

Appendix 3**Equality Impact Assessment**

The Equality Act 2010 replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies the law, removing inconsistencies and making it easier for people to understand and comply with it. It also strengthens the law in important ways, to help tackle discrimination and equality. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

Public bodies are required in it to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

The public sector Equality Duty came into force on 5 April 2011. The duty ensures that all public bodies play their part in making society fairer by tackling discrimination and providing equality of opportunity for all. It ensures that public bodies consider the needs of all individuals in their day-to-day work – in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

The Equality Duty encourages public bodies to understand how different people will be affected by their activities so that policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs. By understanding the effect of their activities on different people, and how inclusive public services can support and open up people's opportunities, public bodies are better placed to deliver policies and services that are efficient and effective.

The new equality duty replaces the three previous public sector equality duties, for race, disability and gender. The new equality duty covers the following protected characteristics:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- pregnancy and maternity
- race – this includes ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality
- religion or belief – including lack of belief
- sex
- sexual orientation.

It also applies to marriage and civil partnership, but only in respect of the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination.

The Council has also decided to treat people who have care experience as if they had a protected characteristic under the law.

Having due regard means consciously thinking about the three aims of the equality duty as part of the process of decision-making. This means that consideration of equality issues must influence the decisions reached by public bodies, including how they act as employers, how they develop, evaluate and review policies, how they design, deliver and evaluate services, and how they commission and procure from others.

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves considering the need to:

- remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics
- meet the needs of people with protected characteristics, and
- encourage people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is low.

Fostering good relations involves tackling prejudice and promoting understanding between people who share a protected characteristic and others.

Complying with the equality duty may involve treating some people better than others, as far as this is allowed by discrimination law. For example, it may involve making use of an exception or the positive action provisions to provide a service in a way which is appropriate for people who share a protected characteristic.

The Equality Duty also explicitly recognises that disabled people's needs may be different from those of non-disabled people. Public bodies should therefore take account of disabled people's impairments when making decisions about policies or services. This might mean making reasonable adjustments or treating disabled people better than non-disabled people to meet their needs.

There is no explicit requirement to refer to the Equality Duty in recording the process of consideration, but it is good practice to do so. Keeping a record of how decisions were reached will help public bodies demonstrate that they considered the aims of the Equality Duty. Keeping a record of how decisions were reached will help public bodies show how they considered the Equality Duty. Producing an Equality Impact Assessment after a decision has been reached will not achieve compliance with the Equality Duty.

It is recommended that assessments are carried out in respect of new or revised policies and that a copy of the assessment is included as an appendix to the report provided to the decision makers at the relevant Cabinet, Committee or Scrutiny meeting.

Where it is clear from initial consideration that a policy will not have any effect on equality for any of the protected characteristics, no further analysis or action is necessary.

Public bodies should take a proportionate approach when complying with the Equality Duty. In practice, this means considering the Equality Duty where a policy or function

has the potential to have a discriminatory effect or impact on equality of opportunity, and less consideration where the potential effect on equality is slight. The Equality Duty requires public bodies to think about people's different needs and how these can be met.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Directorate:	Director of Environment and Leisure	Title of the Lead Officer responsible for EIA	Interim Director Environment and Leisure
Name of the policy or function to be assessed:		Parks and Play Strategy	
Title of the Officer undertaking the assessment:		Interim Director Environment and Leisure	
Is this a new or an existing policy or function?		This is a refresh of an existing strategy.	
1. What are the aims and objectives of the policy or function?			
The Broxtowe Parks and Play Strategy 2026–2035 sets out a long-term framework to guide the planning, enhancement, management and development of parks and play spaces across the Borough. Its primary aim is to ensure that all residents, particularly children and young people, have access to high-quality, safe, inclusive and engaging play opportunities within their local communities. The strategy builds on the previous Play Strategy (2017–2025) and responds to changing demographics, emerging needs, and evolving expectations around accessibility, health, wellbeing and environmental sustainability.			
A key objective of the strategy is to provide a robust evidence base through the mapping, auditing and assessment of existing parks and play provision. This includes evaluating the quantity, quality, accessibility and value of spaces across the Borough to identify gaps in provision and areas of inequality. This evidence will support informed decision-making, prioritisation of investment, and future planning decisions, including the effective use of developer contributions such as Section 106 funding.			
The strategy is structured around four overarching themes which underpin its objectives:			
• Inclusive and community-orientated: Ensuring equitable access to play for all ages, abilities and backgrounds, with a particular focus on reducing barriers for disabled users and underrepresented groups. • Active and healthy: Promoting physical activity and healthier lifestyles through accessible and well-designed play and park spaces.			

