

# **Torfaen Play Sufficiency Assessment 2025**

## **An Executive Summary**



## **The State of Play in Torfaen**

In 2010, Wales became the first country in the world to introduce a legal duty for local authorities to assess and support children's play opportunities. This was part of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010. The duty was rolled out in two stages: from November 2012, councils had to assess the availability of play opportunities in their areas, and by July 2014, they were required, where reasonably possible, to ensure there were enough opportunities for children to play.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment is a collaborative process aimed at evaluating and enhancing children's play opportunities. It explores key themes such as inclusive play for children with diverse needs, barriers like cost, and the accessibility of parks and open spaces. The assessment also considers how children travel to play areas, reviews supervised play, and leisure services and examines workforce development for playworkers. Additionally, it looks at how policies, engagement, advocacy, and information-sharing support children's right to play.



## **1. Torfaen's Pledge for Play**

*Torfaen County Borough Council and its partners remains dedicated to expanding, developing, and sustaining high-quality play opportunities, ensuring that the play needs of all children and young people are fully understood and supported. We recognise the importance of providing opportunities for children and young people to play freely and safely within their communities.*

*A strong focus is placed on addressing a broad range of play-related issues, and proactive measures have been implemented to minimise barriers to play. Regular, positive play experiences are essential for the healthy development and well-being of children and young people. We firmly believe that play offers significant benefits to children and young people's physical and mental health, as well as their overall well-being. Torfaen Council and its partners is committed to safeguarding every child's right to play across all aspects of their lives.*

## **2. Methodology**

### **2.1 Timeline and Process of Activity and Events**

Building on the success of previous assessments, Torfaen Council followed a similar methodology, working with a broad range of partners to gather relevant data and address emerging issues. A lead officer from the Play Service coordinated the process, overseeing data collection, meetings, workshops, and consultations to ensure a thorough and collaborative approach.

- In August 2024 we started our first round of consultation with children up to the age of 12.
- In September 2024 we launched the young people, play and recreational workforce and the general public consultation.
- In November 2024 we held a Play Priority Conference. The event was extremely successful and enabled us to demonstrate the importance of play to professionals and partners. Attendees at the conference included representatives from the key areas within the assessment as well as Elected Members, Town and Community Councils and Local Government. We utilised the conference to highlight some of the current themes linked to play as well as demonstrate some of the models of good practice from Torfaen's Play Sufficiency Action Plan.
- In January 2025 we held a drop-in surgery for elected members, Town and Community councillors to discuss the findings from the consultation.

To ensure a comprehensive and inclusive Play Sufficiency Assessment, Torfaen Council identified a wide range of partners across various sectors. A mapping exercise helped determine which officers and services needed to be consulted, ensuring up-to-date and relevant input.

The assessment was embedded into key meetings to gather broad feedback, while social media and briefing sessions were used to raise public awareness and keep stakeholders informed throughout the process.

## 2.2 Partner Involvement in Updating Assessment

A wide range of services and partners were included in the assessment process.

|                                    |                                              |                                                 |                                                          |                                                              |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Population and Data Officer        | Play Policy Officer                          | Local Health Board                              | ACT Training                                             | Environment Operations Manager                               |
| Participation Officer              | Play Service Manager                         | Youth Service                                   | Clybiau Plant Cymru                                      | Road Safety Officer (RSO)                                    |
| TOGs Manager                       | Forward Planning                             | Families First                                  | Blaenavon Youth Strategy Group                           | Participation & Research Officer                             |
| Planning and Commissioning Manager | Bron Afon                                    | G I S Officers                                  | Little Red Berries Playgroup                             | Children & Young People's Engagement & Participation Officer |
| Community Nursing Team             | Helping Working Families Officer             | Torfaen Scouts                                  | Group Manager Community Wellbeing                        | Head of Leisure (Torfaen Leisure Trust)                      |
| Disability Sports                  | Melin Homes                                  | Family Information Service                      | Traffic and Transport                                    | Third Sector Development Officer                             |
| Childcare Manager                  | Childcare Business Officer                   | Transport Officer                               | Geospatial Analyst                                       | Family Liaison Officer                                       |
| Children with Disabilities Team    | Early Years Manager                          | The URDD                                        | Head of ALN, Inclusion and Wellbeing                     | Young People                                                 |
| Active Travel Officer              | Community Support Worker                     | Flying Start Manager                            | Social Care – team manager                               | Content creator and community development champion           |
| Torfaen Leisure Trust              | Torfaen Brownies and Guides                  | Team Lead Community Capacity                    | ALN Manager                                              | Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school Officer                   |
| Menter Iaith                       | Play Development Team                        | Community Safety Team                           | Youth Club and Outreach Manager                          | Two Locks Church                                             |
| Inspire Pre 16 Delivery Manager    | Libraries                                    | Health and Safety Officers                      | Youth Service Manager                                    | Play and Recreational workforce                              |
| Young Carers Officer               | Sports Development                           | Partnerships and Policy Manager                 | Landscape & Recreation Policy & Partnerships Manager     | Torfaen Voluntary Alliance                                   |
| Community Halls                    | Town and Community Councils                  | Regional Collaboration and Improvements Officer | Communications Officer (Digital)                         | Senior Sports Development Officer                            |
| Head of Resources & Planning       | Play Development Workers                     | Elected members                                 | Cwmbran Centre for Children and Young People             | Parents /carers                                              |
| Autism Officer                     | Cwmbran Centre for Children and Young People | Youth Workers                                   | Strategic Environmental Projects Coordinator             | Children                                                     |
| Friends of Park Groups             | Community Resilience Support Officer         | Healthy Schools Officer                         | NEET Triage Coordinator                                  | Schools                                                      |
| Coldbarn Farm                      | Communities First                            | Inclusion Officer                               | Head of Support Service for Deaf Children & Young People | Young Carers Officer                                         |
| Play Enhancement and Workers       | Town and Community Councils                  | G I S Officers                                  | Community Resilience Support Officer                     | Positive Futures Development Officer                         |

### **2.3 Agreement of Play Sufficiency Findings and Action Plan**

The key findings of the full assessment and the proposed action plan was then discussed through the following processes: -

- Play Sufficiency Action Planning Group
- Executive Member Scrutiny Briefing



### 3. How Consultation and Engagement Informed the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan

#### Consultation Findings

Consultation holds a significant role within the assessment process. Over 90 partners have been involved in the assessment from a broad range of services and areas both local authority and third sector.

