torch relay and Queen's Jubilee celebration and forthcoming Queens's 90 th birthday celebrations (2016). This includes an "Info pack" downloadable from the Council's website. Road closure requests are considered by Highways for any/all community events, including the relevant legislation to support each application. Each event is considered on its merit for community benefit and, where considered appropriate, an event would be permitted. Special events "Info pack "now on Council website. Closing a road to permit children to play outside their home does not appear to be a proportionate action unless there are strong wider community benefits. If further information is required, we would ask that the question is more clearly defined so that we can fully understand the meaning of the underlying question. See further comments at the end of this section in the original document.		In line with TCBC existing practice.

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2012/13	RAG Status 2015/16	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
F9) The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm			MfS 2 and Active Travel (Wales) Guidance is used amongst other design guides and criteria. (MfS is now outdated). . Due regard is also given to the nature and restrictions imposed by existing infrastructure and funding constraints.		In line with TCBC existing practice.
F10) The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities			We use Active Travel (Wales) Guidance to the best of our ability, where applicable and appropriate to do so.	Walking & cycling Infrastructure design is not static but a constantly developing set of criteria. Additionally, schemes sometimes have physical and economic constraints that require specific designs. Notwithstanding all the above, we do continually seek to develop good quality Walking & Cycling routes and respond to emerging trends in good and relevant design.	To continue to work in line with TCBC existing practice (which has been updated to take account of the requirements of the Active Travel Act.
F11) The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around			Children are one of several road user groups we include when considering new interventions. Since 2000, we have established a number of quality Safe Routes to School and Safe Routes in Communities schemes as well as other walking and cycling routes within urban and rural areas of the county. We also consult with schools and communities as part of new scheme development and obtain important non-accident road safety and other data.		To continue to work in line with TCBC existing practice.

Assessment Toolkit

Criteria	RAG Status 2012/13	RAG Status 2015/16	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
independently in their communities					
F12) The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure			Approximately 90% of the local bus network is operated on a commercial basis and the local authority has no control over such services. A periodic review of subsidised bus services ensures they are administered in order to support access to jobs, social health care and retail. However, future consideration to children's needs to access play opportunities may be considered and possibly viable when considering. Also we undertake Policy Impact Assessment on Services to mitigate adverse impacts on all, including the potentially marginalised, and those persons with protected characteristics..	Limited scope to influence commercial operators.	To consider this criteria at the next review of subsidised bus services, periodic or otherwise..

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
F13) 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)			Play has a specific page on both the local authorities' website and the Family Information Service website. This details provision, training opportunities, volunteering as well as play areas and information linked to the importance of play.		<p>To continue to distribute information online in relation to play and play provision for children, young people, parents, cares and the general public</p> <p>To continue to provide and support partners to provide articles and updates for local magazines & Community Newsletters</p>
F14) The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required			Full information is provided on all aspects linked to play and play provision .Currently information is provided online on the local authorities' website as well as the Family Information Service. Additionally, information is provided via social media such as Twitter and Facebook		<p>To continue to use social media as a mechanism as well as the support of partners to publicise information related to positive community attitudes.</p> <p>To support social landlords to develop play priority signs in communities in Torfaen</p>

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F15) The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families			Events are widely publicised through social media and the website		
F16) The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play			Information is published through the Family Information Service as on the local authorities website linked to the play service as well as widely on social media		
F17) The Local Authority publicises helpful hints and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play			Information is published through the Family Information Service as well as social media. Additionally, the local Authorities Parenting Co-ordinator support initiatives which provide information relating to play for parents and carers. A wide range of information is available for parents and carers on the website to support them in relation to their children playing.		
F18) The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			Information is published through the Family Information Service as well as widely through social media by the local authorities play team		

F19) The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			Responses are made regularly to local media in relation to children's play. National coverage of play day Torfaen.		
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General Comments: Access to space/provision

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

Traffic and Transport initiatives encourage safer routes and cycling initiatives. Social landlords no longer erect no ball games signs which as a result, supports children to play freely within their community. An increase in outreach play provisions has led to more children playing outside in their community challenging perceptions and fears which are associated with children and young people playing outside. We are looking to also deliver play awareness sessions within community settings to the general public. This will provide a greater insight to the public on creating safe places to play and to clarify the difference between playing and anti social behaviour. A collaborative approach will be taken to identify which specific areas/communities require the training.

General Comments Information, publicity, events

How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?

Information relating to play and play provision is widely available through a multitude of sources. The concept of play is promoted widely throughout community events. The Play Lending Library acts as an active resource for play and is well utilised by the providers of community events. In addition this, last year alone the Play Service supported over 30 community events provided play activities and sign posted children and young people to staffed play opportunities. The Family Information Service outreach team also attends community events and functions promoting play and staffed play and recreational provision. A wide audience is contacted through social media where information relating to play, provision, hints for parents/carers as well job opportunities and support and advice is provided regularly.

