

SSA EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Directorate	Environment
Service Area	Parks
Service/policy/function being assessed	Upgrade the play equipment at Grimwood Road Recreation Ground
Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to	Richmond upon Thames
Staff involved	Rajula Mehta Hugo Ross-Tatam
Date approved by Policy and Review Manager	20/02/20

SUMMARY

As part of Richmond Council's continued commitment to improve our Parks and Open Spaces, the Council's Parks team are proposing to upgrade the play provision at Grimwood Road Recreation Ground. We are seeking to add value to the community park by providing new equipment which aims to enhance the play experience of this playground.

The Council also plan to facilitate the formation of a new Friends Group for the recreation ground. Contact details of respondents to the consultation regarding the upgrade will be shared with the South West London Environment Network (SWLEN), who will support the group initially.

1. Background

The Council's Parks team are proposing to upgrade the play provision at Grimwood Road Recreation Ground by replacing three or four of the existing springer units with a number of new pieces of equipment to provide a more varied play experience for both local residents and service users.

The proposed new play items include:

- A ground trampoline
- A spinning carousel
- A seesaw
- A play jeep

One of the five existing springer units would remain, with others located to different playgrounds.

2. Analysis of need and impact

Protected group	Findings
Age	<p>Population data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The estimated population of St Margaret's and North Twickenham Ward is 12,679. This is the most populated ward of the 18 wards that make up the borough (with a total population estimated at 199,421 people). • 2,954 of the population of St Margaret's and North Twickenham are aged between 0-14, whereas 39,326 of the population across the whole borough are 0-14. • There are also 1,123 people aged 65 and over within the ward, compared to 25,327 across the borough (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>).

	<p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Disability	<p>Population data 2.9% (329 people) of the St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward population have activity limited a lot due to poor health, compared to 4.9% (9,137) across the borough (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>).</p> <p>Findings The play jeep and the already installed springers are all DDA compliant and will enable disabled and able-bodied children to play together.</p>
Gender	<p>Population data 49.5% of the population in the St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward are male and 50.5% is female as compared to 48.6 % Male and 51.4% Female in the borough (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>).</p> <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Ethnicity	<p>Population data 7.1% of the St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward population are BAME as compared to the borough average of 16% (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>).</p> <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Religion or belief	<p>Population data 60.7% of the St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward population list their religion as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53.8% Christian • 0.9% Buddhist • 1.7% Hindu • 0.6% Jewish • 2.4% Muslim • 0.8% Sikh • 0.5% other • 29.7% • No religion 30.9%. <p>This is compared to the borough figures of: 63.1% have religion, 55.3% Christian, 0.8% Buddhist, 1.6% Hindu, 0.8% Jewish, 3.3% Muslim, 0.9% Sikh, 0.5% other, and 28.5% no religion (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>).</p> <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Gender reassignment	<p>Population data Data not collected in 2011 Census and is not available at a borough level.</p> <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Marriage and civil partnership	<p>Population data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.4% of the St Margaret's and North Twickenham ward population are registered in a same-sex civil partnership, which is the same as 0.4% of the borough population.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 49.3% are registered as married as compared to 47.3% across the borough (<i>Datarich, 2019</i>). <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>
Sexual orientation	<p>Population data We do not have any borough wide statistics however nationally 2% of the UK population identify as LGBT (<i>ONS Annual population survey 2017</i>).</p> <p>Findings No specific issues raised</p>

3. Impact

Protected group	Positive	Negative
Age	<p>The proposed redevelopment of the play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.</p> <p>New equipment will provide a more varied play experience for children of all ages.</p>	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Disability	<p>The new play equipment will increase and enhance play options for users of the playground.</p> <p>The play jeep and the already installed springers are all DDA compliant and will enable disabled and able-bodied children to play together.</p> <p>This upgrade is part of a wider initiative by the Council to improve accessibility of parks for children and young people with special needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families/carers.</p>	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Gender	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Ethnicity	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.

Religion or belief	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Gender reassignment	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Marriage and civil partnership	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Pregnancy and maternity	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal.
Sexual orientation	The new play area will provide an updated new play facility for children in the local area and visitors to the borough.	There are no negative impacts identified on this group from this proposal

4. Actions

Action	Lead Officer	Deadline
<p>A public consultation was carried out in January and February 2020 and the Council will go ahead and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with our play contractor on ordering the new play units for Grimwood Road; • Look to include thermoplastic activity and play graphics as part of the improvements; • Arrange for the installation to be completed by late March or early April, depending on lead times. • Liaise with SWLEN to support the creation of a Friends Group for the park 	Hugo Ross-Tatam	January to May 2020

5. Consultation.

The consultation was featured on the consultation's portal on the Richmond Council website, and took place between Friday 10th January and Friday 7th February 2020.

46 people responded to this consultation and all took part online. Out of the people who responded, all 46 people (100%) agreed with the proposal of upgrading the play equipment.

29 (72%) respondents provided "final comments" with regards to the consultation:

Great idea/support idea/welcome upgrade – 11 (38%)

Comments about proposed equipment – 10 (34%)

- Rail around the trampoline maybe useful for some children
- Carousel looks a bit small
- Hope it is sourced from makers that can supply spare parts quickly
- Nice to have more variety
- Maybe not the seesaw
- Keep the general layout of park and don't remove raised beds and plants

Requests to retain springer – 2 (7%)

Requests for other equipment – 7 (24%)

- Sand pit/water play
- Additional slides or climbing frames
- Monkey bars, hopscotch or 4 square and improvements to the bike track with road markings to get kids to practice
- More painted games (Hopscotch, Mr Wolf, Duck Duck Goose) and letters and numbers for early years
- Natural play equipment

Comments about wanting equipment for older children/all ages of children – 4 (14%)

- Section with goal posts and net for older children to play ball games
- More playground equipment for 5 plus, 9-12 year olds

Concerns about safety – 3 (10%)

- Hook at front of jeep looks dangerous
- Is trampoline safe
- Seat on see-saw looks narrow and uncomfortable with handles very close together so easy to fall off
- Large raised beds and trees may screen off children from their parents
- Create a safer crossing, dropped curb from opposite park entrance to park gate as not suitable for wheelchairs and buggies at the moment
- Child have picked up needles more than once

Concerns about protecting the equipment/park (against anti-social behaviour) – 8 (28%)

- Patrols to stop youths smoking and stop ASB
- Restrict local college youths using park as they leave packaging and food waste on ground and tables, and damage the play equipment
- Concerned about vandalism to trampoline by youths and maybe destroyed by animals so consider an alternative
- Reduce the number of picnic tables and benches especially behind raised beds as it attracts ASB

Comments about green spaces/planting – 4 (14%)

- Keep green space and planting to keep natural
- Sad to see all shrubs were cleared and left muddy mess. The shrubs were great for nature and hide and seek
- More trees and shrubs priority
- Parks accessible areas are hard-standing – change to grassed area
- Consider using parts of the park as micro-allotments for local residents