

**Playbuilder Briefing Note**  
**Requested by CS&L Overview and Scrutiny Panel 20 January 2010**

Bracknell Forest has been awarded £1.2m capital funding by DCSF to develop a minimum of 22 play sites across the borough aimed at 8 – 13 year old age range by March 2011. The DCSF have expectations that the planning and delivery of the project will encompass close collaborative working between stakeholders and opportunities for children and young people and local communities to be part of the consultative and planning processes.

The Early Years, Childcare & Play Partnership has identified and established a specific group of stakeholders, a Play Partnership, chaired by Councillor Gareth Barnard, to drive this agenda forward. Play England is providing the support and challenge role, reporting directly to DCSF via the implementation of a bi-monthly RAG rating process. Sites identified for development must:

- Fall within the financial scope set by DCSF (approx £50K per site)
- Be based upon evaluation of existing provision
- Make use of natural elements in the environment
- Provide a wide range of play experiences
- Be accessible to both disabled and non disabled children
- Meet community needs
- Allow children of different ages to play together
- Build in opportunities to experience risk and challenge
- Allow for change and evolution
- Be sustainable and appropriately maintained

A number of sites were identified for Year 1 of the programme by the Play Partnership. Following widespread consultation, particularly with children and young people, these sites are currently under development. Contracts with suppliers have been let and phase 1 remains on target for completion by the end of March 2010. Year 1 sites are as follows:

- Ascot Jubilee Recreation Ground, North Ascot
- East Lodge, Great Hollands (smaller scheme agreed with Play England as an 'extra' to enhance existing facilities)
- Evenlode Way, Sandhurst
- Farley Wood, Binfield
- Foxley Fields, Binfield
- Latimer/Lydney Recreation Ground, Birch Hill
- Memorial Park Sandhurst
- Morgan Recreation Ground, Crowthorne
- Pollardrow Avenue, Priestwood
- Threshfield, Wildridings
- Westmorland Park, Warfield (replaces Goddard Way where local residents objected)
- Winscombe, Great Hollands

The Play Partnership is currently considering a number of sites for development in Year 2 with completion before March 2011. A number of sites are emerging as possibilities.

The Play Partnership is also keen to explore the possibility of developing enhanced play opportunities for disabled children at The Lookout, working in partnership with Bracknell Forest 'Aiming High for Disabled Children' project.

Further investigation of possible Year 2 sites is being carried with the aim to identify and agree our final 11 sites at the next Play Partnership meeting being held in February 2010.

Martin Gocke  
Acting Director: Children, Young People & Learning  
25 January 2010