

## Appendix 2

### Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

**Name of Local Authority: Monmouthshire County Council**

**Name of responsible officer: Mike Moran**

**Job title: Community Infrastructure Coordinator**

**Date of completion: Draft for Cabinet on 27 July 2022**

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 30 June 2022



### Conducting the Assessment – Play Sufficiency Assessment

As well as establishing a baseline of provision, the Play Sufficiency Assessment will enable the following:

- Identification of gaps in information, provision, service delivery and policy implementation
- Support the establishment of evidence to give an indication of distance travelled in relation to play sufficiency
- Highlight potential ways of addressing issues relating to partnership working
- The input and involvement of all partners increasing levels of knowledge and understanding
- A monitoring system which will involve and improve communication between professionals
- The identification of good practice examples
- Increased levels of partnerships in assessing sufficient play opportunities
- The identification of actions for the Securing Play Sufficiency Action Plan which accompanies the Play Sufficiency Assessment

A template has been produced to support a corporate appraisal of the matters that need to be taken into account as set out in the Statutory Guidance. The indicators listed within each matter are provided as sample indicators which should be amended to meet local issues as appropriate.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment must demonstrate that the Local Authority has taken into account and assessed the matters set out in The Play Sufficiency Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2012 and Statutory Guidance.

As well as providing baseline information, the Assessment can include examples of current practice that the Local Authority wishes to highlight.

Local Authorities might consider structuring the Play Sufficiency Assessment in the following way and as a minimum address all the identified sections.

#### **Principle Statement**

The Council recognises the importance of play in children's lives, for both its recreational value and for the important part that it plays in children's physical and emotional health and well-being and in their personal development.

Play provides a platform for children to learn, to have fun and to develop friendships with other children in a variety of settings from the school playground to formal open spaces and the wider physical environment. Play is a common denominator that should be capable of being enjoyed by all children irrespective of their social or cultural background or the ability of their parents to pay for the opportunity to participate.

Accessible play opportunities contribute to children's lives and to the well-being of their families and communities, thereby contributing to the well-being objective to provide children and young people with the best possible start in life and helps deliver the

social justice strategy to address inequalities in our county by contributing to developing child friendly communities.

### **Context**

The approach adopted for both the 2016 & 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessments was to identify fewer, focused and more integrated themes/actions to sustain over the three-year period to the next assessment. This approach, founded on a view that a strategic approach was more likely to support partnership progress, has proved sound. The 2022 review takes the same approach, to refine and reflect progress and ambition against the core actions set in 2019 rather than fundamentally change direction. Overall, the intent is that the Play Action Plan should continue to prioritise freely chosen play rather than attempt to duplicate wider leisure and recreational planning processes.

### **Partnership working**

The Council continues to maintain a close working relationship with the Town and larger Community Councils specifically to deliver open access play scheme play provision in the county and in each of their areas.

The Council also works closely and on an ongoing basis with a number of voluntary Friends Groups on specific play projects, to seek improvements to fixed play sites, parks and open spaces. The upgrading of the main play area in Usk came about as the result of a collaboration between the Council and a local Friends Group and there are approximately seven local groups that we are currently working with, including sites in Abergavenny, Monmouth and Chepstow – including the Friends of Garden City and the Friends of The Dell Park Group in Chepstow.

Since 2016 the Council had worked in partnership with Torfaen County Borough Council's Play Service to deliver its summer play schemes but pivoted in 2020 to direct delivery by the Council.

The interruption of the pandemic has impacted on partnership involvement in the Play Strategy Group and that will now be supported by the newly created post of Play Development Lead to rebuild wider representation of active organisations, including registered social landlords operating in the County. The Council has continued to participate in the Play Wales led Regional Play Sufficiency Assessment Network.

### **Consultation and participation**

Given the wide engagement around play delivery this plan has been informed by ongoing participation and consultations, including the destination play area and the local places for nature funded projects in Monmouth. We have also drawn on previous

child questionnaires and the views of children and feedback from parents obtained at play sessions. These reinforced the messages regarding the barriers to greater play including opportunities for play, time for play (including competing demands on children's time) and attitudes to play (of parents and others).

Through our year 5 playmaker conferences which run annually, pre pandemic and due to commence again next academic year, a station is dedicated to pupil voice and insight. Part of this work captures information on physical activity and play with information then helping to shape our future PSA delivery plan and associated work. Our last data capture in 2019 saw 849 pupils take part in the consultation and focused on three key questions:

1. Do you feel you have enough time and opportunity to play where you live? 78% answered yes, 22% said no.
2. Do you use the playgrounds where you live? 77% answered yes, 23% said no.
3. Would you prefer to play in a playground or green space? 70% answered Green Space, 30% answered playground.

As we bring back previous provision in response to Covid we will be returning to the playmaker conference to capture comparative data during the summer term of the 22/23 academic year. Working closely with the Sport Development Team an annual 'hands up survey' is being planned to focus on key aspects such as physical activity levels, nutrition, play and active travel. This will provide annual baseline data and inform a data led approach for programme implementation with colleagues in education and the community.

During 2020 and 2021 100% of schools across Monmouthshire took part in our Active Travel Network Map Consultation, providing vital information on the proposed network to improve walking and cycling. Welsh Government praised the level of engagement seen from children and young people across Monmouthshire. Key issues such as traffic speeds and volumes of cars were seen as the main concerns to increased levels of Active Travel in their community by children and young people questioned. From the data provided, 80% of primary school children would like to actively travel more to school, 63% of secondary school pupils. The development of a more cohesive network of routes within our settlements will not only benefit active travel journeys but recreational access to play provision and community settings.

As we had previously identified the need to gather more local intelligence and children's views our intention had been to roll out the young people led research on play in the Bulwark and Thornwell neighbourhoods of Chepstow led by the local school cluster. This project produced rich information on play including views from children, parents, and the wider community. The toolkit to support extending this was completed but the impacts of the pandemic prevented its roll out. The intention remains to carry this out over the next play sufficiency assessment period.

A wide selection of officers from across the Council participated as a case study in the Play Wales sponsored research project "Making it possible to do Play Sufficiency: Exploring the conditions that support local authorities to secure sufficient opportunities for children in Wales to play" (Sept 2020) and the collaborative sessions and the report have helped inform this plan.

### Maximising resources

The Council has not previously had a dedicated play budget, however as a result of the 2022/23 budget round a new Play Development Lead post has been funded to contribute to the strategic direction and delivery of play right across Monmouthshire.