The Play and Recreational survey was completed by a total of **2,328** individuals. Responses were collected from across Torfaen, representing a broad spectrum of voices, including children, young people, families, community groups, and professionals working in play and recreational settings. This diverse input ensured that the consultation provided an accurate and comprehensive snapshot of community views.

|                                         |      |
|-----------------------------------------|------|
| Childrens Consultation (Under 12s)      | 1196 |
| Young People Consultation (12-25 years) | 432  |
| Public Consultation                     | 628  |
| Play and Recreational Workforce         | 102  |



### 3.1 Summary of Key Findings of Children's Consultation and Actions Taken Forward (1196 responses)

The children's consultation used questions adapted from Play Wales's 'Big Satisfaction Survey', with additional items tailored to Torfaen's context.

It was conducted through both paper surveys (376 responses) distributed across staffed play provisions and an online SNAP survey (820 responses) promoted through all primary schools, gathering a total of 1,196 responses between August and December 2024.

The consultation revealed several key insights into children's play experiences and preferences. Notably, for the first time, more children reported playing at home (40%) than in outdoor spaces such as parks and fields (38%) highlighting a perceived decline in outdoor play since 2022. In response, the local authority remains committed to promoting outdoor play by developing accessible community spaces and continuing initiatives like the "Pick it Up" campaign and "It's Not Far, Leave Your Car" to support cleaner, safer environments and active travel. Pop-up play sessions in parks will also be expanded to encourage outdoor engagement.

A significant shift was observed in children's preferred play activities, with sports and team games now ranking higher than electronic devices, a reversal from 2019. To support this, play staff will receive ongoing training in team games and the playwork curriculum, while parents will be offered guidance on free-range play. Many children already access the local authority's free, staffed play provisions, which will continue to operate during term time and holidays. Recognising the demand for weekend play opportunities, Saturday morning pop-up sessions have been introduced and will rotate across community venues such as schools on a termly basis to ensure borough-wide access

Children also expressed a desire for improved parks and cleaner play areas, prompting continued investment in park maintenance and litter reduction campaigns. Positive feedback on school playtimes has increased since previous consultations, leading to sustained support for schools in integrating play into the school day and beyond, including school staff training and play-enhancing projects. With many children using bikes and scooters, active travel initiatives like Scoot FIT, bike maintenance, and Kerb Kraft will be maintained and promoted.

Responding to requests for toys to play with at home, the Toy Library has been relaunched. Finally, 81% of children reported having playworkers in their schools and described them as positive role models. The local authority will continue to partner with schools to deliver play projects and invest in professional development for the play workforce.

### 3.2 Summary of Key Findings of Young People Aged 12 – 25 Years Consultation and Actions Taken Forward (432 responses).

The consultation was conducted through an online survey hosted on the council's Get Involved platform, with both electronic and paper versions available to ensure accessibility. The consultation took place between October 4th, 2024, and December 20th, 2024.

The survey was distributed via email to secondary schools, local colleges, and organisations that work with young people in play and recreational settings. In addition, the survey was promoted widely across all social media platforms.

The consultation highlighted that 61% regularly spend time in their communities, particularly in parks and near shops. In response, youth providers will continue to offer outreach and detached youth work in these areas, while the local authority works with partners to ensure these spaces remain safe and accessible. Many young people also engage with local sports clubs and facilities, prompting ongoing support from the sports development team and third-sector partners to maintain a wide range of sporting opportunities.

A common concern was the lack of facilities suitable for older children and teens, as many parks are seen as geared toward younger children. This feedback has been shared with stakeholders, with inclusive developments such as a new outdoor gym in Northfields, improved access at Blaenavon Flower Park, and new multi-use areas in Pontypool and Cwmbran all aimed at older children and young people.

Young people also expressed a desire for safe indoor spaces offering activities like gaming and coding and online trends. In response, two new youth clubs and an outreach provision are being developed in partnership with the youth service and a local youth organisation which will provide new opportunities for young people. Additionally, the need for mental health support and confidence-building opportunities was recognised, with youth providers continuing to train staff and deliver targeted support for young people facing these challenges.



### **3.3 Summary of Key Findings from Parents/Carers and Families on the Authorities Play Service and the response/actions taken (628 responses).**

An online survey was launched through the "Get Involved" platform and placed a focus on play, leisure and recreational opportunities for children and young people of all ages. The survey was widely promoted across various social media channels to reach as many people as possible.

