

Title:

Review of casual play opportunities for young children, with a focus on city centre provision

Purpose:

The review, if agreed, should:

- Outline a process to follow in order to deliver more informal play opportunities in the city centre/selected city centre wards, if a need is established.

What should it cover?

It should:

- provide a clear view of existing central play provision
- provide a comparison of city centre play opportunities and those available in selected suburban setting/s
- establish a city centre boundary and suitable areas within that boundary for accommodating play equipment
- explore funding options, both internal and external

Participants

Internal:

- Planning Officers
- Leisure Officers (Play Team)
- City Centre Manager

External:

- York Playspace (campaigning group)
- York Museums Trust (responsible for Museum Gardens)
- Parents of children attending Park Grove School, and perhaps others
- Children's Centre representatives

How should it be carried out?

The review should undertake:

- a survey of families (see above) and also visitors to city centre
- a committee walkabout in the city centre, following meeting with planning officers on potential for play equipment sites
- background research on comparable examples in other local authority areas, as well as imaginative examples from outside the UK

Timescale

3-6 months