- Supporting wellbeing and development: Enhancing opportunities for social, emotional and cognitive development through play, including imaginative and sensory experiences.
- Nature and climate positive: Integrating green infrastructure, biodiversity and climate resilience into parks and play provision, encouraging connection with nature and supporting wider environmental objectives.

Collectively, these aims seek to ensure that parks and play spaces contribute to wider Council priorities, including reducing health inequalities, supporting community cohesion, improving mental and physical wellbeing, and creating sustainable, resilient environments. The strategy also aims to establish clear standards and design principles to guide future provision, ensuring that all new and improved spaces are inclusive, accessible, high quality, and responsive to the needs of Broxtowe's diverse communities.

2. What outcomes do you want to achieve from the policy or function?

The refreshed Parks and Play Strategy aims to deliver a more equitable, high-quality and accessible network of parks and play spaces across the Borough. A key outcome is to ensure that all residents, particularly children and young people, have fair access to safe, welcoming and engaging play opportunities within a reasonable distance of their homes. This includes reducing existing inequalities in provision by identifying gaps in accessibility, quality and value, and directing investment to areas of greatest need.

A further outcome is to improve the overall quality and inclusivity of parks and play spaces so they can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. This includes increasing the availability of inclusive play equipment, improving accessibility for disabled users, and creating spaces that better meet the needs of underrepresented groups such as older children, teenagers and girls. The strategy also seeks to foster stronger, more cohesive communities by providing spaces that encourage social interaction, play and community use.

The strategy also aims to contribute to improved health and wellbeing outcomes by promoting more active lifestyles and increasing opportunities for outdoor recreation. By enhancing both formal and informal play provision, the strategy supports physical activity, mental wellbeing, and child development, while helping to address wider health inequalities across the Borough.

In addition, an important outcome is to embed environmental sustainability and climate resilience into the design and management of parks and play spaces. This includes increasing opportunities for nature-based play, supporting biodiversity, and ensuring that spaces are adaptable to the impacts of climate change. By integrating play provision with wider green infrastructure, the strategy will help create more sustainable, nature-rich environments that benefit both people and wildlife.

Finally, the strategy aims to provide a clear and consistent framework to guide future decision-making, investment and delivery. This will ensure that resources are used effectively, improvements are prioritised strategically, and new developments contribute positively to the Borough's overall play and parks provision, supporting long-term planning and sustainable outcomes.

3. Who is intended to benefit from the policy or function?

Everyone who lives or works in the Borough of Broxtowe.

4. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy or function?

- Children and young people (primary users of play provision)
- Parents, carers and families
- Local residents and communities
- Schools, youth organisations and community groups
- Voluntary and community sector organisations
- Disabled people and individuals with mobility or access needs
- Neurodiverse individuals and other protected characteristic groups
- Broxtowe Borough Council services (e.g. Parks, Planning, Asset Management, Community Teams)
- Parish and Town Councils
- Developers and planning stakeholders (including those contributing through Section 106)
- Strategic partners (e.g. health organisations, environmental bodies and local partnerships)

5. What baseline quantitative data do you have about the policy or function relating to the different equality strands?

A range of baseline quantitative data has been used to inform the development of the Parks and Play Strategy. This data helps identify patterns of need, access and inequality across the Borough and is relevant to a number of equality strands:

- **Age**
 - Children and young people (aged under 19) make up just over 20% of the Borough's population.
 - The population of children has seen relatively low growth compared to a significant increase (around 20%) in residents aged 65+, indicating an ageing population.
- **Disability**
 - Approximately 7.3% of residents report being disabled or limited a lot, with a further 11% limited a little.
 - Audit data identified that around 45% of play sites did not include accessible or inclusive equipment, highlighting a gap in provision.