In addition to this, we actively engaged with parents, carers and families who access play provisions in Torfaen, encouraging them to share their valuable insights.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Consultation with parents and carers highlighted strong support for the local authority's play service, with many praising the quality and impact of the staffed play settings. In response, the service will continue to offer a wide range of free play opportunities throughout the year. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A common request was to extend the daily hours of the summer Food and Fun Camps to better support working parents. While these camps are not designed as childcare, the council will provide a comprehensive list of wraparound childcare providers during the booking process to assist families. Some parents also called for a more equitable distribution of camp locations. Although funding criteria and logistical constraints limit venue options, Torfaen will deliver 17 Food and Fun Camps in 2025, more than any other Welsh local authority. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parents expressed a need for more inclusive play opportunities for children with disabilities. In response, the play service will continue to support through weekly and holiday sessions, as well as support provisions delivered by partners and specialist providers. The introduction of new sensory rooms in community settings will also increase opportunities for children with disabilities. All new park enhancements will include inclusive equipment. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Request to improve access to information, all play service details have now been consolidated on the updated TCBC website section for the Play Service and the Torfaen CONNECT platform. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### **3.4. A Summary of Key Findings from Parents/Carers on Leisure, Youth and Recreational Opportunities for Children and Young People and the Response/Action Taken (628 responses).**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feedback from parents, carers, and families highlighted a strong need for better communication and access to information about out-of-school opportunities for children and young people. In response, the local authority is working with partners to centralise information on the Torfaen Voluntary Alliance CONNECT platform, making it easier for families to find relevant activities. An audit of play and recreational providers was also completed to support this effort, and partners are being encouraged to share updates directly with schools. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The need for more accessible 3G and 4G sports pitches was raised frequently, the development of new facilities at Abersychan School, Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynllyw, and Llantarnam Community Primary will be provided as a response to this. To address concerns about dog fouling in recreational areas, the councils "Pick It Up" campaign |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

continues to work with local groups to promote responsible pet ownership.

Parents also called for more staffed provisions for young people aged 12 and over. In response, an audit of youth providers will be made public, and a five-year multi-agency youth work strategy is underway, including the creation of two new youth clubs and an outreach provision by the end of 2025.

Finally, families expressed the importance of keeping activities affordable. The local authority has reaffirmed its commitment to delivering all staffed youth and play services free of charge, with many partner organisations also offering free access.

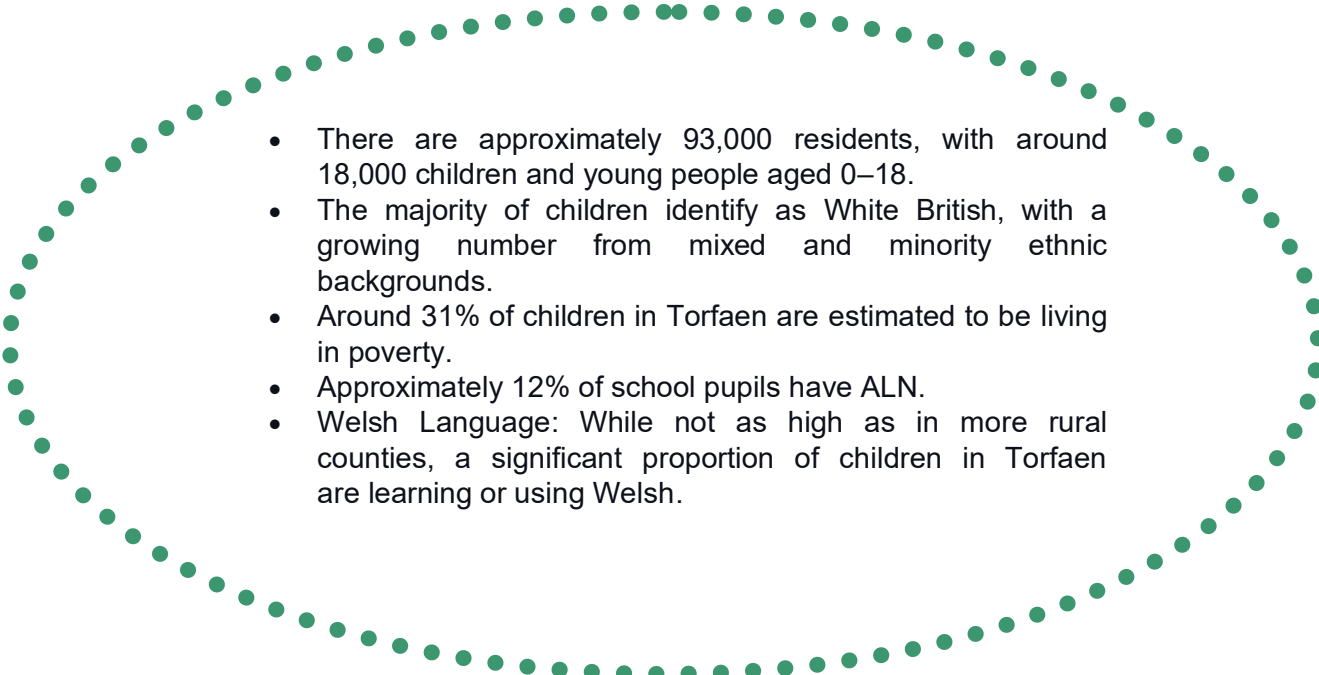


## 4. Summary of Assessment Findings

### 4.1 Landscape and Population

Torfaen is a mixed urban and semi-rural county borough in southeast Wales. The borough boasts a varied landscape of urban centres, valleys, and rich green spaces. Its natural environment includes parks, woodlands, fields, and gardens that support recreation, biodiversity, and community wellbeing.

The borough also contains 4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 7 Local Nature Reserves, and over 150 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. Agricultural land, playing fields, and informal open spaces further enhance opportunities for outdoor play and sustainable development.

- 
- There are approximately 93,000 residents, with around 18,000 children and young people aged 0–18.
  - The majority of children identify as White British, with a growing number from mixed and minority ethnic backgrounds.
  - Around 31% of children in Torfaen are estimated to be living in poverty.
  - Approximately 12% of school pupils have ALN.
  - Welsh Language: While not as high as in more rural counties, a significant proportion of children in Torfaen are learning or using Welsh.

### 4.2 Staffed Play Provision

A recent audit identified eight open-access play providers in Torfaen for children aged 5 and over, including faith-based groups, third-sector organisations, and the local authority's play team. The council's play service offers over 50 weekly community play sessions and a wide range of holiday activities engaging with over 3000 children each year.

Specialist play support is provided for over 200 children annually through the councils Play and Inclusion Model, which includes those with disabilities, behavioural needs, and vulnerable backgrounds.

