

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet

**DATE:** 16 December 2010

**SUBJECT:** Playbuilder Capital Grant 2010/11

**WARDS  
AFFECTED:** All Wards

**REPORT OF:** Peter Morgan  
Strategic Director - Children, Schools & Families

**CONTACT  
OFFICER:** Chris Dalziel (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/  
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY:**

To advise Members of the revised Play Capital allocation so that a decision can be made on how the grant will be utilised.

**REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:**

Cabinet is required to make a decision on how the Playbuilder Capital 2010/11 should be expended.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

Cabinet is recommended to consider the options detailed in this report at 3.1 and to advise on the preferred option to be progressed.

**KEY DECISION:** No.

**FORWARD PLAN:** Not appropriate.

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

Not appropriate.

**IMPLICATIONS:****Budget/Policy Framework:** None.**Financial:** There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources i.e. the Playbuilder Capital Grant 2010/11.

<b><u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>2010/ 2011 £</b>	<b>2011/ 2012 £</b>	<b>2012/ 2013 £</b>	<b>2013/ 2014 £</b>
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<b><u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u></b>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

**Legal:** None.**Risk Assessment:** There are no risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.**Asset Management:** Not appropriate.**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

FD 572 - The Interim Head of Corporate Finance &amp; Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

**CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:**

<b><u>Corporate Objective</u></b>		<b><u>Positive Impact</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral Impact</u></b>	<b><u>Negative Impact</u></b>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

**LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:**

Not appropriate.

**IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:**

Not appropriate.

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT**

Report to Cabinet – 8 July 2010 – Playbuilder Capital Grant: 2010/11.

## **PLAYBUILDER CAPITAL GRANT 2010/11**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Members will recall that approval was given on 8 July 2010 to progress 8 Playbuilder schemes as detailed below.
- Maghull Town Council – Glenn Park
  - Maghull Town Council – Dodds Park
  - Aintree Village Parish Council – Harrow Drive
  - Lydiate Parish Council – Sandy Lane
  - Netherton Park Neighbourhood Centre
  - Sefton Leisure Services – Moorside Park, Crosby
  - Sefton Leisure Services – Deansgate Lane Park, Formby
  - Sefton Leisure Services – Crossens Community Park, Southport.
- 1.2 The allocation of capital was £440,174 and it was proposed that each of the 8 play proposals would receive £55,201 in grant funding.
- 1.3 Members will further recall that the ring-fence was removed from this grant on 10 June 2010 and on 15 July 2010 the DfE informed authorities that 'with immediate effect and until further notice, all of those local authorities should avoid incurring any new contractual liabilities in relation to their play capital grants'. Sefton had not entered into any contractual agreements at this time and DfE were informed accordingly. The schemes were therefore deferred pending further consideration by the DfE.

### **2. Update on Capital Allocation**

- 2.1 On 20 October 2010 a letter was received from the Secretary of State advising of a revised allocation for play capital for all authorities. A saving of £20.8 million has been made on the original budget of £75 million and a further Grant Determination letter which will give the specific terms and conditions is awaited. The letter of 20 October 2010 confirms that the ring-fence has been removed from the grant 'to give more flexibility to manage local budgets'. However the letter makes it clear that the capital funding must be spent by 31 March 2011.
- 2.2 The capital allocation for Sefton has been reduced from £440,174 to £275,041.25. The funding has to be used for capital purposes by 31 March 2011 and cannot be rolled forward.
- 2.3 Retention on schemes completed in 2009/10 amounts to £7,844.87 leaving £267,196.38 available in 2010/11.
- 2.4 Aintree Parish Council has asked to be reimbursed for £2,510 that they have already spent on preparatory work. If members agree to this request then available funding would be further reduced to £264,686.38.

### **3. Options**

3.1 There are a number of options which could be considered for this revised allocation as detailed below.

- Progress the 8 proposed Playbuilder schemes but allocate a reduced budget of approximately £33,085 to each scheme.
- Progress 5 of the proposed Playbuilder schemes and allocate a budget of approximately £52,937 to each scheme. This approximates to the original allocation for each of the 8 schemes.
- Allocate the grant of £267,196.38 (or £264,686.38 if Aintree Parish Council receive reimbursement) to an alternative major capital scheme within the Council's Capital Programme to replace prudential borrowing. This would result in a revenue saving to the Council in the order of £24,000 per year.

### **4. Recommendations**

4.1 Cabinet is recommended to consider the options detailed in this report at 3.1 and to advise on the preferred option to be progressed.