- **Socio-economic disadvantage (linked to equality of access)**
 - Areas within the Borough fall within the 20% most deprived nationally in terms of child income deprivation (IDACI).
 - The strategy uses deprivation and child population data to identify areas of higher play need and lower provision, ensuring investment is targeted appropriately.
- **Health inequalities**
 - Around 53.9% of children and young people are physically active, with variations across the Borough.
 - Levels of childhood obesity and mental wellbeing indicators highlight a need to increase physical activity and outdoor access.
- **Access to provision (geographical equality)**
 - Only 15% of children live within 100 metres of equipped play provision.
 - Around 63% have access within 400 metres, and 91% within 1,000 metres, demonstrating inequalities in local access.
 - 92% of residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park or play space, though quality and type of provision varies.
- **Ethnicity**
 - The Borough population is 88.9% White, with smaller but important minority ethnic communities.
 - National evidence referenced in the strategy highlights that children from minority ethnic groups are less likely to be physically active, indicating potential inequality in access or use.
- **Gender**
 - Evidence shows differences in activity levels and use of space, with girls and young women less likely to feel safe outdoors and less likely to use certain types of provision (e.g. MUGAs).

6. What baseline qualitative data do you have about the policy or function relating to the different equality strands?

Key qualitative findings relating to equality strands include:

- **Disability**
 - Feedback from stakeholders highlighted a lack of accessible and inclusive play equipment in many locations.
 - Barriers identified include poor access routes, unsuitable surfacing, steep gradients and limited supporting facilities (e.g. toilets).
- **Age (children, young people and older users)**

- Stakeholder feedback identified a lack of provision for older children and teenagers, particularly beyond traditional play equipment.
- There is also evidence that many green spaces lack engaging or stimulating play opportunities, particularly informal or natural play.
- **Gender**
 - Evidence referenced in the strategy highlights that existing provision, particularly facilities such as MUGAs and skate parks, are often dominated by boys, with girls reporting they have “nowhere to go”.
 - Safety concerns, particularly among girls and young women, can act as a barrier to use of parks and open spaces.
- **Socio-economic disadvantage**
 - Stakeholder engagement identified the importance of free, high-quality play opportunities in more deprived areas, where access to private or paid-for activities may be limited.
 - There is a need to ensure provision is equitable across the Borough, rather than concentrated in certain areas.
- **Ethnicity and cultural inclusion**
 - National evidence referenced in the strategy indicates that parks and play spaces may not always reflect the needs or preferences of minority ethnic groups, including cultural considerations around design and use of space.
 - There is a need to ensure spaces are welcoming and inclusive for diverse communities.
- **Health and wellbeing**
 - Qualitative evidence highlights concerns around low activity levels, mental health, and the importance of outdoor play in supporting wellbeing.
 - Feedback also identified the importance of safe, welcoming environments to encourage use of parks and play spaces.
- **Environment and access**
 - Stakeholders highlighted links between access to parks, active travel (walking and cycling), and wider infrastructure barriers such as parking and connectivity.
 - There is also a desire for more nature-based play and informal spaces, particularly in greener or woodland areas.

7. What has stakeholder consultation, if carried out, revealed about the nature of the impact?

To inform the development of the Parks and Play Strategy, early stakeholder engagement has been undertaken with key internal officers and stakeholders. This included a workshop to help shape the emerging direction and priorities of the strategy. Feedback from this engagement identified a number of important themes, including the need to improve accessibility and inclusivity of play provision, address gaps in provision for older children and teenagers, and ensure a more equitable distribution of high-quality spaces across the Borough. It also highlighted barriers to access, such as poor site accessibility, lack of inclusive equipment, and the need for more varied and engaging play opportunities.

These findings have helped to inform the draft strategy and have influenced the proposed themes and priorities, particularly in relation to inclusivity, health and wellbeing, and improving overall quality and access to play spaces.

A wider public consultation exercise will be undertaken between 22 July and 31 August 2026 to gather feedback from residents, stakeholders and users of parks and play spaces. This consultation will provide further qualitative evidence on the potential impacts of the strategy across different groups and communities. The feedback received will be used to refine the strategy and will help inform this Equality Impact Assessment as it progresses.