Additional play opportunities are available for children under 5 through early years teams, third sector, and private providers. Welsh-medium play is also widely

supported across all age groups through partnerships with organisations such as Menter Iaith, URDD, and Cylch Meithrin.



A recent audit of staffed community play provision highlighted the following for children aged 5 years and over delivered by the local authority play service: -

|                                                 |                                                      |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Community Play Clubs</b>                     | 14 sessions per week                                 | 560 sessions per year |
| <b>Weekly Play and Respite Sessions</b>         | 13 sessions per week at 5 different venues           | 520 sessions per year |
| <b>Family Play Sessions</b>                     | 8 sessions per week + 1 extra a month for Dad and Me | 372 sessions per year |
| <b>Weekend Pop up and Play Sessions</b>         | 5 sessions per week                                  | 420 sessions per year |
| <b>Half-term Play, Food and Wellbeing Camps</b> | 18 sessions per week at 6 different schools          | 90 sessions per year  |
| <b>Half-Term Play and Activity Camps</b>        | 3 sessions per week                                  | 15 sessions per year  |
| <b>Summer Open Access Playschemes</b>           | 35 sessions per week at 7 different venues           | 133 sessions per year |
| <b>Summer food and Fun camps</b>                | 85 sessions per week at 17 different venues          | 340 sessions per year |
| <b>Summer Play and Activity camps</b>           | 5 sessions per week                                  | 95 sessions per year  |
| <b>Summer Daily Play and Respite Sessions</b>   | 40 sessions per week at 8 different venues           | 152 sessions per year |

### 4.3 Audit of Play and Recreational Providers.

The assessment identified a range of accessible, staffed play, recreational, and leisure opportunities in Torfaen significantly enhanced through collaboration between the local authority, third-sector organisations, and the private sector.

A broad range of partners contribute to the play sufficiency assessment, and many are instrumental in the play sufficiency action planning process.

A recent audit (March 2025) of play and recreational providers in Torfaen identified over 100 different active providers: -

|                                                                        |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Staffed Play Provisions for over 5s                                    | 8 providers  |
| Early Years Play Provision / Groups                                    | 21 providers |
| Youth Clubs/ Youth Projects                                            | 12 providers |
| Specialist Play, Youth Sport and Leisure providers                     | 12 providers |
| Cultural provisions (Dance, Drama, Welsh Medium, Uniformed groups etc) | 19 providers |
| Sports Clubs and Provisions                                            | 37 providers |

### 4.4 Play in Schools



To continue to ensure that play remains an integral part of the school day, play-related projects are delivered weekly to 25 schools. Many school venues open up their grounds to allow community play and recreational activities to take place

outside of school hours. Play awareness training is available free of charge to all school staff through the local authority play team.

The following play sessions are delivered to schools weekly by the local authority play service.

|                                 |                          |                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Early bird play sessions        | 5 schools per week       | 25 sessions per week |
| Play and well-being sessions    | 10 schools per week      | 24 sessions per week |
| Inclusive play support          | 6 schools per week       | 43 sessions per week |
| Play and breakaway sessions     | 19 young people per week | 46 sessions per week |
| <i>“Play on the playground”</i> | 12 schools per week      | 30 sessions per week |
| Play and wraparound sessions    | 4 schools per week       | 19 sessions per week |
| After school clubs              | 5 schools per week       | 6 sessions per week  |

#### **4.5 Parks, Play Areas and Open Spaces Where Children Play**

Torfaen County Borough Council is responsible for maintaining most public play areas, parks, and playgrounds in the borough, including equipment safety, security, and grounds maintenance. Council officers carry out weekly visual inspections, supported by more detailed monthly checks.

In addition, Bron Afon Community Housing manages 10 play areas, mainly on former council housing estates. Other playgrounds are overseen by Melin Homes, local community councils, and residents' associations. Increasingly, new housing developments are using private management companies to maintain play areas and open spaces.

A wide range of improvements have been made or are in the pipeline to be introduced to enhance outdoor play spaces throughout the borough, ensuring that children and young people have ample opportunities to play in safe, inclusive accessible environments.

Soltys Brewster have been commissioned by Torfaen County Borough Council to produce a 20-year Management Plan for several green spaces throughout the Authority as part of the Welsh Government-funded Local Places for Nature Scheme. The management plans will be used to inform the Local Authority, Local Community Groups and other interested parties on the future management and improvement of each of the parks

#### 4.6 Traffic and Transport – Safer Routes to Play

Torfaen Council has launched an innovative initiative to promote active travel among children and young people by integrating play with sustainable transport. This unique approach involves community-based scooter and bike sessions, where playworkers act as facilitators, helping children and young people build confidence in using active travel options safely.

This initiative is part of the council's Active Travel Plan and Play Sufficiency Action Plan, aimed at encouraging active travel journeys around the community, including using the active travel routes to access play provision. The goal is to create a culture of active travel that is both fun and educational, ensuring that children and young people can navigate their communities safely and independently.

Funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, playworkers received training to deliver Scoot FIT sessions within community play settings, along with scooters and protective equipment for children to use. Playworkers also received bike maintenance training along with cycling skills and road safety training. A fleet of scooters were purchased for both children and playworkers to use, which are transported by the play team to both play and school settings to deliver the fun, interactive, and informative sessions.



## 4.7 The Play Workforce

Torfaen's play workforce is made up of three key groups. The core Play Development Team, based within the local authority's education department, consists of 19 full-time staff who deliver term-time and holiday play projects, including targeted support for vulnerable groups and schools. During school holidays, this team is supported by a large sessional workforce of 421 paid staff and volunteers, making it the largest open-access play workforce in Wales. Additionally, around 75 playworkers operate in 10 closed-access childcare settings, such as after-school clubs, which are regulated by Care Inspectorate Wales.

