

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**CORPORATE SERVICES
CABINET MEMBER**

CREATION OF A SECONDMENT POST OF PROJECT MANAGER

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to create a two-year secondment post of Project Manager for the Playbuilder project.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The council has been successful in its bid for Playbuilder status awarded by the Department for Children, Schools and families (DCSF). The council has received a capital sum and revenue funding to develop 22 play spaces in North Lincolnshire in the period 1 April 2009 – 31 March 2011.
- 2.2 The Neighbourhood, Environment and Communities Cabinet Member considered a report at his meeting held on 20 April 2009 and he supports the creation of the two-year secondment post of Project Manager.
- 2.3 The conditions attached to the award are very prescriptive in that 11 sites must be developed in Year 1 and 11 in Year 2. There is a major emphasis on consultation with children and with local communities. Hence, there is an urgent need to make an appointment to this post as a month has already elapsed.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 - That the Cabinet Member approves the creation of a two-year secondment post of Project Manager for the Playbuilder project.
- 3.2 Option 2 - That the Cabinet Member does not approve the creation of a two-year secondment post of Project Manager for the Playbuilder project.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 – The post is critical to the success of the Playbuilder project. Should the capital and revenue sums not be spent in the respective time periods, the council will have to return the balance to the DCSF.
- 4.2 Option 2 – Should the post not be approved, project management will have to be dealt with on an ad hoc basis by officers in Neighbourhood and Environmental Services.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 The project has a capital sum of £1,120,932 and revenue of £45,158.
- 5.2 The Project Manager post has been evaluated through the council's job evaluation procedure as Grade 8. The cost of the post is £36,582
- 5.3 The post of Project Manager will be funded from the capital grant as it is totally dedicated to the building/refurbishment of the 22 play sites.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

- 6.1 The project will make a positive contribution to the anti-social behaviour agenda and improve the health and wellbeing of children in the 8 – 13 year age group.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The consultation process with children and with the local communities surrounding the approved sites will begin as soon as a decision is made on the creation of this post.
- 7.2 The Assistant Service Director has given a verbal presentation to the Town and Parish Council Liaison Group outlining the bidding arrangements for the four Year 2 sites. The Group clarified the details and was satisfied with the arrangements.
- 7.3 The trade unions have been consulted and are supportive of the recommendation.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the creation of a two-year secondment post of Project Manager for the Playbuilder project.

SERVICE DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Wave 2 Playbuilder reports to the Neighbourhood, Environment and Communities
Cabinet Member on 16 March and 20 April 2009.