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
G1)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)			This information is kept with the Play Team and is monitored and kept up to date. The training audit is updated quarterly in line with Ffynnon protocols.		To continue to maintain a data base on the Play Workforce detailing management structure, qualifications, training needs analysis etc.
G2) The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National minimum Standards			Qualifications are available through the Early Years Sector to enable workers to achieve the recognised qualifications		To ensure that the workforce are trained and equipped to deliver. (in house training program delivered)
G3) The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by			QCF Level 2 and 3 Playwork qualifications are now available through Torfaen Training. This will then allow for the Local Authority to	It should be noted that we can only deliver the recommended qualifications for term time staff. Whilst these workers also work	To continue to support the workforce to achieve recognised Playworks qualifications in partnership

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
SkillsActive			increase the numbers of people in receipt of Playwork qualifications. An OCN level 1 qualification in Playwork is also delivered annually through Adult Education to all summer volunteers.	the summer program we still face a barrier in training summer staff in the relevant qualifications. This is due to issues such as timing – we only have the workers with us for five weeks – this as a result proves unpractical in delivering the relevant qualifications. Secondly, the cost implications – we would not invest in training summer staff in qualifications which pose a significant cost due the workforce being a constant moving one. This has been a key concern for both the local authority and Cwmbran Community Council and as a result significant changes have had to be made to summer programs because of this.	<p>To continue to include Playwork within Workforce Development Strategies.</p> <p>To continue to deliver and support partners to deliver play awareness to communities.</p> <p>To continue to ring-fence budget for Playwork qualifications through Early Years and Torfaen Training.</p> <p>To continue to provide CPD and learning opportunities to the Play Workforce.</p>
G4) The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies			Workforce Development provides training sessions for staff working with children of different ages within the many different types of settings. This covers various areas of childcare which includes early years and out of school settings.		
G5) The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			The Local authority fully supports the delivery of training to community groups, parents and volunteers in relation to play and working with children and young people. Support and resources such as learning materials and equipment are		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			available to develop training programs delivered by partners. Training that is delivered by partners is signposted to groups and contacts. Training is also supported and delivered to community groups, students, volunteers and parents through Flying Start and Genesis. Torfaen Training includes Playwork with in its new service delivery remit.		
G6)The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary			A training analysis of the workforce has taken place and is updated regularly. This includes both term time and seasonal staff and details a wide program of training linked to the play setting.		
G7)The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork			A budget for Playwork training is managed within the Early Years sector. Additional training qualifications for Playwork are now also provided by Torfaen Training. This includes both level 2 and level 3 qualifications	There is no budget for training and qualifications within the Play Service	
G8) The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff			Great emphasis has been placed on upskilling the workforce. Training opportunities are provided regularly for all staff including online training.		
G9) There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area			An officer within the play team is responsible for the co-ordination of training needs for the play workforce based within the Communities Unit. A training needs analysis is updated regularly in		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>relation to both term time and summer staff. A large section of this document relates to ensuring that workers are trained in the relevant areas to support children and young people with disabilities, coupled with play training, corporate training, safeguarding, first aid and food hygiene. The training offered to the workforce reflects the skills and knowledge needed to work as a playworker within a variety of settings. The information is shared with Health and Safety Officers to ensure that standards are being met throughout all provisions. The Workforce Development training audit covers all childcare settings and is updated and monitored regularly.</p>		
<p>G10) There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children</p>			<p>The EYDCP in Torfaen develops a comprehensive training programme each year for all its childcare providers. The provision of good quality play underpins a number of the courses run each year with the play element delivered by the local authorities play team. The Workforce Development Officer within early years undertakes an annual training audit involving all childcare providers. The identified training needs are incorporated in the EYDCP Training Programme.</p>		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			The provision of on-going professional development for all our s childcare staff is crucial if we are to provide high quality childcare provision in Torfaen. The quality of initial training courses also plays a key role in the development of a high quality childcare workforce.		
G11) Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in play work			Training is provided by both the play team and early year’s sector to parents/carers and volunteers. A significant amount of people are trained each year in play awareness. An OCN in Playwork is delivered to all volunteers		
G12) Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children’s opportunities to play			Play Awareness sessions are available to be delivered to professionals, decision makers and elected members. Previous sessions/ seminars have influenced decisions linked to play as well as raise its profile.		

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?

A play team is in place to co-ordinate the delivery of sufficient play opportunities across the borough. A wide program of play is delivered both term time and holiday times. The Play team is equipped with the skills to deliver play provision across the authority. Although the Play team is

small during term times the team expands extensively during holiday periods to deliver half term and summer playschemes. The Play team is co-ordinated by experienced staff with a wealth of knowledge and skills linked to play and playwork.

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*)?

