

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE - 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2001**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUP ON PLAY PARKS**

**Report by Director of Community Services**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To propose the establishment of a Member/Officer Working Group to examine the Council's play park provision and make recommendations for the future of this service.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Council provides play parks throughout East Ayrshire however changing demands, revised safety obligations, persistent vandalism in some areas and the ageing stock of equipment makes it necessary to review the current position and make appropriate plans for the future of the service. In these circumstances establishing a Member/Officer Group would be the most appropriate way forward.

**3. GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND REMIT**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the group should comprise 7 Councillors (5 from the majority group and 2 from the opposition) and will be supported by appropriate officers from the Community Services Department. The Group will report its findings and recommendations to the Community Services Committee.

- 3.2 The Group's remit will be:-

- (i) To examine the current level and standard of play park provision with reference to Health and Safety requirements and changing community needs;
- (ii) To establish standards for future provision in terms of distribution, location, equipment and maintenance and develop a prioritised plan for roll out across East Ayrshire;
- (iii) To consult with local communities and through schools young people to take account of local views; and

- (iv) To identify costs and possible funding sources for future play park provision.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Nil

#### **5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Council have a statutory obligation to comply with the terms of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and a common law duty of care to the public.

#### **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Nil

#### **7. CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 The Member/Officer Working Group would be the most appropriate body to address the issues surrounding the provision of play parks.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the establishment of a Member/Officer Working Group, to examine and make recommendations on play park provision.

William Stafford  
**Director of Community Services**

WS/JAG/SAM  
30<sup>th</sup> July 2001

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

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**AGENDA**