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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>15 May 2025</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Service - Regeneration, Planning and Public Protection</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ENV020/25/SJ/KL</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Kenny Lang</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 715906</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Play Area Spend Proposals 2025/26</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 ☒ For Decision ☐ For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of the report is to update the Committee in respect of the proposed play area projects to be undertaken within the 2025/26 Play Area Strategy.
- 1.3 The available Play Area Strategy budget for 2025/26 is £358k, full spend of this amount is anticipated in the current financial year and the projects are detailed within the body of this report.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee agrees the proposed play area projects identified within this report.

**Neale McIlvanney**  
**Head of Service - Regeneration, Planning and Public Protection**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Inverclyde Council currently have 54 play areas of varying sizes. These play areas have been developed over a number of years and upgraded to improve the overall play experience and ensuring that as far as practicable that our play areas are accessible.
- 3.2 The Scottish Government identified funding of £314k for play areas in 2025/2026 as part of the General Capital allocation. This final tranche will complete the Scottish Governments pledge to fund play areas over a 5-year period.
- 3.3 Play areas are regularly checked and maintained by Council staff with ad hoc repairs being paid through the revenue account. As a result of this ongoing maintenance there is no major repair or replacement required. All larger equipment, new facilities or surfacing are generally included in the Capital Spend. Over the year a priority list is developed with input from Staff identifying replacements and other Capital works. The majority of our play areas are in good condition and only minor works have been identified which will be undertaken throughout the year.

Area	Works	Spend 000s (est)
Parklea	New destination style play area	£224
Battery Park	Replacement of outdoor gym	£40
Burns Square	Resurfacing and new equipment	£50
		£314

- 3.4 The new destination style play area at Parklea will mean that we have 3 large destination type play areas throughout the district. The installation of a destination play park in the East of Inverclyde ensures coverage of play park facilities with a balanced geographical coverage. Furthermore the Parklea development would join up with a number of other key initiatives in this area and enhances and supports the works carried out by both Inverclyde Leisure and Parklea Branching Out. The overall footfall lends itself to this type of facility.
- 3.5 Progress on the approved projects will be reported to this committee via the regular Capital Report.

### 4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Committee are asked to note the progress on projects and note that relevant reports will be brought back for Committee consideration as and when required.

### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		x
Legal/Risk		x
Human Resources		x
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		x
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x
Environmental & Sustainability		x

## 5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report (000s)	Virement From	Other Comments
Play Area Strategy		2025/26	£314	NA	NA

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

## 5.3 Legal/Risk

N/A.

## 5.4 Human Resources

N/A.

## 5.5 Strategic

N/A.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation will be undertaken in respect of the new play area within Parklea.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.