The local authority is keen to ensure that all play staff hold the relevant qualifications / skills to deliver play provision. Training has now been made available to ensure that the core term time staff will now complete either a level 2 or level 3 in playwork which is reflective of their role. Where we have faced a colossal barrier is the training of summer staff in-line with the recent recommendations within the changes in childcare regulations. This has not affected the closed access schemes which run all year round within early year's environments but it has dramatically affected the Playschemes who rely on a seasonal workforce. As a result both the local authority and Cwmbran Community Council have had to alter and adapt their summer program. This will have a big impact on the community who have previously utilised the all-day Playscheme sites which run in the south of the borough. However, through intense analysis it was felt that we could no longer offer all day schemes as we were unable to ensure that we met the requirement which linked to the qualifications of staff. Many of the seasonal workers are away in University and do not return to the local area until it is time for the Playschemes to start. Additionally, the seasonal workforce is ever changing and we do not have the same workers year after year. These factors are barriers to allowing us to deliver the required training to summer staff. We have relayed our concerns through to Welsh Government in relation to the barriers we have faced in relation to meeting the standards.

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
H1) 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.			Children’s Council and Youth Forum supported. A variety of methods to consult with children and young people and the public in relation to play and recreation		To continue to promote all mechanisms of consultation / participation with children and young people in championing children’s play.
H2) The Local Authority promotes community engagement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making space available and suitable for play - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - Training on the importance of play. 			Community initiatives supported to develop community play space Community play events delivered and partners supported to deliver play events positive attitudes towards children’s play championed and acts as advocates where necessary Play Training provided to the community and professionals		To continue to support the concept of play within the community

General Comments Community engagement and participation.

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

We believe that children and young people are the voice of the community. Consultation with children and young people is integral in the planning and delivery of play provision and indeed promoting the concept of play within the community. Children and young people are consulted with regularly through a variety of mechanisms. It should be noted that when children and young people are consulted we also feedback to them on what they said and also inform them of the actions we are taking in relation to the consultation findings. The Play Service currently leads on all consultation which affects children and young people in the borough.

This then allows for play to be considered as key aspect where relevant. A wide variety of mechanisms are used to consult with children and young people which allows them to put their views and opinions across in a friendly and affective manner.

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
11) 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			Play is championed on the Local Service Board and the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contributes to the Single Integrated Plan		To continue to ensure that Play is championed at Local Service Board level and contributes to the needs assessment of the Single Integrated Plan

Education and schools

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
12) Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day			<p>Play on the playground project delivered in Primary schools across Torfaen</p> <p>School staff trained in the importance of play</p> <p>Play value assessments carried out on Primary schools in relation to their playgrounds.</p>		<p>play value assessments carried out on Primary schools</p> <p>To continue to deliver the Play on the Playground Project and train school staff in the Importance of Play</p>
13) Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			<p>Some schools do allow for after school community play clubs to take place after school. This includes Henllys, Nant Celyn and Blaenavon Heritage.</p>	<p>Only 3 schools out of 22 are allowing this to happen</p>	<p>To continue to support schools to provide play opportunities out of teaching hours</p>
14) Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			<p>Some schools are now exploring this option although many still do not. Nant Celyn primary allows for a community play club to use its grounds and Henllys School allows for the scouts to carry out activities on their grounds .Blaenavon Heritage school shares its grounds with a leisure centre and both play and recreational activities take place on the grounds.</p>	<p>Only 3 schools out of 22 are allowing this to happen</p>	<p>To continue to support schools to provide access to school grounds for playing.</p>

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Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
15) Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school			Kerb Kraft Road Safety Initiatives program delivered in all primary schools. Many schools actively encourage this. Some schools even provide storage space for scooters.		To continue to encourage children to walk and cycle to schools
16) The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			Play awareness seminar to all primary head teachers. Play is a key element within the school day		To continue to provide play awareness training to schools

Town and Country Planning

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>17) The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities</p>			<p>The Deposit LDP contains policies that protect and prevent the loss of existing children’s play areas, important urban open spaces and sports pitches to other forms of development that require planning permission; albeit, in certain circumstances, financial payments can also be made to provide alternative provision in mitigation of a loss. The Deposit LDP and associated Section 106 / Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance contain policies and guidance where all allocated housing sites will provide new open space, children’s play areas and sports pitches in accordance with Council and FIT standards to serve the needs of the site. In addition the recreation and open space survey background document prepared by KKP to inform the LDP contains useful information on the quantitative and qualitative play provision / deficiencies throughout the County Borough. The provision of</p>		<p>Planning Services will continue to negotiate the provision of new facilities on housing sites as they come forward over the next four years. This will be monitored annually as part of the LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p>

			new facilities includes an arrangement for adoption by the Council with a 20 year maintenance sum or maintenance in perpetuity by a management company funded by the residents		
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Traffic and Transport

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
18)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			The Torfaen Local Transport Plan adopts a hierarchy of road users and positions 1 and 2 are pedestrians then cyclists. Through applying this principle, the Council pursues the re-allocation of road space from cars to a more sustainable means of travel. This approach promotes measures to assist pedestrians, assist the development of pedestrian networks, and improve traffic management around schools and in designated Home Zones. The council also has a keen desire and proven record in developing and extending cycleway routes. We interpret “offering play opportunities” as enabling children to get to “outside” play venues such as parks but NOT playing “outside” as in the street, by virtue of our statutory highway and road safety responsibilities and our duty of care to the public		To continue to work in line with TCBC procedures
19)The local Transport Plan			High level Council strategy and		

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Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.			policy address these points. High level Council strategies and policies such as the Community Strategy, Health Social Care & Well-being Strategy, CYPP, Community Safety policy contribute to address all the needs of marginalised and vulnerable groups including access and movement. The Council also has an Accessibility Audit document. These have more of a role than the LTP in achieving this criteria.		