This post based in MonLife's Youth, Community and Sport and Community Teams, will coordinate the statutory play duties and support the Play Strategy Group

Over the last three years the Council has directed play funding to work on the priorities identified in the 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessment and subsequent Action Plans.

Across service budgets there are revenue resources used by the Council to support children's access to play opportunities. As well as its coordination role MonLife services provide supervised play opportunities, promote recreational and sport involvement, and secure improvements to fixed and green space play provision. Play forms an important part of the Council's early years and pre-school provision and it is also an important element of the foundation phase once children enter the formal education structure. Children's Services use their budget to support families with children with disabilities to access suitable play provision. Neighbourhood Services manage green spaces and 110 fixed play areas across the county.

As noted below the impact of the pandemic has dramatically changed provision over the last two years and the additional Play Opportunity Grant and support via the hardship fund, Playworks, "Summer of Fun" and "Winter of Well-being" has enabled flexible and expanded play provision.

Taken together, despite the exceptional circumstances, these have allowed significant progress on the 2019 Play Sufficiency Action Plan, including delivery of the destination play area in Monmouth and a programme of improvement of fixed play facilities primarily supported by section 106 developer contributions, capital Play Opportunity Grant and in collaboration with other grant stream including the Local Places for Nature fund and Active Travel grant.

Progress on supervised provision includes targeted family engagement open access holiday provision spreading across Monmouthshire and a flexible response to support a wide range of activities under the "Summer of Fun" and "Winter of Well-being" programmes alongside expansion of the Food and Fun offer and a half term Holiday Playworks provision.

The Council and its partners will continue to prioritise available play budgets to concentrate on priorities identified as a result of ongoing consultation and demand from local communities.

As part of the 2022 PSA, the main areas reprioritised are

1. increasing provision to provide more access to play opportunities for disabled children and children & young people with other support needs.
2. providing accessible play opportunities on a year round basis rather than just in the school summer holidays.
3. developing open access play provision and participation opportunities in rural areas outside of the county's four main towns.

4. working in partnership with community groups and other partners such as town & community councils, schools, social landlords and other agencies.
5. developing a sustainable and flexible workforce that can deliver good quality play experiences alongside other programmes, and by providing CPD opportunities to those staff involved in direct delivery of play.
6. rationalise and improve the fixed play areas across the county to provide better levels of play value to local communities.

The Welsh Government programmes and funding provided through AWPOG, Holiday Playworks, Families First, Summer of Fun and the Winter of Well-being have been used locally to extend provision beyond the school summer holiday period, to work in partnership with more agencies, to increase provision for disabled and more vulnerable children and, in respect of capital funding, to improve and increase play value in a number of the Council's fixed play sites. Grant via the WLGA supports the Food and Fun scheme and the continuing contributions from Town and Community Councils support open access play provision.

More details on progress since 2019 and the Council's future plans are contained in the attached play policy statement and associated action plan.

### **The Play Sufficiency Assessment and local Well-being Plans**

The Gwent Well-being Assessment 2022 identifies the links to authority's play sufficiency assessment and identifies key issues including securing and developing the play workforce, ensuring that play is integrated in all relevant policy and implementation agendas and measures to support equal access to play facilities.

The local Monmouthshire Well-being Assessment 2022 also identifies the importance of play to children's development; and cross references to the play sufficiency assessment.

### **Monitoring Play Sufficiency**

Responsibility for play strategy and elements of play delivery rest with the Chief Operating Officer for MonLife. MonLife is a service group of the Council which delivers leisure, youth and outdoor education, green infrastructure and countryside access, play, learning, destination management, arts, museums and attractions.

The lead member for play is Councillor Sara Burch, Cabinet Member for Inclusive and Active Communities.

Following a period of abeyance during the pandemic, the Play Strategy Group has been re-established, now as a subgroup of the Children and Young People's Partnership. The Play Strategy Group currently comprises representatives of services right across the Council and will now be extended to include representation of external partners. The Play Development Lead will facilitate and support the Play Strategy Group including wider representation.



### Insights from the Coronavirus

The impact of Coronavirus has required considerable flexibility in delivery over the last two years. In respect of supervised provision, it necessitated a rapid pivot from delivery via a partnership with Torfaen Play Services to direct delivery by MonLife to support activity hubs alongside Children Services disability hubs specifically for children with more complex needs

A flexible response across 2021 included supporting a wide range of activities under the “Summer of Fun” and “Winter of Well-being” programmes alongside expansion of the Food and Fun offer and a half term Holiday Playworks provision. The additional funding from Welsh Government and its continuation into 2022 is very welcome.

Despite the challenging period faced in response to the Covid 19 pandemic significant progress has been made across the play offer and foundations put in place for continued growth over the next three-year period. The impact of the pandemic on children and families has reinforced the importance of play to children’s physical and emotional health and well-being, in their personal development, and in enriching and supporting families.

### Criteria

This section contains the “matters that need to be taken into account” as set out under section 10 of the Statutory Guidance.

**The Criteria column:** sets out the data that needs to be available and the extent to which Local Authorities meet the stated criteria.

**The RAG status column:** provides a drop down box, whereby the Local Authority can show its assessment of whether that criterion is fully met; partially met; or not met. These have been given Red, Amber Green markers, which appear as words in the drop down boxes. *(In the “RAG status column”, Double click on the word STATUS – this will bring up drop-down form fields options, use the arrow down key until the status required RED, AMBER or GREEN- is at the top then press ok)*

Red, Amber Green (RAG) status is a tool to communicate status quickly and effectively.

Criteria fully met.	Fully met
Criteria partially met.	Partially met
Criteria not met.	Not met

**The 2022 column enables the local authority to indicate the direction of travel with the insertion of arrows.**

**The Evidence to support strengths column:** should be used to provide the reason for the chosen criteria status and how the evidence is held.

**The Shortfall column:** should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully meet the criteria.

**The Identified Action for Action Plan column:** should be used to show the Local Authority action planning priorities for that Matter.

**The Comments section:** asks some specific questions for each matter that should enable you to give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance. It also provides the opportunity to identify challenges and how they might be overcome.