### Playworker Workforce Data (collated December 2024)

|                                                                    |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Core Play Team                                                     | 19         |
| Sessional Workers (Site supervisors, Playworkers, Support Workers) | 228        |
| Sessional Play Volunteers                                          | 201        |
| Playworkers in closed access childcare settings                    | 75         |
| <b>Total Number of Playworkers</b>                                 | <b>523</b> |

Qualifications for playworkers working in open-access settings are delivered through working in partnership with ACT and Clybiau Plant Cymru. This includes levels 1, 2 and 3 in playwork.

A comprehensive training needs analysis has been conducted to assess and support the development of the play workforce, ensuring a variety of learning and development opportunities are available. Continued professional development is offered to a broad range of professionals, including awareness sessions for those whose decisions impact play opportunities.



#### 4.8 Information and Community Engagement

Torfaen County Borough Council actively promotes inclusive play by working with a wide range of partners and providing accessible information through its website, including details on local play areas and services. Families can also access guidance via the Family Information Service.

The council's Play Service supports and promotes community events like the Cwmbran Big Event and Pontypool Party in the Park, while also offering resources such as a play lending library to help parents encourage play at home. Through strong social media engagement and collaboration with local media, the council promotes positive images of play and fosters a community-wide commitment to enhancing play opportunities.



## 5. Maximising Resources

### 5.1 Staffed Play Provision

The local authority's play service works creatively and holistically to secure funding that supports and enhances children's right to play. By building strong, collaborative relationships with community councils, schools, and local partners, we have been able to tap into diverse funding streams and resources to provide staffed play provisions and opportunities.

This approach not only sustains existing provision but also expands the range and reach of play opportunities available. Through shared goals and a deep understanding of local needs, we've created inclusive, engaging play environments that reflect the voices of the community and provide lasting benefits for children and families alike.

The following information details the funding streams for staffed play provision delivered by the local authority play service in 2024/2025

|                                 |                                         |                                                |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Food and Fun (WLGA) 45%         | EDUCATION (SCHOOLS) 18%                 | Families First (Welsh Government) 9%           |
| Town and Community Council 8%   | TCBC (Core) 7%                          | Childcare and Play Grant (Welsh Government) 2% |
| Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) 8% | Holiday Playworks (Welsh Government) 2% | Small grants and schemes 1%                    |

### 4.4 Welsh Government Funding linked to Staffed Play Provision

In general, the funding received from Welsh Government detailed above contributes towards a variety of different play projects and initiatives to be delivered. This includes contribution to the following: -

- Food and Fun Camps
- Inclusive Play – Disability Support
- Family Play Sessions
- Half Term Play Camps
- Lego Build to Express
- Dad and Me
- Youth Volunteer Project
- Wraparound and Play Sessions
- Community Play Events
- Summer Open Access Playschemes

## 4.5 Funding for outdoor Play Spaces for Children and Young People

In relation to parks and open spaces, recent refurbishments and development have been funding through the following: -

- Shared Prosperity Fund
- Section 106 funding
- Town and Community Councils
- Sports Wales Court Collaboration

In addition to this, as part of the Play Sufficiency Assessment process, Torfaen Council has been allocated from the Welsh Government to improve outdoor play experiences for children and young people. The consultation findings for the play sufficiency assessment will heavily shape the plans for the allocation of funding.

## 5 Monitoring of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan

### 5.1 Strategic Responsibility for Play

Within Torfaen, the strategic responsibility for play is as follows: -

|                                                              |                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Strategic Director for Children and Family Services</b>   | <b>Jason O Brien</b>      |
| <b>Executive Member for Children, Families and Education</b> | <b>Cllr Richard Clark</b> |

### 5.2 Key Governance

The Play Sufficiency Assessment is a statutory duty under the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 and has several links to key public governance structures like Public Services Boards (PSBs), Regional Partnership Boards (RPBs), and the Local Development Plan (LDP). The assessment acts as a cross-sector evidence base, supporting integrated planning and service delivery to promote children's well-being through play.

The play sufficiency Assessment is also key tool for delivering on broader health equity and social justice goals and the wider council principles. The Marmot principles align closely with the goals of a Play Sufficiency Assessment

The Play Sufficiency Assessment supports Torfaen Council's nine Well-being Objectives by enhancing educational outcomes through play-based learning and training the workforce, fostering family and community resilience, and addressing inequality by targeting gaps in provision. It promotes social connection through inclusive play spaces, encourages environmental stewardship via outdoor and nature-based play, and contributes to local economies through job creation and community initiatives. The assessment also supports healthier lifestyles, celebrates local culture and heritage, and ensures services are responsive and people-centred through extensive community consultation.

### **5.3 The Play Sufficiency Action Planning Group**

This group evolved as part of the 2012/13 assessment. The group meets quarterly to feedback on and monitor Torfaen's Play Sufficiency Action Plan. The group is well attended and represented by a wide scope of partners both local authority and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector who contributed individually to the assessment.

As well as assessing and monitoring the Play Sufficiency Action Plan, the group is used as a vessel to discuss any funding opportunities linked to play and play provision as well as any new policies and initiatives. One of the benefits of such a widely represented group is the level of expertise, knowledge and experience.

In addition to this, there is a clear understanding of how individual service areas no matter how diverse link to play and play provision. All meetings are well attended and if members are unavailable to attend then a representative from the same areas are sent.

## **6. Conclusion**

The Play Sufficiency Assessment underscores the council's and its partners unwavering commitment to enhancing play opportunities for children and young people.

This assessment has meticulously evaluated various aspects of play, identifying both strengths and areas for improvement. The findings highlight the significant progress made in providing diverse, inclusive, and accessible play opportunities, while also outlining the challenges that remain.

## **7. Thematic SWOT Analysis**

### **SECTION A – THEME: POPULATION**

*(Matters A, B, E)*

*Consultation Children and young People*

#### **Key Findings – Children (under 12)**

- Total responses: 1,196 (52% boys, 48% girls).
- Play locations where they play the most: Home 40%, Parks 38%, Friends' houses 9%.
- Favourite play activities: Sport/team games 40%, Electronic devices 17%, Arts & crafts 11%.
- Safety: 62% feel safe playing outside, 18% unsure, 10% unsafe.