Health and Wellbeing

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
110)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			Torfaen's Healthy Plan and the Obesity Strategy make clear strategic links to play. A number of key actions link directly to play and increasing health and wellbeing through play and physical activity for children and young people of all ages. Play is also paramount within Torfaen's Well Being of Future Generations plan		To continue to ensure that play is a key factor within policies relating to health and well-being for children of all ages.

Child Poverty

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>I11) 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.</p>			<p>The local authority provides inclusive play opportunities to all children and young people regardless of their social background. With this in mind, we strive to work in economically deprived areas in particular those which areas which are listed as experiencing multiple indicators of deprivation. All the local authorities open access play provisions are free of charge with no future intentions to bring in any charges. In addition to this measures have been put in place to stamp out any financial discrimination within playschemes. The local authority discourages end of summer trips to theme parks etc. which places financial strain on families especially if they have more than one child. With this in mind, large local community events are held free of charge to enable every child and young person to attend. It was also agreed within the meeting that a reference be made within the local authorities' welfare</p>		<p>To continue to ensure that play remains a key aspect within all poverty agendas</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			reform stating the importance of play and play provision for families. Finally, play provision in Torfaen is currently funded through the Families First Initiative which places great focus on tackling poverty through its outcomes.		

Early Years/Childcare

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
I12) Early Years, and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children			Early Years plans and services recognise the importance of play and the key role parents have in supporting their children to play. The importance of relationships, particularly between a child and their parents, in the first year of life, underpins much of the work we do. All Flying Start staff have been trained in the Solihull Approach, to ensure a consistent approach partners	<p>Parents lack confidence to play with their children. Lead Stay & Play sessions where parents and children play together in a planned play environment where staff support parents through role-modelling.</p> <p>Parents have raised concerns about safety in Parent and Toddler groups. Limited capacity to support these groups in improving quality and safety.</p>	To continue to ensure that play remains integral within all Early Years / Flying Start settings

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>from Communities First have also attended this training. The Flying Start Clinical Psychologist facilitates an Infant Mental Health Forum on a termly basis. The Incredible Years Programmes and Family Links Nurturing Programme encourage parents to play with their children as positive interactions encourage children to demonstrate positive behaviours. A number of programmes and services are in place to support parents/carers and children</p>		
<p>I13) 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>			<p>The Childcare Strategy offers guidance on the concept of play. It details its importance as well the need for quality play experiences within all childcare settings. The childcare strategy is reviewed and monitored through Core Aim 1.</p>	<p>Gaps have been identified in the delivery of high quality childcare for children and young people with disabilities.</p> <p>A reliance on grant funding provides uncertainty to the sustainability of provision</p> <p>A reduction in all day closed access playschemes has affected childcare provision</p>	<p>To ensure that the Childcare Strategy recognises and understands the importance of play within childcare settings.</p>

Family policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
I14) Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play			Torfaen Family Information service provides helpful tips related to play for early years parents on their website. This includes sharing both local and national research on the concept of play along with its benefits. The Local Authorities Parenting Co-ordinator provides t Parenting courses t play takes a significant role.		To continue to support Family initiatives to provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
I15) There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			Play is provided and promoted within community events for all. Play awareness training to lunch time supervisor which as a result encourages intergenerational activity. A wide program of activities which place a focus on intergenerational activity delivered via Communities First work plans		To provide a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity There is a creative approach to inter-

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<p>I16) There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages</p>			<p>Play is provided and promoted within community events for all. Play awareness training to lunch time supervisor which as a result encourages intergenerational activity. A wide program of activities which place a focus on intergenerational activity delivered via Communities First work plans</p>		<p>generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages</p> <p>To set up a working group to look at intergenerational activity</p>
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Community Development

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>I17) The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding the rights of children to play within their communities</p>			<p>A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and the benefits it provides to the community within future community policies and work plans</p>		<p>To continue to ensure that play remains integral in relation to all strategic plans linked to the community</p>
<p>I18) The Community Strategy supports communities to provide play opportunities for their children</p>			<p>A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and the benefits it provides to the community within future community policies and work plans</p>		
<p>I19) The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding how providing play opportunities contributes to community cohesion</p>			<p>A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and the benefits it provides to the community within future community policies and work plans</p>		

Community Safety

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
I20)The Community Safety Strategy makes a clear statement which recognises the rights of children to play in their communities			A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and community safety are present within the Anti Social Policy Review		To continue to ensure that play contributes to the Community Safety Strategy
I21)The Community Safety Strategy includes actions which provide a safe environment for children to play in their communities			A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and community safety are present within the Anti Social Policy Review		