### **Matter A: Population**

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should provide an overview of population and demographic data used locally to plan for play provision. Information should also be included regarding:

- Ages of children
- First language Welsh speaking children
- Cultural factors (such as other language)
- Gypsy Traveller children - There are 9 gypsy traveller children attending Monmouthshire schools, 7 in primary schools and 2 in secondary schools
- Disabled children - As at April 2021, there were 1,069 children with minor and major disabilities or developmental delays in Monmouthshire primary schools and 929 children with either major or minor disability or developmental delay in the secondary schools

### **What has changed in terms of population and demographic trends since Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019?**

Despite the fact that the population of Monmouthshire is on the increase, there is evidence to suggest that it is an aging population. In 2021 the population had increased to 95,134 and this is expected to increase still further reaching 97,089 by 2027. However, the percentage of children aged 0 – 17 is projected to decrease over the same period from 18.5% (17,586) of the total population to 17.9% (17,383).

Since the Play Sufficiency Assessment in 2019 there has been an increase of 105 children in Monmouthshire's schools with a major or minor disability, so the overall picture is one of a decreasing number of children to adults in the population as a whole, but an increasing proportion of children with disabilities.

### **How has/will the Local Authority use its population data to plan for sufficient play opportunities locally?**

As the detailed 2021 Census data is made available, we will use that to inform the PSA action plan and if appropriate review our proposed actions.

### **Have there been challenges?**

Lack of availability of detailed 2021 census data to paint a reliable up to date picture


**How can these be overcome?**

Utilise the data as it becomes available.

**Comments**

We will utilise local population data as it is updated. However, we recognise that this is only one component of better understanding the local demand for, and sufficiency of play opportunities in our towns and rural areas. As explained elsewhere we plan to supplement this information through further research and direct engagement with young people.




**RAG Status for Matter A**



Criteria partially met. 

**Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs**

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about how the Local Authority and partners aim to offer play opportunities that are inclusive and encourage all children to play and meet together.

**RAG Status:**

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
B1	The play requirements of children living in isolated rural			Most supervised play provision takes place in the county's four main settlements. In most rural	There are still some gaps in fixed play provision and a 2019	Seek to gain a better understanding of the local demand for, and sufficiency of

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	areas are understood and provided for			communities children have access to fixed play areas and the majority of these are managed by the county council although some are the responsibility of town and community councils. With the use of the additional Summer of Fun funding made available in 2021 and 2022 we have been able to extend open access play provision in some rural communities.	independent assessment of 110 sites found that whilst these were safe and well maintained, most were deficient in terms of play value.	play opportunities for diverse needs groups  Continue to adopt an integrated approach across the authority to ensure the needs of children with disabilities and/or families with diverse needs are better supported to access play opportunities.  Undertake a specific research project around the accessibility and suitability of existing supervised play provision to assist in greater equality of provision.
B2	The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for			The commitment to providing opportunities to use the Welsh language in the community is a vital part of the council's 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy which aims to contribute towards the Welsh Govt vision of creating a million Welsh speakers by 2050. In 2022/23 there will be three Welsh language projects delivered in partnership with Menter Iaith BGTM for Welsh language speaking children, consisting of 5 sessions for 5-11 year olds, 5 shows for 12-18 year olds and a Welsh Language Youth Forum Gig in September 2022, primarily for the 19-25 years age group.	Previous bilingual play sessions held in 2019 were not well attended.	
B3	The play requirements of children from different cultural			There is some play provision at the Abergavenny Community Centre that includes a number of refugee families living in that area.	No specific provision exists to fulfil the play requirements of children	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	backgrounds are understood and provided for				from different cultural backgrounds.	
B4	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			<p>There is 1:2:1 support for disabled children to attend After School Clubs and Holiday Clubs. The Councils open access play model is inclusive through the employment of support workers to ensure access by children with disabilities &amp; other support needs. Since 2019, the number of sessions specifically for children with disabilities (CWD) has increased and has been extended beyond the summer holidays to other school holiday periods, including Oct &amp; Feb half terms. The council also works closely with the QB Project to provide additional family sessions for children with more complex needs..</p> <p>When improvements have been made to the Council's fixed play areas, the proportion of accessible items of equipment has increased both in overall terms and on a number of the individual sites that have been upgraded.</p>	<p>Although good progress has been made and stronger partnerships have been formed with the CWD Team in Social Services and with the QB (Quest Busters) project, there is still an imbalance in the amount of play opportunities for CWD as a proportion of overall play provision.</p> <p>In general, although we are moving in the right direction with our fixed play offer, there is still a considerable amount of work to do in terms of levelling up inclusive provision for children with disabilities</p>	
B5	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion			Play projects run by the Council have access to resources that support inclusion. Inclusion packs have been loaned to voluntary groups for specific events.	Detailed information about the availability of resources is not widely shared with voluntary sector groups	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
B6	There is a well-known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children			The Council's policy and practice is to support inclusive provision wherever possible. In response to requests from families with diverse needs, the CWD Team has introduced disabled-only sessions commissioned through the council's single care provider, Action for Children (AfC). The aim of these sessions is to build confidence and resilience so that these children can transition into mainstream provision. In 2022 the target is to double the number of AfC sessions in the school summer holidays	There are some disabled children whose families do not engage with Social Services	
B7	Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			Access audits for provision run by the council have been and are undertaken – evidenced documentation is available	Information is not held about all projects provided by other agencies and/or the voluntary sector.	
B8	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites			The adopted LDP Policy H8 is a criteria-based policy for the assessment of proposals for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople (G&T sites). This policy will be reviewed as part of the replacement Local Development Plan and the provision of designated play space will be considered as part of that process. Private G&T sites are equivalent of a private house and the council wouldn't provide	Currently there are a few small private traveller sites located within the county that cater for one or two families in each location. There is no designated play space provided at these sites.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

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				play facilities on this basis. If there was or is a council-operated site for multiple families, then appropriate play space would be provided.		
B9	The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for			Monmouthshire has a Carers Strategy and there is a young carers provision operating in the county delivered by Crossroads Care South East Wales. There is also regular contact between the Young Carers Group and the Youth Service	Young carers are often difficult to identify, in particular those living in isolated rural areas or those caring for a family member with substance misuse or mental health issues.	
B10	The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for			The Youth Service (MYS) staff are trained in aspects of LGBT+ and they ensure that young people from this community have access to provision and support where required. There is an LGBT+ Group operating in four locations in each of the four main town centres, these operate as a mixed approach between support and social action. Following previous very successful events in 2018 and 2019 the groups are planning a further Youth Pride event and there are plans for another, larger event to promote equality and inclusivity in summer 2023, which will be organised as a coalition		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				between MYS and young people from the LGBT+ community.		

