

Proposals for Play Areas

Provide full Capital investment and maintain:

- 5 large play areas in Hitchin
- 3 large play areas in Letchworth
- 2 large play areas in Baldock
- 3 large play areas in Royston
- 1 large play area in Gt. Ashby

Provide limited Capital investment and maintain:

- 5 neighbourhood play areas in Hitchin
- 6 neighbourhood play areas in Letchworth
- 2 neighbourhood play areas in Baldock
- 3 neighbourhood play areas in Royston
- 4 neighbourhood play areas in Gt. Ashby

Transfer the asset to third parties or remove equipment from:

- 3 neighbourhood play areas in Hitchin,
- 3 neighbourhood play areas in Letchworth
- 1 less used neighbourhood play areas in Baldock
- 2 less used neighbourhood play areas in Royston
- 4 less used neighbourhood play areas Gt. Ashby

Detailed actions for Provision for Play Areas:

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|--------------|--|
| Green | Large play areas that the Council will maintain and endeavour to provide full Capital investment in to refurbish approximately every fifteen years. (14 sites) |
| Amber | Local neighbourhood play area that the Council will maintain and endeavour to provide limited capital investment to replace individual items of play equipment when they wear out. (20 sites) |
| Red | Local neighbourhood play areas identified as low use that prior to removing equipment the Council shall allow up to March 2018 for interested parties to put forward sustainable proposals that would fund both the capital and revenue requirements to safely continue to provide such facilities. (13 sites) |

| Town | Site | Size | Usage | Notes |
|---------|---------------|--------|--------|--|
| Royston | Betjeman Road | Small | Low | Limited wear around equipment. Close to larger Serby Avenue play area. Very limited amenity value. |
| Royston | Meridian | Medium | Medium | Play area serving large housing estate but on fringe of town. |
| Royston | Newmarket Rd | Large | High | Toddler and senior play areas serving large housing estates. Currently located on fringe of town but adjacent land shortly to be developed for new large housing estate. |

| Town | Site | Size | Usage | Notes |
|---------|----------------------------|--------|--------|---|
| Royston | Priory Gardens | Large | High | Large town centre play area. Main play area for all Royston residents. |
| Royston | Serby Avenue | Large | Medium | Centrally located play area serving large housing estates. |
| Royston | Studlands Rise | Medium | Medium | Small play area serving local residents. |
| Royston | York Way | Medium | Medium | Play area serving housing estate but located on fringe of town. |
| Royston | Farriar Court | Small | Low | Little or no wear to surfacing around equipment. Very limited catchment area only for very local residents. Very limited amenity value. Suggest possible hand over of amenity space for residents / Royston Town Council to maintain. |
| Royston | Ivy farm | Medium | Low | Play area serving housing estate but located on fringe of town. However future housing development is planned in this area. |
| Baldock | Avenue Park | Large | High | Main town centre park serving all residents. |
| Baldock | Bush Springs | Large | High | Only play area for large housing development away from main town. |
| Baldock | Chiltern Road | Medium | Medium | Medium sized play area serving local residents. |
| Baldock | Holroyd Cres | Medium | Medium | Large play area serving large housing development. |
| Baldock | Ivel Road | Medium | Low | Limited access and catchment area for site. Old equipment with little sign of use. |
| Hitchin | Bancroft Recreation Ground | Large | High | Main town centre play area currently under refurbishment. |
| Hitchin | Broadmead | Medium | Medium | Good catchment area for housing estate |
| Hitchin | Brook View | Medium | Medium | Limited catchment area close to Broadmead. Old equipment. |
| Hitchin | Dacre Road | Small | Low | Small site with limited catchment. Old equipment with little sign of use. |
| Hitchin | King George V | Large | High | Large play area with good catchment area. |

| Town | Site | Size | Usage | Notes |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--|
| Hitchin | Purwell Recreation Ground | Large | High | Large play area with good range of equipment serving large housing development. |
| Hitchin | Ransoms Recreation Ground | Large | High | Large play area recently refurbished in one of the towns main recreation grounds. |
| Hitchin | Rosehill | Medium | Low | Limited access to the site little sign of use of equipment. |
| Hitchin | Smithsons Recreation Ground | Medium | High | Play area for west side of Hitchin. Equipment mainly for younger children |
| Hitchin | St Johns Recreation Ground | Medium | High | Well used play area by local residents. |
| Hitchin | Symons Rd | Small | Low | Aging equipment with little signs of use. Very limited catchment area. |
| Hitchin | Walsworth Common | Large | High | Large play area recently refurbished in one of the towns main recreation grounds. |
| Letchworth | Baldock Road Recreation Ground | Large | Medium | Good range of equipment for all ages but limited catchment area. |
| Letchworth | Grange Central | Medium | Medium | Equipment for younger children. Good catchment area in centre of housing estate. |
| Letchworth | Grange Recreation Ground | Large | High | Main play area for Grange Estate. |
| Letchworth | Hillbrow Rec | Medium | Medium | Poor catchment area located on edge of housing estate. Consider possible relocation to more central location. |
| Letchworth | Howard Park | Large | High | Town centre location with very high use. |
| Letchworth | Jackmans Central | Large | Medium | Main play area for large housing estate. Lower than expected use may be caused by poor equipment. Due for refurbishment in 2017. |
| Letchworth | Jackmans Recreation Ground | Medium | Low | Not centrally located with equipment for younger children. Little signs of much use. |

| Town | Site | Size | Usage | Notes |
|------------|---------------------------|--------|--------|---|
| Letchworth | Linnet Close | Small | Low | Very limited catchment area. Equipment only for younger children. Consider alternative use of site. |
| Letchworth | Norton Common | Large | Medium | Range of equipment for all ages. |
| Letchworth | Oaktree Close | Small | Low | Very limited catchment area. Equipment only for younger children in small private development. |
| Letchworth | Temple Rec | Medium | Medium | Good catchment area. Range of equipment for all ages. |
| Letchworth | Wilbury Recreation Ground | Medium | Medium | Good catchment area with range of equipment for all ages. |
| Gt. Ashby | District Park | Large | High | Main play area for GT. Ashby. |
| Gt. Ashby | Chilterns | LAP | Low | Very small play with little sign of use. Within catchment area of larger play area. |
| Gt. Ashby | Cleveland Way | LAP | Low | Small play area with limited signs of use. Within catchment area of larger play area. |
| Gt. Ashby | Fairfield Cres | LAP | Low | Small play area with limited signs of use. Within catchment area of larger play area. |
| Gt. Ashby | Foyle Close | LEAP | Medium | Medium sized play area used by local residents. |
| Gt. Ashby | Mendip Way | LEAP | Low | Medium sized play area used by local residents. Low usage possibly due to poor selection of equipment. Retain if Chilterns play area has equipment removed. |
| Gt. Ashby | Merrick Close | LAP | Low | Very small play with limited signs of use. Within catchment area of larger play area. |
| Gt. Ashby | Quantock Close | LEAP | Medium | Medium sized play area with good range of equipment. |
| Gt. Ashby | Snowdon Way | LEAP | Medium | Medium sized play area serving local residents. |