Health and Safety

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
I22) The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge			A close working relationship between Health and Safety and the Play team has enabled us to make strategic links between the two. A draft Risk and Play Policy has been created which will be rolled out across the borough with accompanying training.		To launch the Risk and Play Policy
I23) The Health and Safety policies and procedures			A close working relationship between Health and Safety and		

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Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)			the Play team has enabled us to make strategic links between the two. A draft Risk and Play Policy has been created which will be rolled out across the borough with accompanying training.		
I24)The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils			,	There is currently not a provision within Public Liability Insurance Policies that would extend to cover third party sector providers. If there was to be this would attach with it very onerous practical issues surrounding responsibilities, procedural issues, management, documentation, training, support, risk management etc. That the Authority would have to impose (and audit) upon Third Party Sectors for such a provision to exist. However, We have approached the insurance market to enquire whether it is something that they may be able to consider/work with in future, if required, and we are awaiting their thoughts. Insurance Officer	

General Comments: **Within relevant policy and implementation agendas**

Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities.

Torfaen has strived hard to ensure that play is embedded throughout all policy areas. We are happy that play continues to contribute to the

majority of policies and strategic plans. We will continue to work with partners to ensure that play and play provision continues to form part of as many policies as possible. Steps have been made to increase partnership working with Education with the implementation of play value assessments. We are also looking to develop a working group to look at co-ordinating intergenerational activities across the borough.

Conclusion

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

To conclude, the Play Sufficiency Assessment has allowed us to address and assess all factors linked to play and play provision in Torfaen for the second time. We are pleased with the result of the assessment and the current state of play within Torfaen.

Our model of working which includes utilising a mixture of both paid and volunteers has been identified as a good model of practice by neighbouring authorities.

We have consulted widely on issues linked to play and we will address them individually as part of the action plan for 2016/17. The assessment has providing a number of actions for our action plan which will be monitored quarterly by our Play Sufficiency Action Group.

The key priorities we are taking forward from analysing play and play provision in Torfaen for the second time are as follows:-

- To ensure that play opportunities delivered across the borough are inclusive to all.
- To foster safe places for children to play within the community
- To ensure that children and young people are widely consulted with on any issues linked to play and promote play within the community.
- To deliver a wide program of play provision across the borough that is free of charge.
- To ensure information related to play and play provision is widely available to the community through a broad scope of mechanisms
- To ensure that the workforce are trained and equipped to deliver.
- To ensure that play is championed strategically and remains a key priority within all key policy areas

We feel that all of the factors we are taking forward within our action plan can dovetail into the themes above.

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 Play Sufficiency Assessment has allowed the local authority to critically assess the quality and quantity of play provision delivered in Torfaen for the second time as well as address key factors which enhance or pose barriers for children’s play. The Local Authority will endeavour to continue to work with partners to ensure sufficient play opportunities are met (worked towards) within Torfaen.

The action plan has been created from addressing the full findings of the assessment. The action plan has been developed from working creatively with the work plans of partners as no additional money will be provided to deliver the plan.

The action plan is honest and achievable and will be monitored quarterly through the Play Sufficiency Action Group. There will be no changes in infrastructure to deliver the plan as the majority of actions were already being carried out.

Signed:

Date:

Play Sufficiency Action Plan



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of local authority: Torfaen

Name of person responsible officer: Julian Davenne

Job title: Play Service Manager

Date of completion: 8th March 2016



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)
Matter A: Population	There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)	To continue to keep up to date, accurate information	For information to be published and utilised as a resource for providers and potential of play and recreational provision	Officers time	Core
	There is up to date data for ages:0-3 years, 4-7 years, 8- 13 years, 13-15 years 16-17 years	To continue to keep up to date accurate information received from household, NHS and Education	For information to be published and utilised as a resource for providers and potential providers of play and recreational provision	Officers time	Core
	There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group	The continue to keep up to date accurate information received from social services	For information to be published and utilised as a resource for providers and potential providers of play and recreational provision	Officers time	Core
	There is up to date information regarding the number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend as well as different cultural factors.	The continue to keep up to date accurate information received from the census	For information to be published and utilised as a resource for providers and potential of play and recreational provision	Officers time	Core
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs		To ensure that the workforce are equipped to deliver	Regular training provided to workforce which recognises and understands the play needs of children and young people from diverse groups.	Staff/ Materials/ Venue hire	Core / Families First