#### **Key Findings – Young People (12–25)**

- Total responses: 432.
- Age spread: 12 (86), 13 (41), 14 (78), 15 (82), 16–17 (67), 18–25 (64).

- Hanging out outdoors: Most days (182), few times a week (153), hardly ever (69), never (24).
- Barriers to socialising: Cost, transport, lack of local opportunities, social anxiety, safety concerns.
- Worries outdoors: Traffic (208), strangers (132), bullies (132), other young people (28), dogs (45).

### **Strengths**

- Strong understanding of population needs through use of census data, disability indexes, and consultation with 2,328 respondents, ensuring decisions are evidence-based.
- Extensive inclusive provision for children with disabilities, ALN, young carers, care-experienced children, and those from ethnic minority backgrounds.
- Commitment to regular consultation with parents/carers about inclusive play and weekly multi-agency meetings for 1:1 support packages.
- All local authority play and youth provision is free of charge, removing financial barriers for low-income families.
- Established inclusive play model supporting over 200 disabled children annually through multi-agency planning and tailored support packages.
- Outdoor play resource packs for children in temporary accommodation.
- Welsh-medium play opportunities increasing, with strong partnerships with Menter Iaith and the Urdd.
- Mobile play vehicles enable outreach to isolated rural areas.
- Strong engagement with families, including sensory rooms, lending library, and family play sessions.

### **Weaknesses**

- Recruitment and retention challenges for Welsh-medium staff across early years and play sector.
- Limited rural areas still face access challenges, requiring more mobile or flexible provision.
- Some community buildings charge hire fees, limiting low-cost provision in certain areas.

### **Opportunities**

- Capital funding could support mobile play vehicles, rural outreach and improve static play areas and facilities to encourage outdoor play.
- Growing demand for weekend and home-based play resources (e.g., toy library expansion).
- Strengthening Welsh-medium workforce pathways through targeted recruitment.
- Enhanced data sharing across partners to refine targeted provision for vulnerable groups.

- Explicit provision for LGBT children and young people

### **Threats**

- Reduced external funding streams always pose a risk to the future of play opportunities
- Increasing complexity of needs among children (ALN, mental health, trauma) may outpace workforce capacity.
- Cost-of-living pressures may increase reliance on free provision beyond current capacity.
- Demographic ageing may shift political and financial prioritisation away from children's services.

## **SECTION B – THEME: PLACES WHERE CHILDREN PLAY**

*(Matters C, F, I)*

### **Key Findings – Children (under 12)**

- Most used parks: Cwmbran Boating Lake (329 mentions), Pontypool Park (193).
- Improvements requested: More swings, slides, climbing frames, trampolines; cleaner, safer spaces; bigger parks with separate areas for age groups; sports facilities.
- Worries when playing outside: Strangers (209), traffic (45), older youths (39).

### **Key Findings – Young People (12–25)**

- Where they hang out: Parks (297), shops (281), youth centres (112), other (76).
- Perceptions of parks: 190 said “very good”, 98 “ok”, 90 “not really good or bad”, 44 “not great”, 36 “really bad”.
- Concerns: Parks often tailored to younger children; vandalism, litter, antisocial behaviour; lack of facilities for teens.
- Suggestions: More equipment for older youth, better maintenance, safety measures, inclusive design.

### **Strengths**

- Comprehensive mapping of play spaces through GIS, Open Space Assessment, and ward profiles.
- Significant investment in parks and play areas, including inclusive play areas, new MUGAs, outdoor gyms, and accessibility improvements.
- Strong Active Travel partnerships, delivering ScootFit, bike maintenance, Kerbcraft, and safe routes initiatives.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s consultation clearly informs priorities, especially around safety, cleanliness, and outdoor play.</li> <li>• Schools increasingly open their grounds for community play, including 3G/4G pitches and Food &amp; Fun Camps.</li> <li>• No “No Ball Games” signs on local authority land, supporting community play.</li> <li>• Smoke-free playground regulations implemented across all sites.</li> <li>• Play awareness training for school staff and lunchtime supervisors, embedding play culture in schools</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Weaknesses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GIS records contain inaccuracies, requiring ongoing updates.</li> <li>• Significant deficiencies in static play and youth provision identified in the Open Space Assessment.</li> <li>• Limited capacity to complete Play Wales audit tool assessments due to staffing constraints.</li> <li>• Temporary road closures for play are not feasible, limiting street play initiatives.</li> <li>• Some brownfield sites unsuitable for play, restricting expansion in high-need areas.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £156,940 Welsh Government capital funding can directly address consultation priorities (cleanliness, safety, inclusive equipment).</li> <li>• 20-year green space management plans offer long-term strategic improvements.</li> <li>• Artistic enhancement of subways and walkways can improve perceptions of safety and encourage active travel and safer routes to play.</li> <li>• Cleaner Places to Play initiatives (Pick It Up campaign, litter picks, spring cleans).</li> <li>• Expansion of school-based play projects, especially in areas with limited community provision.</li> <li>• Further development of inclusive design standards in the Replacement LDP.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Threats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vandalism and anti-social behaviour continue to deter children from playing outdoors.</li> <li>• Traffic concerns remain high, with 56% of children citing “strangers” and 12% citing traffic as major worries.</li> <li>• Funding constraints may slow progress on Active Travel Network Map improvements.</li> <li>• Environmental issues (litter, dog fouling) persist despite campaigns.</li> <li>• Climate change impacts (extreme weather) may reduce outdoor play opportunities.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## SECTION C – THEME: SUPERVISED PROVISION

*(Matters D, G)*

Key findings – Children (under 12)

- Clubs attended: Sport 557, Play clubs 498, Uniformed groups 66, Dance/drama 45.
- Desired activities: More playschemes, weekend play, gymnastics, football, art clubs, coding/tech clubs.
- School play time: 79% say enough, 19% not enough.
- Playworkers in schools: 968 yes they have them, 217 no they dont.

