

Tender Specification for inclusivity

The below is an extract regarding inclusivity in play area design, from the tenders that are requested from contractors.

Play Area Refurbishment Aims

It is proposed that this play space will be a blend between play and nature with a heavy influence on creating a biodiverse habitat space that can be enjoyed whilst children play, will encourage interaction with nature and contribute to green corridors passing through the district

Local residents, visitors and key stakeholder views are very important in the design of each of the play areas with the Council's commitment to the vision for Three Rivers to be a great place to live, work and visit: underpinned by our objectives.



To do this, we aim to ensure that the Council achieves the best possible quality of services and products for and achieves value for money, ensuring we achieve our objectives with all suppliers.

The Council invited the public to provide comments and feedback on what type of play area equipment can be installed into this Play Area to better reflect the needs of the local community, in line with the Council's Play Strategy and existing equipment in the district whilst being a play area to be enjoyed for many years to come.

In line with the play strategy, community codesign for access to high quality, playful spaces that incorporates inclusivity and the natural world, the council undertook wide ranging public consultation to gain feedback on the play area visitors views for refurbishment.

Scope of works

Construction phase - Play Area refurbishment	Removal of play area equipment that is end of life. Refurbishment of play area equipment that is to be kept with equipment being brought back to service as 'good as new' which may include sanding, maintenance, replacement of parts etc. Installation of new play area equipment as per the final agreed designs from public consultation,	Public consultation was undertaken asking the public for feedback on what they liked and did not like. The consultation report is attached and the final design MUST include elements that are a direct result of the public feedback. Details are shown in enclosed tender spec documents. Details of plant types must be included, along with plant passports, planting regime, & making good of play area.

The design and build works to be tendered for are shown below along with bidder's notes:

- Play equipment must contain items that cover stretch, reach, grab, rock, glide, jump, rotate, crawl, climb and balance play sensations along with risky play elements to promote learning to balance.
- Play equipment should not have dynamic moving parts, we are encouraging a more natural play area environment.
- Play equipment must come with the required BS EN or equivalent certifications
- Sensory planting of indigenous species must be identified in a clear planting plan

Tender Specification

Elements/ Play Sensations specifications	Further description
Existing equipment	Retention of existing equipment should be considered where there is still a long-life expectancy The site has a large sand pit which is very well used, sand play must be incorporated on this site. A playhouse was on this site originally and was much beloved, please incorporate social interactive play such as a playhouse. Existing pathways may be retained and any additional pathways required, may be grass mats or bound gravel may be used to create all weather access
Small/medium multi play unit	Incorporating slides, climbing, social play/playhouses, interactive play panels and any other elements to create an exciting feature.
Medium/large multi play unit	More challenging than the small play unit, aimed at older children, potentially with climbing walls/nets and standard and / or banister slide
Mutli level play	Equipment that incorporates platforms and various entry and exit points that are different to each other
Basket/nest swing	Pendulum or standard swing with a large rope basket seat or any other play equipment that has the sensation of swinging.
Bouncing	Equipment which gives the sensation of bouncing
Rotating	Rotating element, which is capable of catering for multiple users at any one time
Swinging	Swinging features that cater for toddlers, older children and can be inclusive/sociable – these can be traditional and / or slightly different (combined swing frames of basket swing, flat seat and toddler seat would be acceptable)
Seesaw	This does not have to be a traditional seesaw.... e.g. a rotator bounce could be considered.
Active play	Agility bridges, crawling tunnels, climbing nets, jump equipment, balancing equipment, climbing wall, stepping logs, ropes connected to towers etc
Sensory play	This could be through incorporating sounding items, sight, tactiles etc
Imaginative/Creative/ Developmental play	Play that encourages imaginative and creative play, conversation or language development and fine motor skills use. This could be on equipment, in the surfacing or as stand-alone play equipment. Equipment that encourages sharing/taking turns and language development
Social Play	Play equipment that encourages social play eg playhouses, social games
Educational Play	Play equipment that encourages learning features such as play panels, animal prints on equipment, games boards (memory, counting, sorting, language, numbers etc)
Ground graphics	These may be used to provide educational, social or physical active play and encourages conversation or language development
Sounding items	Equipment that uses sound as a play element eg musical instruments, talk tubes
Inclusive play	Inclusive and not segregated equipment. Natural flow of site that is easy to navigate for partially sighted or mobility challenged children Wide ranging stimulus eg texture, sound, colour At least one playhouse or large play element that has ramp access for inclusivity
Individual play	Play equipment for children where they can play alone if they choose
Planting	Sensory planting around the site. Planting must incorporate climate change requirements. Sensory planting of indigenous species must be identified in a clear

	planting plan Any trees, shrubs or grasses must be indigenous species and have a clear planting plan The long-term nature of tree planting and our changing climate will also mean that the climate conditions trees face in the future will be substantially different. As a result, the planting of non-native tree species that grow well in warmer, dryer conditions will be important. This may include species such as Sweet Chestnut, Walnut and False Acacia. Planting used to create structures such as willow tunnels are acceptable
Grassy mounds/slack space	The play area already has some changing levels along with slack space for free play. Bidders are encouraged to use the space creatively including areas for 'zoned' play, other levels and easier access into and out of the sand pit.
The Wow Factor	Please include a new / innovative item of play equipment, which gives the play area a "wow" factor
The 'why this design'	Please provide a short description of: How your design incorporates the 6 senses wheel? How does your design breaks down barriers of play? How is the space welcoming for children of all abilities? How are you incorporating different spaces for children of all abilities to explore? How are you making sure that the inclusive equipment is not segregates and incorporated into assisted play? How have you incorporated challenges into this play space with children of all abilities?