### Providing for Diverse Needs

#### How has data been used (or how will the data be used) to address the barriers that children with diverse needs face in accessing inclusive and accessible opportunities for playing?

We have an integrated approach across the authority to join up provision and ensure the needs of children with disabilities and/or families with diverse needs are better supported to access play opportunities, however we recognise that there are still gaps in our data as outlined above

#### Have there been challenges?

It is recognised that there is still progress required to achieve full equality of access across service delivery and a need to further investigate the barriers to access for specific user groups.

#### How can these be overcome?

Research with parents of children with disabilities or behavioural / specific needs around the accessibility and suitability of existing supervised play provision (both specific provision for children with disabilities and the wider integrated provision) is proposed to identify the barriers, and the required measures to overcome these, to assist in greater equality of provision.

#### Comments:



Progress includes inclusive provision at the open access playschemes for children with disabilities, specific provision for children with greater needs and working across the authority to further develop our wrap around provision and improving the accessibility of fixed play facilities. The research proposed is intended to assist in removing the barriers to access for specific user groups.

**Matter C: Space available for children to play: Open Spaces and Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces**

The Local Authority should recognise that all open spaces within their area are potentially important areas where children can play or pass through to reach other play areas or places where they go.

**RAG Status**

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

**Open Spaces**

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
C1	The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance			The Monmouthshire Open Spaces Study 2008 (OSS 2008) identifies standards of public recreation and open spaces, including fixed play, designated play space and casual play space. The information from that study is mapped.	The OSS 2008 did not map that part of the county where the Brecon Beacons National Park is the local planning authority, but these areas are covered by the Greenspace Study 2010	To improve fixed play provision and the opportunities for play within open spaces, prioritising increasing play value and inclusivity, and supporting and enabling community driven play proposals
C2	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing			The OSS 2008 also identified amenity greenspace and semi-natural green space within all of the county's main towns, urban areas & larger rural settlements. The Monmouthshire Greenspace Study 2010 extended the work of		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				the OSS 2008 to provide a full survey of the adequacy of greenspace provision in the county following, as far as possible, the methodology developed by CCW. An analysis of greenspace provision within each settlement area is provided in the study, which includes areas used for informal play.		
C3	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			Access audits have been undertaken at the majority of open spaces and improvements have been made at a number of sites, where resources have permitted, since 2019.	Audits do not extend to all sites that are in the ownership of, or managed by other bodies such as Town & Community Councils	
C4	The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			The council has adopted the Fields in Trust Six Acre Standard in relation to open spaces and has developed its own standard for the categorisation of fixed play areas in the county	The Council has not developed its own open spaces standard but we will seek to do this as part of the replacement LDP process	
C5	The Local Authority undertakes & actions play value assessments in public open space			In 2019 we commissioned an independent play value assessment of 110 play areas located on public open spaces across the county	The assessment found that although. The play areas were safe and well maintained, most offered very little in terms of play value	
C6	Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the sites to be reclaimed to provide for				We do not assess brownfield sites for their play potential, however the number of such sites in council ownership is limited.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children's play					

### Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
C7	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance			The council keeps an up to date record of all designated play spaces in its ownership and is aware of those that are not in its ownership. We also maintain a number of sites not in council ownership.	Some sites used as designated play spaces are in the ownership of other parties.	To improve fixed play provision and the opportunities for play within open spaces, prioritising increasing play value and inclusivity, and supporting and enabling community driven play proposals
C8	The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance			In 2019 the council carried out play value assessments of 110 fixed play areas in the county, using an independent assessor. The sites were scored as "good", "adequate" or "poor". Some sites have been upgraded since the date of the 2019 PSA and a further assessment will be undertaken in 2023 to update the assessment matrix.	A large proportion of sites were measured as "poor", although the results for some of the smaller sites were slightly skewed	
C9	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			Audits have been carried out at most but not all sites.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
C10	The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard			The council has agreed its own standard (neighbourhood and doorstep sites) in larger settlements and moved away from the traditional NEAP, LEAP and LAP categorisations	A separate standard needs to be developed for fixed play provision in the more rural parts of the county	
C11	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			Play space assessments have been assessed for usage and improvements have been made at some sites	All sites in Council ownership have been assessed.	
C12	The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds  The local authority complies with The Smoke-free Premises and Vehicles (Wales) Regulations 2020 that requires playgrounds in Wales to be smoke-free.			Smoke free signage, in the designated format, has been installed on all fixed play sites in council ownership. Guidance has also been given to those Town & Community Councils that manage their own playgrounds.		
C13	The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community			The council has removed the majority of "no ball games" signs but a small number still exist in some areas, usually in areas with a high concentration of social housing	A small number of such signs exist but these are mainly on sites not in council ownership	
C14	The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the			The lack of priority given to children's play (through the presence of "no ball game" signs) has been identified by	No play priority or similar signs have been erected	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	community			children and older people in Chepstow.		
C15	The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made			The council recognises the importance of children's play where disposal decisions are made – this is also picked up in Future Generations Evaluations and Equality Impact Assessments		
C16	The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields			There have been very few cases of the council disposing of playing fields. When this took place in Caldicot and Govilon, the views of families were sought as part of the consultation process.		
C17	The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when refurbishing or developing new playgrounds			The council does take into account guidance on accessibility when refurbishing or developing new playgrounds and increases the amount of accessible equipment when existing playgrounds are upgraded		

### Open Spaces

**How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments / Green Infrastructure Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play?**

The Council has a well-established collaborative approach based around applying its green infrastructure strategy, to ensure all relevant services are involved in decisions on proposed new areas of open space and improving connectivity and accessibility between existing play and open spaces, including integrating play need, nature recovery and active travel programmes.

### **Have there been challenges?**

The play value assessment of existing fixed play indicated in many instances of low levels of play value. In response a programme of improvement and where appropriate rationalisation has been instigated, and the Council has reviewed the play standard it applies to new development. Despite success in integrating available grant schemes the challenges include securing the resources necessary to carry out a planned programme of improvement.