#### Key Findings – Young People (12–25)

- Clubs/groups: Sports 161, Culture 38, Youth groups 57, Uniformed groups 33, None 173.
- Barriers: Cost, transport, social anxiety, lack of suitable options, time constraints, poor facilities.
- Suggestions: More sports (basketball, volleyball, girls' football), creative clubs (art, coding, design), inclusive provision for ALN/disabilities, affordable options.

#### **Strengths**

- Extensive supervised play offer, including community play clubs, half-term schemes, Food & Fun, specialist disability projects, Pop-up and Play sessions, Play in the Park, Play & Wellbeing Camps family sessions, and school-based play.
- Large, diverse workforce of 523 staff and volunteers, with strong gender balance and high qualification levels.
- Robust training programme, including playwork, safeguarding, ALN, ACEs, and trauma-informed practice.
- High-quality youth service, recognised nationally with Gold Youth Work
- Closed Access Play Provision delivered by Early Years – regulated to meet National Minimum Standards.
- Quality Mark and strong ESTYN outcomes in youth provision.
- Strong volunteer pipeline in play provision, with 201 volunteers and structured pathways for young people.
- Quality assurance measures embedded across LA provision in both closed and open access settings.
- A wide range of Sport, Art, Culture provision delivered

#### **Weaknesses**

- Limited youth provision in the south of the borough, creating geographical inequality.
- High reliance on seasonal play workforce, making long-term training and retention challenging.

#### **Opportunities**

- 5-year multi-agency youth work strategy will strengthen coordination and expand provision for wider youth support services.
- Two new youth clubs and outreach provision planned for 2025.

- Potential to expand accredited training pathways (Level 1–3 Playwork, apprenticeships).
- Scope to enhance digital youth work, responding to young people’s interests in gaming, coding, and online trends.
- Partnerships with third sector providers can diversify supervised provision
- **Volunteer pathways** – Play Helper (14–15 yrs) and Play Volunteer (16+).
- **Workforce development** – structured supervision, training needs analysis implemented,

### Threats

- Funding reductions could impact staffing levels, training budgets, and specialist support.
- Competition for qualified staff across early years, youth work, and education sectors.

## SECTION D – THEME: POLICY SYNERGY, ENGAGEMENT, ADVOCACY & INFORMATION

*(Matters F, G, H, I)*

### Key Findings – Children (under 12)

- Community improvements requested: More parks, better equipment, cleaner environments, safer roads, more clubs/activities, inclusion for disabled children, spaces for teens.
- Perceptions of adults: 76% believe adults think play is important, 15% said no.

### Key Findings – Young People (12–25)

- Information sources: social media, friends/family, schools, posters/flyers.
- Challenges: Lack of awareness, limited advertising reach, reliance on passive discovery.
- Suggestions: Better promotion in schools, diverse advertising methods, inclusive communication channels.
- Further comments: Demand for more 3G pitches, inclusive sports, creative clubs, safe parks, affordable activities, vibrant town centres.

### Strengths

- Strong multi-agency governance through the Play Sufficiency Action Planning Group.
- Clear alignment with key strategic frameworks, including the Well-being Plan, LDP, Marmot Principles, and Families First.
- High levels of community engagement, with over 2,300 consultation responses.
- Well-developed communication channels, including website, CONNECT platform, social media, and local media partnerships.
- Annual promotional campaigns, including play videos, volunteer awards, and

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>summer workforce recognition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive training offer for professionals whose decisions impact play.</li> <li>• Positive public attitudes toward play, strengthened through consistent messaging and visibility.</li> <li>• Designated area on LA website for play promotion, recruitment,</li> <li>• Consultation commitments – regular and wide-ranging with children, families, public.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                            |
| <p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information still fragmented across platforms, with families requesting a more centralised hub.</li> <li>• Some partners inconsistent in sharing updates, limiting the completeness of public information.</li> <li>• Limited capacity for large-scale community engagement events outside major annual events.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CONNECT platform can become the single authoritative directory for all play and recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Expansion of play awareness training to elected members, planners, and community groups.</li> <li>• Greater use of digital engagement tools to reach families and young people.</li> <li>• Strengthening advocacy for play within planning and regeneration, especially through the Replacement LDP.</li> <li>• Growing appetite for intergenerational and community-led play initiatives.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy changes at national level may impact funding or statutory expectations.</li> <li>• Public misinformation or negative narratives (e.g., around youth behaviour) could undermine community attitudes to play.</li> <li>• Digital exclusion may limit access to online information for some families.</li> <li>• Competing policy priorities (e.g., housing, social care) may overshadow play in strategic planning.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>                                                                                     |

The action plan for 2025- 26 is set out below.