8. From the evidence available does the policy or function affect or have the potential to affect different equality groups in different ways? In assessing whether the policy or function adversely affects any particular group or presents an opportunity for promoting equality, consider the questions below in relation to each equality group:

□ Does the policy or function target or exclude a specific equality groups or community? Does it affect some equality groups or communities differently? If yes, can this be justified?

The Parks and Play Strategy does not intentionally target or exclude any specific equality group or community. The overarching aim of the strategy is to provide accessible, inclusive and high-quality parks and play spaces for all residents across the Borough.

However, the strategy does recognise that different groups experience parks and play spaces in different ways and, as a result, includes targeted actions to address existing inequalities. In this respect, the strategy will have differential impacts, which are intended to be positive and proportionate in addressing identified need. For example:

- There is a greater focus on improving accessibility and inclusive play provision for disabled users, reflecting identified gaps in current provision.
- The strategy seeks to enhance provision for older children and teenagers, who are currently underserved compared to younger age groups.
- It also recognises the need to better support girls and young women, particularly in relation to safety and the design of spaces.
- Investment will be prioritised in areas of higher deprivation or lower existing provision, to reduce inequalities in access and quality across the Borough.

These targeted approaches are justified as they respond directly to evidence gathered through data analysis, site audits and stakeholder engagement, which demonstrate that some groups currently face barriers to access or lower-quality provision.

Overall, the strategy is designed to reduce inequality rather than create it, ensuring that all communities benefit while providing additional support where it is most needed.

□ Is the policy or function likely to be equally accessed by all equality groups or communities? If no, can this be justified?

The strategy aims to ensure that parks and play spaces are accessible to all residents; however, it is recognised that access and use is not currently equal across all equality groups and communities and may continue to vary.

Evidence within the strategy highlights that certain groups may face barriers to access, including:

- Disabled people, due to physical accessibility issues such as surfacing, gradients and lack of inclusive equipment.
- Older children and teenagers, due to limited age-appropriate provision.
- Girls and young women, who may feel less confident using some spaces due to safety concerns or the type of provision available.
- Residents in more deprived or rural areas, where access to high-quality or nearby provision may be more limited.

As a result, the strategy is unlikely to be equally accessed by all groups in its current form. However, this is recognised and addressed within the strategy, and the proposed approach is designed to reduce these inequalities over time.

The strategy includes targeted actions to:

- Improve physical accessibility and inclusive design
- Increase provision for underrepresented groups, particularly teenagers and girls
- Prioritise investment in areas with lower provision or higher need
- Support safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for all users

This differential approach is justified, as it is based on clear evidence base and is intended to deliver positive outcomes by addressing existing inequalities, rather than reinforcing them.

Overall, while access is not currently equal, the strategy provides a structured and evidence-led approach to improving fairness and inclusivity across all communities over the lifetime of the strategy.

□ Are there barriers that might make access difficult or stop different equality groups or communities accessing the policy or function?

Yes, there are a number of existing and potential barriers which may affect how different equality groups and communities access and benefit from parks and play spaces across the Borough.

These barriers include:

- **Physical accessibility barriers (Disability)**
 - Uneven or unsuitable surfacing, steep gradients, and limited accessible entrances may restrict access for wheelchair users, people with mobility impairments, and those with pushchairs.

- A lack of inclusive play equipment and supporting facilities (e.g. accessible seating or toilets) can further limit participation.
- **Design and provision barriers (Age and Gender)**
 - Current provision may not adequately meet the needs of **older children and teenagers**, particularly in terms of informal and social spaces.
 - Some facilities are more likely to be used by boys, which can discourage use by **girls and young women**, particularly where spaces feel unwelcoming or dominated by certain groups.
 - Perceptions of safety, especially after dark, can also act as a barrier for some users.
- **Geographical and transport barriers**
 - While overall access is relatively good, there are **variations across the Borough**, with some rural or more deprived areas having lower access to high-quality provision.
 - Limited connectivity, lack of safe walking/cycling routes, or reliance on transport can reduce accessibility for some communities.
- **Socio-economic barriers**
 - Although parks and play spaces are free to access, inequalities in provision mean that some communities have **less access to high-quality or well-equipped spaces**, limiting opportunities for play and recreation.
- **Awareness and communication barriers**
 - Some groups may have **limited awareness of available facilities**, particularly inclusive or accessible provision, if information is not clearly communicated.
 - Engagement methods may not reach all communities equally, particularly those less likely to engage through digital platforms.
- **Cultural and social barriers**
 - Differences in cultural preferences, perceptions of public space, or lack of culturally inclusive design may affect how comfortable some communities feel using parks and play space.