### **How can these be overcome?**

Collaborative working is the main approach used to overcome these challenges and the use of off-site open space/recreation contributions obtained as part of Section 106 agreements relating to new developments (with the revised approach) are used to improve spaces for play and access to these areas. There are also a number of Friends and community groups in different settlements who work to raise funds from external sources to contribute towards improvements

### **Comments:**

Both the Open Spaces Study (2008) and the Greenspace Study (2010) identified amenity and natural/semi-natural greenspace in the main settlements. The council has adopted a wider green infrastructure approach (as set out in the Green Infrastructure Strategy and the GI Supplementary Planning Guidance) and, in partnership with Fields in Trust, has designated 22 sites in the county that are protected in perpetuity for local communities to enjoy.

### **Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces**

**How has the local authority considered all issues of accessibility in play space development?**



Accessibility is a major factor when new developments in the county are being planned. The Council has recently amended its play standards to replace the Fields in Trust (classification in favour of a two-tier classification of Neighbourhood and Doorstep Play Areas) and that this is being used to rationalise the number of urban-based play areas in the four main towns; a pilot which includes repurposing some smaller play areas with low play value to alternative uses such as community food growing and wildlife nature areas that can include wild play areas is underway in Monmouth and is being extended to Chepstow in 22/23. The Council has also agreed to move towards the provision of play equipment constructed of more natural materials such as sustainable hardwoods, with a greater proportion of accessible equipment.

### Have there been challenges?

The ageing stock of fixed play equipment in many urban settings that is functional but offers low play value.

### How can these be overcome?

We are addressing these issues on an “area by area” basis by integrating available resources, the application of the new standards and by working with town & community councils and local Friends Groups to improve provision.




### Comments

Our overall approach is to rationalise fixed play provision in the county to ensure that there is a balance between well-equipped and accessible neighbourhood play areas and doorstep play areas

### Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aim to offer a range of supervised play provision.

#### RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

### Playwork provision

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D1	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised playwork provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			Up to date records of supervised play settings are kept by the Family Information Service which provides the initial access portal to this information for families and their children	The information from different databases is not shared on a routine basis.	Continue to build on the community play framework for open access play provision
D2	The Local Authority offers playwork provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			The council operates a range of inclusive play provisions which offer rich play environments for the children. There is evidenced feedback from children & families with high satisfaction ratings.		
D3	The Local Authority ensures that partners offering playwork provision are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance			The council works with playwork partners to support them in offering rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance,		
D4	Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			The open access schemes that we operate are not required to be registered with the CIW but they do meet the regulatory requirements and the national minimum standards.		
D5	Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory			The open access playschemes are not required to be registered with the CIW but they do meet the regulatory requirements and the national minimum standards.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	requirements and National Minimum Standards					
D6	Staffed playwork provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			The council works with Action for Children, with the Quest Busters programme and with other partners to deliver playwork provision that meets the regulatory requirements and the national minimum standards.		
D7	Staffed playwork provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme			Staff across Sport and Learning are currently working through their level 2 in playwork to develop a more flexible and competent play offer.	Not currently working to a recognised quality assurance programme. The new Play Development Officer when she takes up her post will progress work in this area.	
D8	The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.			The council works with third sector partners to deliver activities for children and in those cases where it does (e.g., sports courses, etc.) quality issues are prioritised.		
D9	The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) playwork provision for children			The council does not provide premises free of charge but it does provide outdoor space free of charge for play provision.		

**Structured recreational activities for children**

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
D10	Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			<p>The council continues to work closely with communities, partners and schools to deliver opportunities identified through the Sport Wales School Sports Survey and other localised data sources.</p> <p>We continue to invest in young leadership programmes (such as the year 5 Playmaker programme, young ambassadors and secondary school leadership academies) and training to give young people the opportunity to create sustainable play, sport and physical activities. This has created an employment pathway from the age of 10 through to post 16 employment opportunities.</p> <p>We continue to work with our pre-school and after school providers to identify training and support to be able to offer physical literacy opportunities for young people.</p> <p>A closer alignment with Sports Development officers and those</p>	The implementation of the councils Leisure and Physical Activity Strategy will continue to identify areas for development and supported through our play delivery plans.	Continue to promote the importance of participation in play and active sports

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				officers responsible for play will ensure a coordinated offer, delivered through a competent and flexible workforce.		
D11	The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			<p>Through Dragon, multi skills and sport programmes we are focussing on the physical competency of children so that they can develop the appropriate skills at the appropriate stage of their physical development, which can then be transferred across to active sport.</p> <p>Partnership working with key statutory services, such as Early Years and Education, ensure these positive skills are embedded through enriching sport and play opportunities.</p> <p>Community sport provision is thriving and positive in response to Covid recovery. A wide range of localised opportunities are available to ensure barriers such as transport are reduced based on the rural nature of Monmouthshire.</p>		
D12	The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision			A playful places audit has been undertaken at the council's		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	of sufficient recreational activities for children			<p>museums and heritage &amp; cultural attractions to explore the physical infrastructure of the sites as well as the human and cultural conditions that support the development of play and playful opportunities for children and families.</p> <p>The staff at these sites have also received training around the nature and value of play and developing and supporting playful approaches and working with heritage sites and collections.</p>		
D13	The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association			<p>Monmouthshire Youth Service (MYS) and its voluntary sector partners provide opportunities on a regular basis for young people aged 11 years+ to engage in leisure and recreational activities in youth drop in centres, more traditional youth club settings, village halls and outreach sessions.</p>		

### Supervised play provision

**Where the Local Authority has assessed settings as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSAs), how have these settings been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?**

Monmouthshire Early Years organise a training programme each year to ensure that there are sufficient courses available that can be accessed by the childcare workforce. Early Years have previously funded the Transition to Playworks qualification for childcare practitioners working in play settings, to ensure settings were able to meet CIW regulations and would be happy to do so again if there was a need for it

### **How has provision that is not part of the CSA been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?**

The council reviewed and assessed its summer play provision in 2016 and subsequently moved to a model of free open access play, delivered by a commissioned provider. Since 2020 the Council has provided these services directly and the quality of these provisions is assessed mainly on the basis of feedback from parents, children and families. Specialist provision for children with disabilities continues to be provided on a commissioned basis and is reviewed against service standards.

### **Have there been challenges?**

The main challenges are sustaining provision, attempting to match demand to capacity on each scheme and addressing equality of provision. Additionally, the rural nature of the county, making it difficult for children and families to access the opportunities in the four main settlements.

### **How can these be overcome?**

Maximising the availability of grant and other contributions through partnership and integrated working. Extending provision either directly by the Council or by supporting community base provision beyond the main settlements where possible.