## Torfaen Play Sufficiency Action Plan 2025 – 2026

**(Measures in red are new for this year)**

### Section A Theme: Population

|                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Population</b>                  | Data linked to population is held and kept up to date and utilised as an active resource for Play and Recreational Providers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Providing for Diverse Needs</b> | Provide inclusive play settings and challenge any barriers to accessing provision. To support partners to deliver inclusive play and recreational opportunities and ensure all play staff are trained.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                    | To deliver play opportunities in isolated rural areas with the use of a purpose-built mobile play vehicle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                    | Provide play and early years provision through the medium Welsh. To work closely with Menter Iaith and the URDD to develop a Welsh Play and Recreational workforce and secure suitable venues for Welsh medium play provision.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                    | Provide a wide program of play and recreational provision for children and young with disabilities including: - Playschemes, Play Clubs, Weekend Play & Respite Sessions, Play Care Provision, Early Years and Recreational provision.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                    | Take a collaborative approach to sharing information, resources, equipment and training to ensure quality inclusive practice is delivered. Consult regularly with parents/carers about inclusive play. Host multi-agency forums linked to inclusive play. Specialist support and training identified through working with schools, health boards and partners to aid the inclusion process. Weekly meetings held to discuss new and current 1-1 support packages |
|                                    | Provide a Play Lending Library as an active resource for play for families, professionals and the wider community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                    | Provide sensory playrooms for families and community groups to hire.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                    | Make strong links to Play throughout all reporting mechanisms linked to the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                    | Ensure that fixed play equipment at the Travellers site is inspected well maintained in line with standards                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                    | Ensure the play and recreational workforce have a good understanding of the play needs of those with diverse needs (Disabilities, Looked After Children, Gypsy Travellers, Young Carers, Different Cultures, LGBTs etc).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                    | Provide outdoor play resource packs to children in temporary accommodation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                    | Provide a play and youth provision to Young Carers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                    | Take a child-centred approach to the planning of play provision, and the welfare and development of all children is promoted. The views of children are requested frequently in line with the Playwork Principles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                    | Provide an assessment centre to identify correct levels of play support. Promote the use of the assessment centre with partners as a family play space.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                    | Ensure all staffed play and youth provisions delivered by the local authority are free of charge.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Section B - Theme: Places Where Children Play

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Outdoor Play Space</b>     | Continue to ensure parks and play areas are maintained in line with standards                                                                                     |
|                               | Financially support several repairs, enhancements and inclusivity of parks and play areas through capital funding                                                 |
| <b>Safe Routes to Play</b>    | Work with partners to promote safe routes to play by artistically enhancing the subways and walkways                                                              |
|                               | Work in line with existing TCBC practice regarding Traffic and Transport Initiatives                                                                              |
|                               | Promote active travel initiatives, Playworkers provide Skootfit and bike maintenance.                                                                             |
| <b>Play in Schools</b>        | Support schools to ensure that play remains a key priority within the school day by providing play awareness training to lunchtime supervisors and teaching staff |
|                               | Provide a range of play-related provisions and projects within schools                                                                                            |
|                               | Support where possible, schools to develop their outdoor play space                                                                                               |
|                               | Work in partnership with schools about play and recreational opportunities outside of school hours                                                                |
| <b>Cleaner Places to Play</b> | Work in partnership with communities to encourage the – <i>pick it up</i> campaign, litter picks and spring cleans                                                |

## Section C - Theme: Supervised Provision

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Open Access Play Provision</b>   | <p>Provide a wide range of quality staffed play and recreational provision is provided all year round to meet the needs of communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Community Play Clubs</li> <li>*Half Term &amp; Summer Playschemes</li> <li>*Play Projects linked to Schools</li> <li>*Family Play Sessions</li> <li>*Specialist Play Projects (Disabilities / LAC/ Social and Emotional / Behavioural / Lego etc)</li> <li>*Community Play Events</li> <li>* Play and Wellbeing Camps</li> <li>*Food and Fun Camps</li> <li>*Food and Wellbeing Camps</li> <li>*Play in the Park Sessions</li> <li>*Pop-up and Play Sessions</li> </ul> |
|                                     | Provide support to 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector partners to deliver play provision to a high standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Quality Assurance</b>            | Ensure that play provision delivered by the local authority is to a high standard through a series of measures based on the NMS. This includes quarterly monitoring and training of staff in line with quality assurance measures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Closed Access Play Provision</b> | Ensure that all registered play provision delivered by the authority or commissioned by the authority is regulated to ensure that the National Minimum Standards are met                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Youth, Sport, Art, Culture</b>   | Provide a wide range of sport, youth, art and cultural provision both through the local authority and 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector partners. To continue to work                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                              | in partnership to increase the number and range of provision offered to young people aged 12+ in their local community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Volunteering</b>          | Deliver and promote the Play Volunteer Project for young people aged 16 plus and the Play Helper Project for young people aged 14 – 15 years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Training</b>              | Ensure that the play workforce is equipped to deliver and fully trained. All workers and volunteers to complete code of conduct through onboarding process. Training needs analysis kept on both the term time and summer play workforce for open access Play Provisions & Early Years Provision. Play awareness sessions to partners, professionals, elected members & Town and Community Councils. |
| <b>Workforce Development</b> | To continue to work with partners to deliver level 1,2 & 3 Playwork Qualifications. To work with partners to provide work-based placements for play trainees and apprentices. To continue to ensure that all play & early years staff receive regular work-based supervision and that their learning needs are supported.                                                                            |

## Section D- Theme: Policy Synergy, Engagement, Advocacy and Information

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Information</b>                  | Provide a designated area on the local authority's website to promote the benefits of play, play provision, recruitment, safeguarding and protecting play, helpful hints for parents/carers etc                       |
|                                     | Work collaboratively with providers both local authority and 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector to share and promote information linked to play and recreational provisions for children and young people on the CONNECT platform |
| <b>Safeguard and Celebrate Play</b> | Create an annual video as an active promotion tool to raise awareness of play and play provision                                                                                                                      |
|                                     | Pay recognition to all play volunteers by providing an Annual Volunteers Awards Ceremony                                                                                                                              |
|                                     | Pay recognition to the summer workforce by holding an End of Summer Awards Ceremony                                                                                                                                   |
|                                     | Work with the local media to promote positive images of play                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Play Awareness</b>               | Increase the delivery of play awareness sessions to residents and professionals                                                                                                                                       |
|                                     | Support community events to include play. Promote the lending library as a resource for community events                                                                                                              |
|                                     | Work with partners to promote the importance of outdoor play to parents/carers and the wider community through online workshops, training sessions, social media                                                      |
|                                     | Engage with the wider community through social media promoting useful resources and top tips.                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Consultation</b>                 | Consult both regularly and widely with children, young people, families and the general public on play and play related issues.                                                                                       |

