

**PROVISION OF PLAY FACILITIES IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE
(Report by the Cabinet)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting on 22nd April 2010, the Cabinet considered a report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) on the findings of a study into the availability of play facilities in Huntingdonshire and the ongoing revenue costs associated with such facilities.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel established a Working Group to examine the availability of play facilities in Huntingdonshire. The Working Group decided to focus primarily on the provision of facilities for teenagers as this had been identified in the 2008 Place Survey by residents as the highest priority area in need of improvement in Huntingdonshire.

3. THE CABINET'S DELIBERATIONS AND DECISIONS

- 3.1 In considering the Panel's recommendations, the Cabinet were advised of issues linked to maintenance, insurance and inspection of facilities for maintenance and safety purposes.
- 3.2 The Cabinet concurred with the Group that further research into the availability of Group insurance schemes with the aim of achieving a lower insurance premium and the feasibility of combining safety inspections should be undertaken. In terms of the future revenue funding of play equipment and the Group's proposed formula for maintenance of play equipment, the Cabinet decided that the provision and management of local play facilities should be undertaken at a local level by local parish councils and community organisations and that the District Council's role should be confined to strategic, district-wide initiatives and in advising on opportunities for funding.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to note the contents of this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Cabinet Minutes and Reports of the meeting held on 22nd April 2010.

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