### **Comments:**

Proposals are included in the action plan to develop to build on the open access community play model and supporting provision for children with disabilities, reviewing progress and considering future delivery options including supporting equality of access, widening community provision and provision beyond school holidays. The recent enhanced Welsh Government funding has demonstrated how new and extended provision can be provided to meet community needs, but it remains entirely dependent on future funding levels.



### Matter E: Charges for play provision

The Local Authority should consider which play opportunities involve a charge and the extent to which the Local Authority takes these charges into account in assessing for sufficient play opportunities for children living in low income families as set out in the Statutory Guidance.

#### RAG status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
E1	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families			There are 10,629 households with dependent children in the county, of which there are 994 workless households and 2,057 lone parent households. Overall, 12.9% of dependent children in Monmouthshire live in low income families.		Enhance our information base, including building a fuller picture of existing provision.  Develop the community play framework for free open access play provision
E2	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation			This information is held at ward and LSOA level and in the Census 2021 population and household estimates for Wales.		
E3	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas			This information is held at ward and LSOA level and in the Census 2021 population and household estimates for Wales		
E4	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those			There are 144 disabled children registered with the Children with Disabilities Team, including 54 children on the Disability Index.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	with particular needs.			There are (as at April 2021) 1,998 children in Monmouthshire's schools with a major or minor disability.		
E5	The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision			The majority of the council's play opportunities are provided free of charge and the Family Information Service website contains details of these and on all other activities being run – whether or not there is a cost for participation.		
E6	The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision			Information on premises that can be used for play are available in the "Children's Entertainment" section of the FIS website.	The information is only updated annually and depends on providers submitting the relevant details.	
E7	The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			Monmouthshire Early Years provides an out of school childcare grant for additional support at holiday clubs and after school clubs in the county.	There is a limited budget available for this and it is only available to children with additional needs. Also, the grant funds a 1:1 worker but does not subsidise the place for the child.	
E8	The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			We provided free transport to some of the leisure centre-based playschemes in the past, but this does not form part of current provision, especially now that we are providing more free play sessions in rural communities	Subsidised or free transport to play opportunities in certain areas was trialled but this was discontinued due to lack of take up.	

### **Charge for play provision**

#### **How is the Local Authority ensuring that children have access to no or low-cost provision?**

The majority of play opportunities provided by the Council are free at the point of delivery.

There is a full day sports activity scheme for which there is a fee that is run at the Council's leisure centres known as the Monmouthshire Games (TMG) over the school summer holidays and other school holiday periods including the October and February half terms and over the Easter period. The scheme provides opportunities to participate in a wide range of recreational and sports activities, including a daily swim session. The council provides a number of free places for low income families at each holiday period and entry is gained by issuing a card to all participants in order to avoid any stigmatisation. Possession of the card also provides individuals with a full year's access to all free swimming sessions held at the centres. Greater promotion of free weekly opportunities, such as Welsh Government Funded Free Swimming, will be developed with an increased marketing presence and brand for Play that children, young people and families can relate to.

#### **Have there been challenges?**

The main challenges are sustaining the open access provision, attempting to match demand to capacity on each scheme and ensuring support for free places, where applicable is appropriately targeted. Additionally, the rural nature of the county, making it difficult for children and families to access the opportunities in the four main settlements.

#### **How can these be overcome?**

Maximising the availability of grant and other contributions through partnership and integrated working. Close working with partners including schools and social landlords to improve access and where applicable targeting of specific provision. Extending provision beyond the main settlements where possible.




#### **Comments:**


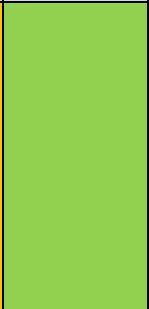

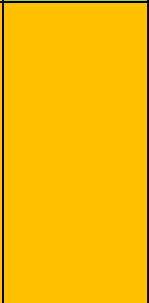
The availability of enhanced levels of Play Opportunity Grant have been very beneficial to extending access, however the short term nature of funding and the local of certainty over future grant levels still presents significant challenges to building effective and long term provision.

**Matter F: Access to space/provision**

The Local Authority should consider all the factors that contribute to children’s access to play or moving around their community.

**RAG Status**

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F1	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas			The Welsh Govt policy is to reduce the speed limit on roads in all urban areas from 30mph to 20mph and Monmouthshire ran two of eight pilot projects in Wales in the Abergavenny and Severnside areas. All 20mph zones are mapped and are freely available for reference by members of the public.		Improve our information base and fully integrate these measures to better understand the local barriers to play for children and young people so we can increase access to play opportunities
F2	The Local Authority has an identified mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities			The speed reduction plans referred to above and other road safety measures will be rolled out across the authority in 2023. Completed school travel plans that inform Safe Routes in Communities projects have monitoring requirements to assess the impact of such interventions.	Safe Routes in Communities and road safety schemes produce benefits & impacts much wider than allowing children to play, so it is difficult to attribute these benefits specifically to children’s play.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F3	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists			<p>As above, with Safe Routes in Communities and general road safety schemes.</p> <p>The Integrated Network Maps set out the council's plans for improving active travel routes in and around key settlements.</p> <p>Also, there is a coordinated approach to proposed new residential developments in the county that consider the impact of existing and proposed roads and junctions and that give high priority to safe routes and crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>The council has an extensive plan for rolling out 20mph zones across the county in line with the Senedd decision to make 20mph the new default urban speed limit.</p>	Not all of the county is covered by these measures and some routes require the involvement of the Welsh Government (WG) and other agencies such as the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA).	
F4	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas			<p>The Active Travel Network Maps set out the council's plans for improving active travel routes in &amp; around key settlements over the next 15 years and there are a number of specific projects for improvement that we are working on with local groups, Sustrans and other partners. The council has also commissioned a cycling strategy for the county, funded from the Active Travel Fund.</p>	<p>A lot of the focus in the past for this work has been in relation to key generators of traffic such as schools, shops &amp; employment sites but there is now a greater emphasis given to leisure based activities</p> <p>A closer alignment with some of our fixed play ambitions and creating better routes to access</p>	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				In 2020 Active Travel was repurposed to sit within the MonLife portfolio and this has provided the opportunity for a more holistic, whole authority approach. Part of the recent Active Travel Network Map consultation saw 100% of schools take part, giving children and young people a voice. 67% of secondary school pupils and 80% of primary school pupils have indicated they would like to walk, cycle or scoot to school more often. A more connected network will support not only our education settings but access to recreational provision.	these via walking or cycling will play a key part in our future approach. Continued work with our internal GIS system will support this thinking and inform a data led approach for future funding applications & provision. Continue to engage in the pre planning process ensuring localised links and recreational activities are supported from the inception of developments	
F5	There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities			Participation in the WG 20mph trial has allowed the council to take positive action to reduce road traffic speed and there is an extensive plan to roll this out on urban roads across the county. This is a particular priority when considering applications for new development.		
F6	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards			National Standards Cycle Training is offered to key schools in Monmouthshire. This involves on road and off road training with years 5 and 6 to give them the tools and understanding to cycle safely and confidently.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
F7	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children			<p>A six week child pedestrian training programme is offered to all schools in the county to enhance the knowledge and understanding of children in years 1 and 2 around being safe at the roadside and how to cross safely. Active travel workshops are offered to the foundation phase within schools in Monmouthshire. These include "scoot2school" that teaches children how to share footways, whilst underpinning key road safety messages. "Cool kids wear lids" teaches children the importance of wearing a helmet when using bikes, scooters and skateboards, etc. School transition training is offered to year 6 pupils and is an interactive workshop, highlighting the key road safety issues to this age group, as well as discussions around active travel and their new comprehensive school.</p>		
F8	The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes			<p>There are well-defined procedures for Street Closures that are well known and used in some local communities. The Council also provides street closure training in local areas to encourage more take up of Street Play opportunities</p>		
F9	The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when			All new developments are considered under the Manual for		



## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm			Streets and with reference to regional parking standards and guidelines. Some highways within the county are the responsibility of the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTA), which tends to refer to the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and more detailed standards.		
F10	The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities			All new developments are considered under the Manual for Streets, Active Travel Design Guidance, adopted MCC LDP guidelines, Sustrans Greenway and all in line with the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013. Some highways within the county are the responsibility of the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA), which tends to refer to the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and more detailed standards.  A structured Active Travel Governance Board, Project Manager and Project Sponsor approach has been embedded over the last two year period – resulting in significant progress	Continue to engage with children and young people on all schemes, where relevant, to ensure they have a voice in Active Travel Scheme development.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>across all aspects of Active Travel.</p> <p>15 schools have benefited from increased cycling infrastructure, based on a data led approach through the ATNM Consultation, to support increased levels of cycling to school.</p>		
F11	The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities			Accident data looks at all age groups and road user types. The council works jointly with Gwent Police and neighbouring councils to identify and to look to address known accident sites.		
F12	The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure			Safe Routes in Communities Scheme and Active Travel	Some decisions on public transport planning & expenditure are made at regional level and prioritisation methodology focuses on spatial benefits around economic and social issues and less towards play & leisure activities.	
F13	The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and			The council runs DDA compliant buses on school and inter school transport and provides public service vehicles and community transport through its Grass	All buses on service routes are DDA compliant, however capacity is not high for	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	transport initiatives			<p>Routes scheme – these vehicles are also offered to community groups on a private hire basis. Public service vehicles also provide DDA compliant vehicles on most routes. All bus stops in the county have DDA compliant boarding platforms. Some buses also have audio announcements and escorts are provided on SEN contracts to education establishments.</p> <p>We have safe routes in the community schemes that encourage walking and cycling for all and most paths are constructed to include compliance with DDA standards, including road crossings.</p>	<p>wheelchairs on public service vehicles.</p> <p>Some rural areas have poor accessibility and may not be suitable for accessible transport.</p>	

### Information, publicity and events:

**For children and families to take part in play opportunities, recreational activities and events it is necessary for them to know what is available in their area.**

F14	The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play			Information about play opportunities is included on the MCC website, the FIS website, the Visit Monmouthshire website and the MonLife website – this provides comprehensive information on play provision, clubs and participation opportunities but does not include	No single “One Stop Shop” website for families to access the full range of information about play opportunities in the county – although the FIS website is particularly popular with	Enhanced information, publicity and events
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## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

	areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility)			information on fixed play sites or open spaces.	local families that have young children.	
F15	The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required			This information is available on a “service by service” basis, and joint publicity is produced for the summer holiday period. The MonLife website provides guidance and information about play activities organised by the play unit		
F16	The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families			Events are publicised and supported by the FIS, which produces termly flyers advertising play opportunities and events for families. They also advertise specific events on the FIS website and through social media throughout the year.		
F17	The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play			The council has supported and helped publicise information about workshops and activities delivered by other parties such as the housing associations, the Gwent Wildlife Trust and Groundwork Wales which all contribute to positive community attitudes towards play.	This work is done on an ad hoc basis and there is currently no systematic process for publishing or promoting the information.	
F18	The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play			Information about the importance of play is included in the Parenting Tips section of the FIS website.	The information available and its promotion is limited, although there are opportunities to do this as part of the organised activities held during the school holiday periods.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

F19	The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			There is some on-site signposting at the five skateparks in the county to promote safe play.	There is no consistent or regular process or programme for onsite signposting to promote play	
F20	The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			The council has an effective engagement with the media, and we promote positive portrayals as and when there is an opportunity to do so.	This work is not done on a regular basis as a part of a planned process.	

### Access to space/provision

#### How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration to ensure children can move around their communities to increase access to opportunities for playing?

We have a collaborative approach to delivering improved safety and new opportunities for active travel (walking and cycling), general road safety measures and the provision of training and the assessment of proposals for new development. During 2020 and 2021 100% of schools across Monmouthshire took part in our Active Travel Network Map Consultation, providing vital information on the proposed network to improve walking and cycling. Welsh Government praised the level of engagement seen from children and young people across Monmouthshire. Key issues such as traffic speeds and volumes of cars were the main concerns to increased levels of Active Travel in their community by children and young people questioned. The development of a more cohesive network of routes within our settlements will not only benefit active travel journeys but recreational access to play provision and community settings.

#### Have there been challenges?

There remains a need to improve our information base to fully integrate these measures and to better understand the local barriers to children and young people to improve access to play opportunities.