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	The Play needs of children living in isolated rural areas	To continue to deliver existing play provision within isolated rural areas	A varied program for play delivered in Pentwyn	Staff/ Materials/ Venue hire	Core
	The play needs of welsh speaking children	To take a collaborative approach to the delivery of welsh medium provision by supporting partners	Half term and summer playschemes through the medium of welsh Welsh speaking play childcare places provided	Staff/ Materials/ Venue hire £5,000 Staffing/Materials/ Resources	Core Funded Flying Start
	The Play requirements of children from different cultural backgrounds are understood and provided for	To continue to support partners to deliver regular play opportunities to the gypsy traveller site.	Regular play experiences for children and their families through Flying Start provisions for Gypsy traveller children. Term time, and summer play provision on the travellers site To introduce regular play sessions to Syrian Refugees.	Staffing/ Materials Staff and materials	Flying Start Core
	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.	To continue provide inclusive play provision for children and young people with disabilities To continue to provide support to parents/carers To continue provide support to deliver inclusive sport , leisure & recreational provision	Term time, half term and summer play opportunities/ weekend respite for children and young people with disabilities An active play forum delivered for parents and carers as well as termly newsletters relating to play and recreational provision. A varied program of inclusive sport and leisure activities delivered	Officers Time Staff, resources £76,000 Officers Time Venue Hire /Staffing £2,500 Staff/ Resources	Families First Families First Sports Wales
	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion	To continue to provide support to partners to deliver inclusive practice	A wide range of Inclusive resources provided within the Play Lending Library as well as provide quarterly inclusion forums to play, leisure, sport and recreational providers.	Officers Time Venue Hire	Core

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	There is a well known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children	To continue to support the need and development of segregated provisions provided where needed	Partners supported to deliver term time and holiday play provision Play/care sessions delivered at Crownbridge School and wrap around child care provision Short breaks sessions delivered to complex families as a form of early intervention To provide up to date training in relation to supporting children and young people with disabilities provided to the play work force	Officers Time £21,000 £1000	Core Early Years Funding Families First Families First
	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller site	To provide a safe environment for play and recreation	Temporary play priority signs erected whilst on site and support the new developments on site which includes recreational space. To support the new developments for recreation on the proposed new site.	Officers Time	Core
	The play needs of young carers and lesbian, gay and bi sexual children are understood and provided for	To continue to support and co-ordinate the delivery of regular play opportunities which are inclusive to all	Weekly term time play provision for young carers The workforce is trained and equipped to deliver.	Staff, Resources, Venue Hire, training,	Big Lottery People and Places
	The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives		To continue to work in line with TCBC protocols	Officers time	
Matter C: Space available for children to play	To undertake an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for	To monitor the document and keep the data up to date	To ensure that any new play sites or allotment sites are added to the document.	Officers Time	Core

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	playing				
	To undertake an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing	To monitor the document and keep the data up to date	To ensure that any new play sites are mapped onto the council GIS system and PI system	Officers Time	Core
	To undertake access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety	To ensure that all open spaces are well maintained in line with relevant protocols	To continue to maintain good access to open space as part of the grounds maintenance works.	Officers Time	Core
	To develop an Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales	To ensure that the relevant protocols are in place in relation to open spaces	To continue to look use the KKP report when any section 106 money becomes available so that areas of deficiencies are prioritised for funding.	Officers Time	Core
	To undertake and action Play Space assessments which include actions to make public space clear from hazards	To ensure that the relevant protocols are in place in relation to play spaces	To continue to carry out playground inspections and grounds maintenance works to keep play spaces free from hazards.	Officers Time	Core
	To assess Brownfield sites for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play	To work towards increasing the provision of open access space.	*Increase the provision of recreational open space and accessible natural green space & allotments in the County Borough in line with FIT standards	Officers Time	Core
	To keep up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance	To monitor all data and ensure it is relevant and up to date in relation to designated play space	TCBC record all visual and in depth inspections on our Playground inspection computer system.	Officers Time	Core
	To assess play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use	All play spaces maintained by the local authority are addressed and assessed in relation to play value	To carry out the Play value Assessments and review them on an annual basis	Officers Time	Core

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	To undertake access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety	To ensure that safety inspections are carried out routinely	To continue to manage access and safety in relation to designated play space as part of routine playground inspections.	Officers Time	Core
	The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard	To develop a fix play provision standard	To take a collaborative approach between play and park services to agree a fixed play provision standard	Officers Time	Core
	To undertake and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces	To ensure that play space assessment are in place and monitored.	To continue to use the KKP report when funding becomes available to improve play spaces	Officers Time	Core
	To enhance and protect play opportunities for children and young people in open spaces	To continue to promote smoke-free playgrounds	All 42 playgrounds in TCBC continue to be smoke free.	Officers Time	Core
		To continue to promote the removal of 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community	To continue to monitor complaints and levels of use in each area.	Officers Time	Core
	The importance and value of Playing Fields in relation to children and young peoples play	To continue to consider the value of play, sport and recreation when any disposal decisions are made to ensure adequate provision is made elsewhere to cover any deficiencies.	<p>To include children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing</p> <p>To support social landlords such as Bron Afon to continue to work to the Green Futures Principles</p> <p>For play providers with experience in consulting with children, young people and their families to provide support to carry out the consultation process where required.</p>	<p>Officers Time</p> <p>Officers Time</p> <p>Officers time resources</p>	<p>Core</p> <p>Core</p> <p>Core</p>