□ **Could the policy or function promote or contribute to equality and good relations between different groups? If so, how?**

Yes, the Parks and Play Strategy has the potential to positively promote equality and foster good relations between different groups within the community. By prioritising inclusive design, accessible provision and equitable distribution of parks and play spaces, the strategy seeks to ensure that people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds can share and enjoy these spaces together. This includes improving opportunities for inclusive play, encouraging interaction between children of different abilities, and creating welcoming environments that support social cohesion across communities.

The strategy also supports good relations by encouraging community engagement in the design and development of play spaces, ensuring that different voices are heard and reflected. By creating spaces that are safe, inclusive and responsive to

local needs, particularly for underrepresented groups such as disabled users, teenagers and girls, it helps foster a sense of belonging, mutual understanding and shared ownership of community assets.

□ What further evidence is needed to understand the impact on equality?

Further evidence will be gathered through the planned public consultation exercise (22 July to 31 August 2026), which will provide additional insight into how different equality groups and communities use parks and play spaces, and any barriers they experience. This will help to strengthen the understanding of impacts across protected characteristics and ensure that a wide range of views are reflected in the final strategy.

In addition, ongoing monitoring and engagement will be important to assess the effectiveness of the strategy over time. This may include collecting feedback from users, reviewing usage patterns of parks and play spaces, and working with stakeholders and community groups to understand emerging needs. This approach will ensure that the Equality Impact Assessment remains informed by up-to-date evidence and that any unintended impacts can be identified and addressed as the strategy is implemented.

9. On the basis of the analysis above what actions, if any, will you need to take in respect of each of the equality strands?

Age: The strategy recognises that different age groups have varying needs and experiences of parks and play spaces, particularly in relation to children, young people and older residents.

To address this, the following actions will be taken:

- Ensure a range of play opportunities are provided across sites, catering for different age groups, including younger children, older children and teenagers.
- Increase provision for older children and teenagers, including informal and social spaces where gaps currently exist.
- Promote intergenerational use of parks and open spaces, ensuring spaces are welcoming for all age groups, including families and older people.
- Continue to engage with children and young people through consultation and future design processes to ensure provision reflects their needs.

These actions aim to ensure that parks and play spaces are inclusive, age-appropriate and accessible to all, while addressing current gaps in provision for certain age groups.

Disability: The strategy recognises that disabled people, including those with physical, sensory and cognitive impairments, may currently face barriers in accessing parks and play spaces.

To address this, the following actions will be taken:

- Improve physical accessibility to and within sites, including pathways, entrances, surfacing and gradients to better support wheelchair users, those with mobility impairments and people with pushchairs.
- Increase the provision of inclusive play equipment, ensuring opportunities for children of all abilities to play together rather than separately.
- Ensure supporting infrastructure such as accessible seating, rest areas and (where appropriate) toilet facilities are considered within larger or 'destination' sites.
- Promote awareness of accessible provision through clear signage and communication, so users are able to identify suitable locations.
- Continue to engage with disabled users, carers and representative groups through consultation to better understand needs and inform future improvements.

These actions aim to reduce existing barriers, improve inclusivity and ensure that parks and play spaces can be accessed and enjoyed by disabled people on an equal basis.

Gender: The strategy recognises that people of different genders may experience parks and play spaces differently, particularly in relation to safety, accessibility and the type of provision available.

To address this, the following actions will be taken:

- Improve the design of parks and play spaces to ensure they feel safe, welcoming and inclusive, including considering visibility, layout and general environment.
- Increase provision that appeals to a wider range of users, particularly addressing gaps for girls and young women, such as social spaces, informal play and non-sport-based activities.
- Ensure that new and improved play spaces are designed to encourage shared and inclusive use, rather than being dominated by particular groups.
- Continue to engage with different user groups through consultation, including girls and young women, to better understand their needs and experiences.

These actions aim to create more balanced, inclusive spaces that support equal access and use across genders, while addressing current differences in how spaces are experienced.

