

ESTATES PRIDE LARGE SCALE BID – OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS (NORTH AREA)

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report is seeking approval from the LHBN to recommend three open space improvements to the City Council for approval under the Estates Pride large scale budget. This follows a request from the City Council's Director of Environmental Services, attached at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Housing Board North

1. considers the bids for approval by the City Council through the Estates Pride large scale budget
2. agrees on the timescale for these improvements, if the Board agrees that these need to be completed this financial year approval will need to be sought from the Council ahead of the usual date for approving Estates Pride large scale funding (February).

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

Please refer to the report attached at Appendix 1 from the Director of Environmental Services, Derby City Council.

4. CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS

We have discussed these projects at the recent Housing Focus Group (HFG) for the North East area and the HFG agreed to support all three bids, recognising that the proposed improvements are all in the heart of Council Housing estates and would benefit many local youngsters.

5. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Estates Pride budget is a City Council fund made available through the HRA. The total amount of unallocated funding in Estates Pride is currently £2.059m, if these schemes are approved the total remaining would reduce by £155k leaving £1.904m for projects in future years.
- 5.2 The following summarises the total project costs and the breakdown by Estates Pride funding and other match funding. The costs also show the investment made in improving facilities in the area by Derby City Council in related projects.

	Project Cost	Estates Pride Funding	Match Funding	Other investment already made
Racecourse	Phase 2 Play Area £75,000	£50,000	£25,000 Derby City Council Capital	Phase 1 play area (trim trail) £60,000
Roe Farm Play Area	£80,000	£25,000	£35,000 Playbuilders £20,000 Derby City Council Capital	
Chesapeake MUGA	£80,000	£80,000		Oregon Way Play Area £80,000
TOTAL	£240,000	£155,000	£85,000	£135,000

5.3 Should the Estates Pride funding not be approved then the schemes for the Racecourse and Roe Farm will be reduced in scope to fit within the existing available budget, while the refurbishment of Chesapeake MUGA would not proceed.

5.4 The facilities will be maintained by Parks within the existing Parks maintenance budget

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

All facilities are located on existing open space and will replace existing and poor quality facilities.

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The design process will ensure play spaces offer play opportunities for all groups and are inclusive in the provision made. Inclusion will be achieved through consideration of the needs of all users, including disabled children, ethnic groups and other hard to reach groups.

Play spaces will be accessible to disabled children by providing features that improve access and avoiding features that may create a barrier. The whole space design will be inclusive so that special needs are integrated as part of the overall design. The design process will consider the following aspects:

- footpath gradients and widths
- size and operation of any gates
- use of natural features to enhance play value
- variety of equipment that can be accessed and used by children with disabilities
- Use of appropriate safety and other surfacing
- places to rest, sit and relax, with clear views of children playing
- suitable signage
- Colours, markings and tactile features

All play spaces will comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.

Accessible sites are those that are physically accessible, welcoming, attractive, safe, have available information and signage and are well used.

Access to individual sites will be assessed as part of the project and where improvements are identified the work will be included where possible. In a number of instances this may involve extending the open space footpath network to link in with existing paths.

8. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Play areas will be designed to provide safe and welcoming areas that also offer adventurous play with some level of risk. Designs will use the latest guidance set out in 'Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide' written by Play England.

Designs will include safety surfacing, fencing and play equipment will comply with European standards where appropriate.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report

- Legal and Confidentiality
- Personnel
- Risk

If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author, or the Chief Executive, phil.davies@derbyhomes.org - Tel 01332 711010

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Background Information: None.

Supporting Information: None.