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Matter D: Supervised provision	To provide a rich and varied program for play	To continue to keep a record of all supervised play provision and ensure that the workforce is trained and equipped to deliver.	To provide an up to date records of supervised play provision. To provide and support partners rich and varied play environments including the Play Lending Library.	Officers Time	Core
	Staffed play provision meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	To continue to adhere to the National Minimum Standards within all early years play provision and adhere to the National Minimum Standards as a good model of practice within open access play settings.	CSSIW annual review – Childcare Standards Subject to Early Years annual review of service level agreement	Officers Tim	Core
	Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme	To continue to adhere to a quality assurance program within early years and closed access play settings	Quality assurance programs reviewed on an annual basis within early years	Officers Time	Core
		To priorities quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children within Early Years	Flying Start Childcare places commissioned and reviewed.	Officers Time	Core
	To deliver and secure the services set out under Core Aim 4 for sport, leisure and culture	To continue to deliver on all services under Core Aim 4 in relation to sport, leisure and culture To continue to strengthen the links between play, sport and leisure activities	Progress of Core Aim 4 reviewed annually LAPA/ Creating an Active Torfaen reviewed annually To co-ordinate and information network for workers under the umbrella of Core Aim 4	Officers time Officers time	Core Core
		To continue to provide a wide range of sporting, cultural and art as well as leisure and youth provision for children	Sports Development, Arts Development and Youth Services Team Plans delivered and adhered to.	Officers time resources	Core/Sport s Wales/ Grant/ External Funding
Matter E:	To consider barriers	To ensure that records are up to	Information published and utilised as a	Officers Time	Core

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Charges for Provision	to access for play provision.	date on the number of children living in low income families, living in areas of deprivation, living in rural areas, disabled children and those with particular need	resource for providers and potential of play and recreational provision		
		To record the availability of no cost provision and no cost / low cost premises used for play provision as well as potential funding support	A database of cost effective venues provided which can be utilised for play and recreational provision as well as potential funding opportunities	Officers Time	Core
		To continue to ensure that all play provision is accessible to all	All open access play provision remains free of charge To work with partners to secure transport cost to play provision for young carers	Officers Time	Core
Matter F: Access to space/provision	F1) To keep an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F2) The ensure 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		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice. Changes will only be considered if the objectives of this criteria are incorporated into Welsh Government Road Safety Delivery Plan.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F3) The ensure plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant

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	speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclist				
	F4) The ensure plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F5) To consider further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice, where funding permits	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F6) The use road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F7) To use road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F8) The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant

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	arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes				
	F9) The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F10) The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities		To continue to work in line with TCBC existing practice (which has been updated to take account of the requirements of the Active Travel Act.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F11) The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities		To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers Time	Core /Grant
	F12) The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport		To consider this criteria at the next review of subsidised bus services, periodic or otherwise	Officers Time	Core /Grant

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	planning and expenditure				
	F13) To provide a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility, community play events	To distribute information in relation to play and play provision for children, young people, parents, cares and the general public	<p>Details of play and play provision, community play events, job opportunities, volunteering and current trends within the field of play provided on website.</p> <p>Information provided via the Family Information Service and Youth Support Service Website</p> <p>Play forums and newsletters for parents/cares of disabilities provided.</p> <p>Support provided to partners to publicise community play events through resources, staffing and promotion</p>	<p>Officers Time Resources</p> <p>Officers Time</p> <p>Officers time / Venue Hire £2500</p> <p>Officers Time</p>	<p>Core</p> <p>Core</p> <p>Core/ Families First</p> <p>Core</p>
	F14) To publicise information and supports safeguarding initiatives which contributes to safeguarding children's play as well as positive community attitudes to play	<p>To encourage and develop the public's perception and understanding of children play</p> <p>To engage with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area</p>	<p>To continue to provide and support partners to provide articles and updates for local magazines & Community Newsletters</p> <p>To continue to use social media as a mechanism as well as the support of partners to publicise information related to positive community attitudes.</p> <p>To support social landlords to develop play priority signs in communities in Torfaen</p>	<p>Officers time</p> <p>Officers time</p> <p>Officers time</p>	<p>Core</p> <p>Core</p>
	Information for Parents/Carers	To provide support to parents and carers in relation to play and its benefits to children and young people	<p>To provide and support partners to provide helpful play hints to parents /carers of all ages and abilities via the Family Information Service Website</p> <p>To continue to support Parenting Initiatives that provide information relating to play</p> <p>Dad and Me forum delivered monthly</p>	<p>Officers Time</p> <p>Officers Time-</p> <p>Officers Time</p>	<p>Core</p> <p>Core</p> <p>Families</p>

			Quarterly parent/carer forums for disabilities and a termly play forum newsletter delivered.		First
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	To keep up to date information regarding the workforce	To monitor and provide accurate data in relation to the play workforce	To continue to maintain a data base detailing management structure, qualifications, training needs analysis etc. and ensure that the workforce are trained and equipped to deliver. (in house training program delivered)	Officers time	Core
		To support all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National Minimum Standards	Support provided to the workforce to achieve nationally recognised qualifications in line with Minimum Standards. To deliver level 2 / level 3 Playwork qualifications in partnership with Torfaen Training.	Officers time	Core
		To support the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive	Partnership working with colleges and universities to develop playwork training	Officers time	Core
		To ensure partners are supported to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers	Support provided to partners to deliver training to community groups, parents and volunteers by providing resources, materials, promotion , venues and professional guidance	Officers time Resources	Core
	Workforce Development	To ensure that the training needs of the workforce are met	Training needs analysis kept on both the term time and summer play workforce for open access play provisions as well as Early Years Provision	Officers time	Core
	Learning and Development and Continual Professional Development (CPD)	To continue to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff as well as a range of CPD opportunities	The learning development needs of workers and CPD of workers is assessed regularly in line with TCBC protocols	Officers time	Core
	Play Training Awareness Sessions and Seminars	To continue to provide training for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on	Regular play awareness sessions provided along with seminars to professionals and decision makers	Officers time	Core