Gender Reassignment: No specific impacts have been identified in relation to individuals undergoing gender reassignment. The strategy is intended to be

inclusive and accessible to all users and does not include any measures that would directly disadvantage this group.

However, the Council recognises the importance of ensuring that parks and play spaces are safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for everyone, regardless of gender identity. As part of the ongoing development and implementation of the strategy, the Council will continue to monitor any emerging issues or impacts and will respond appropriately if any barriers or concerns are identified.

Marriage and Civil Partnership: No specific impacts have been identified in relation to individuals who are married or in a civil partnership. The strategy is intended to be inclusive and accessible to all residents and does not include any measures that would directly disadvantage this group.

The strategy focuses on improving access to parks and play spaces for the wider community and does not differentiate based on marital or partnership status. However, the Council will continue to ensure that all services and spaces remain welcoming and accessible to all users, and will monitor any emerging issues or impacts as the strategy is implemented.

Pregnancy and Maternity: No significant negative impacts have been identified in relation to pregnancy and maternity. The strategy is intended to provide inclusive, accessible and safe parks and play spaces for all users.

However, it is recognised that individuals who are pregnant or have caring responsibilities for young children may have specific accessibility needs. To support this, the strategy includes actions to:

- Improve access routes within parks and play spaces, including pathways suitable for pushchairs.
- Provide adequate seating and rest areas, particularly within larger or 'destination' sites.
- Ensure spaces are designed to be safe and welcoming for families with young children.

The Council will continue to monitor any emerging issues as the strategy is implemented to ensure that parks and play spaces remain accessible and suitable for those who are pregnant or caring for young children.

Race: No specific negative impacts have been identified in relation to race. The strategy is intended to provide parks and play spaces that are inclusive and accessible to all residents, regardless of ethnicity or cultural background.

However, it is recognised that people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds may have different experiences, preferences or perceptions of public spaces. To address this, the strategy promotes:

- The creation of welcoming and inclusive environments that can be used by all communities.
- Consideration of different needs and preferences through ongoing engagement and consultation.
- Continued monitoring to ensure that parks and play spaces are accessible and appropriate for a diverse population.

The Council will use the public consultation and future engagement to better understand any specific needs or barriers experienced by different communities and will respond accordingly.

Religion and Belief: No specific impacts have been identified in relation to religion or belief. The strategy is intended to be inclusive and accessible to all residents and does not include any measures that would directly disadvantage individuals or groups based on their religion or beliefs.

The strategy promotes the provision of welcoming, safe and inclusive public spaces that can be used and enjoyed by people from all backgrounds. However, it is recognised that individuals from different communities may have varying preferences or perceptions regarding the use of public spaces.

The Council will continue to ensure that parks and play spaces remain inclusive and will use consultation and ongoing engagement to understand any emerging needs or issues, responding where appropriate.

Sexual Orientation: No specific impacts have been identified in relation to sexual orientation. The strategy is intended to provide inclusive and accessible parks and play spaces for all residents and does not include any measures that would directly disadvantage individuals based on their sexual orientation.

The strategy promotes the provision of safe, welcoming and inclusive public spaces that can be used and enjoyed by people from all communities. These spaces support social interaction and community cohesion, which can have a positive impact for all users.

The Council will continue to ensure that parks and play spaces remain inclusive and will monitor any emerging issues or concerns as part of ongoing engagement and implementation of the strategy.

Care Experience: No specific negative impacts have been identified in relation to individuals with care experience. The strategy is intended to provide inclusive and accessible parks and play spaces for all residents, including children and young people with a range of backgrounds and lived experiences.

However, it is recognised that children and young people with care experience may be more likely to benefit from safe, accessible and high-quality community spaces, particularly where access to other forms of recreation may be limited. The

strategy supports this by promoting equitable provision of parks and play spaces, particularly in areas of higher need, and by ensuring that spaces are welcoming and free to access.

The Council will continue to ensure that parks and play spaces remain inclusive for all users and will monitor any emerging issues or impacts, including through consultation and ongoing engagement as the strategy is implemented.

Chief Executive

I am satisfied with the results of this EIA. I undertake to review and monitor progress against the actions proposed in response to this impact assessment.

Signature: Chief Executive