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		skills in play work as well as seminars to professionals and decisions workers			
Matter H: Community engagement and participation	To promote 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.	To continue to work with partners to ensure that community engagement and participation is a key factor in relation to the co-ordination and delivery of play and recreational opportunities	Children's Council and Youth Forum supported A variety of methods to consult with children and young people and the public in relation to play and recreation	Officers time Resources Officers time Resources	Core Core
	To promote community engagement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making space available and suitable for play • organising play events • positive attitudes towards children and play • Training on the importance of play. 	To continue to work with partners to ensure that community engagement and participation is a key factor in relation to the co-ordination and delivery of play and recreational opportunities	Community initiatives supported to develop community play space Partners supported the delivery of play events To continue to champion positive attitudes towards children's play and acts as advocates where necessary Training provided to the community	Officers time Resources Officers time Resources Officers time Resources	Core Core Core
Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas	Single Integrated Plan	To ensure that the concept of play remains championed and included within the single integrated plan	The Play Sufficiency Assessment forms part of the local needs assessment The Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan are integrated into the planning, implementation and review of the Single Integrated Plan.		
	Education and schools	Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day	Play on the playground project delivered in Primary schools across Torfaen School staff trained in the importance of play	Staffing Resources materials	Core

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			Play value assessments carried out on Primary schools		
		Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school	Kerb Kraft Road Safety Initiatives program delivered in all primary schools.		Grant Funded
		To ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed	Play awareness seminar to all primary head teachers	Officers time Resources	Core
	Town and Country Planning	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities	Monitored annually as part of the LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).	Officers time	
	Traffic and Transport	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	To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice. To support the "Walk to School" Week	Officers time	
		The Local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.	To continue to work in line with existing TCBC practice.	Officers time	
	Health and Well-being	The Local Authority plans and agenda to promote health and well-being recognise the importance of play for children's and families' physical health and well-being	Play and play provision as a key factor within the Healthy Schools Plan and Obesity Strategy. Children and young people with complex health conditions to attend play provisions <i>Yogurt, Yoga & Play</i> breakfast club sessions delivered in schools	Officers Time Staffing/Materials	Core Families First
	Child Poverty	The poverty agenda and plans recognise the importance of ensuring that play opportunities are available to all families	Regular play opportunities in deprived communities including Street Games All open access play opportunities remain	Staffing/materials resources	Core

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		regardless of their income.	free of charge		
	Early Years	Early Years, and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children	The concept of play is a priority within all early years settings Environmental ratings scales to assess the quality of provisions in early years	Officers Time	Flying Start
		The Childcare Strategy continues to offer 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	The importance of play is within the Childcare Strategy and reviewed on an annual basis or when necessary Child Business Support Officers support all childcare providers to encourage rich play environments	Officers Time Officers Time	Core Core
	Family policy and initiatives	To continue to support Family initiatives to provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play	Regular and relevant parenting courses provided Up to date and accurate information relating to parenting made available via a wide range of sources Early years staff to facilitate parents as First Teachers provision in the home.	Officers Time venue	Flying Start Flying Start Joint authority bid Flying Start
	Inter-generational policy and initiatives	To provide a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages	To continue to provide play within community events for all To continue to deliver play awareness training to lunch time supervisor to encourage intergenerational activity. To continue to deliver and support play based community events To set up a working group to co-ordinate and implement a program of activities which places a focus on intergenerational activity.	Officers Time	Core

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	Community Development	<p>To continue to ensure that Community Development plans and policies include the following :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *makes a clear statement regarding the rights of children to play within their communities *supports communities to provide play opportunities for their children *makes a clear statement regarding how providing play opportunities contributes to community cohesion 	To include a set of key statements relating to play and play provision and the benefits it provides to the community within future community policies and work plans	Officers Time	Core
	Community Safety	<p>Community Safety policies include the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *makes a clear statement which recognises the rights of children to play in their communities *includes actions which provide a safe environment for children to play in their communities 	A set of key statements relating to play and play provision and community safety within the Anti-Social Policy Review	Officers time	Core
	Health and Safety	<p>The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) 	<p>To launch the draft risk and play policy for the local authority which is sign posted to within Health and Safety Policies and Procedures</p> <p>To deliver training relating to risk and play to partners</p>	Officers time Resources	Core
	Insurance	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils	To work towards and explore future plans to offer third sector providers local authority insurance over	Officers time	Core