### **How can these be overcome?**

We intend to roll out the young people led research on play in the Bulwark and Thornwell neighbourhoods of Chepstow facilitated by the local school cluster. The tool kit to support extending this was completed but the impacts of the pandemic prevented its roll out. The intention remains to carry this out over the next play sufficiency assessment period. This will give us a rich and valuable source of information about how children access play opportunities and how they move around their communities to access spaces to play.

### **Comments**

We will continue with our collaborative approach to delivering improved access and safety and to developing active travel solutions and seek Welsh Government funding for their implementation.

### **Information, publicity, events**

#### **How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?**

The FIS and MonLife websites contain information on how to access play opportunities in local communities and there is also information available on social media platforms. This is supplemented in the lead up to holiday periods by information provided through schools and general information at various outlets such as leisure centres, libraries & museums, and community hubs.

#### **Have there been challenges?**

The ongoing challenge is the timely supply of information on events and play opportunities and there is no information currently available about play areas in local communities

#### **How can these be overcome?**

The action plan includes proposals to enhance the promotion via the Family Information Service and the MonLife holiday activities websites.




### **Comments:**

We will work with partners to seek to enhance information to support access to play provision over the next Play Sufficiency Assessment period.

**Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce**

The Local Authority should provide information on the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

**RAG status**

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

**Note – These criteria are specifically about Playwork: Playwork is a highly skilled profession that enriches and enhances play. It takes place where adults support children’s play but it is not driven by prescribed education or care outcomes. This includes both open access and out of school childcare settings.**

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
G1	The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the playwork workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, playwork management structure, qualification levels,			The council keeps up to date information regarding the Early Years and After School play workforce and this is updated as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. As of 2022 there is a more defined play management structure within the authority,		Develop a flexible and specialist workforce to support our future play ambitions.  Enhance our information base, including building a fuller picture of existing provision and the play workforce

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

	training opportunities and volunteers)			with responsibility for play policy and supervised play delivery now residing within MonLife where it sits within a suite of services including sport, sports development, youth provision, outdoor education and active travel. A Level 5 qualified Play Development Lead has been appointed and will take up her new role in Sept 2022 and the sports development and heritage & museums staff have undertaken Level 2 training.		
G2	The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National Minimum Standards			The Youth Service (MYS) provides core and mandatory training for all the provisions with which it is involved. This includes clubs that are run by paid workers and by volunteers.		
G3	The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork				There is currently no ring-fenced staff development budget for play.	
G4	There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area			The council promotes CPD to play workers, also providing underpinning knowledge courses – for example food hygiene, child protection and health & safety.	The provision, whilst valuable, does not cover all play workers in the area and it cannot be classed as comprehensive.	
G5	Training is available for volunteers and parents to			The council has organised a number of training courses for volunteers and parents to	There is no comprehensive	



## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

	develop their knowledge on skills in playwork			deliver Street Play sessions in different parts of the county.	training provision in place	
G6	The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies				This is not the case at the moment.	
G7	The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			The open access play provisions in the summer deliver appropriate training to volunteers.	This provision, whilst valuable, only covers a proportion of the volunteer workforce.	

**Note – these criteria are about the Play workforce: This encompasses anyone employed whose role has an impact on children playing – those who may either directly facilitate their play, design for playing, or those with the power to give permission for children to play, or not.**

G8	The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary and above				The council has not undertaken such an analysis.	
G9	The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff			Training needs are assessed and learning opportunities are offered to staff engaged in play delivery		
G10	There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children			The council promotes CPD to staff that work with children, as well as providing underpinning knowledge courses, e.g. food hygiene,	This provision, whilst valuable, does not cover all play workers and cannot be classed as comprehensive.	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

				health & safety, safeguarding, child protection.		
G11	Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children's opportunities to play			Limited awareness raising on the importance of play and the need to provide for improved play opportunities has been provided. The review of the summer play provisions and the review of the PSA provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of children's play with the council's cabinet and select committees and with town and community councils.		

### Securing and developing the play workforce

#### How has the Local Authority met the requirement to undertake or secure the managerial and delivery functions necessary to achieve sufficient play opportunities?

The Council has identified a lead service, MonLife and has implemented arrangements to coordinate delivery via the Play Strategy Group as a subgroup of the Children and Young People's Partnership. The Council has created a new Play Development Lead post which will contribute to the strategic direction and delivery of play right across Monmouthshire

#### How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides for the workforce development needs of the play workforce (as defined in Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above)?

As the Council has now pivoted to direct provision of supervised play opportunities it has reviewed the experience from the first year of operation and identified workforce development needs as part of that process. External audits on how to develop play opportunities within our cultural and heritage services has also made recommendations.

#### Have there been challenges?

We recognise that our understanding of the wider play workforce and training needs, as also identified in the Childcare assessment, is not comprehensive and we have identified actions to address this shortfall.

**How can these be overcome?**

Playworks training is being provided for appropriate staff and the appointment of a Play Development Lead will support further progress on workforce development for staff and volunteers.




**Comments**



The development of a flexible and specialist workforce will play a pivotal role in our future play ambitions. Staff and volunteers who are able to move confidently between programmes across our wider youth offer will ensure that a coherent programme of delivery is put in place ranging from open access mainstream opportunities through to targeted direct interventions.

**Matter H: Community engagement and participation.**

The Local Authority should consult widely with children, their families and other stakeholders on their views on play provision. It should also promote wide community engagement in providing play friendly communities.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
H1	The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play			Feedback is routinely obtained from parents and children at every supervised play session run by the council and those	Whilst these represent innovative & useful ways of involving children, young people	Develop the community play framework for open access play provision

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	opportunities for children in its area.			<p>commissioned through external agencies such as Action for Children and some of the activity providers we use to deliver active play and recreation sessions.</p> <p>When improvements are planned to fixed play sites we engage with local children and families about the revised layout, equipment schedule and border treatments. We also consult on the items of accessible equipment to be included in the revised provision.</p> <p>The council also engages regularly with a number of Friend Groups across the county, set up to promote improvements to green open spaces and outdoor fixed play sites.</p> <p>Continue to support Playing Out (encouraging street play in communities) with interested parties, supporting and enabling wider community action,</p>	and local groups in enhancing play opportunities in their respective local communities, there is a need for a coordinated approach across all parts of the county to ensure equality of access and provision.	Support and enable wider community action to enhance play opportunities
H2	<p>The Local Authority promotes community engagement in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- making space available and suitable for play</li> <li>- organising play events</li> <li>- positive attitudes towards children and play</li> </ul>			<p>There is a strong emphasis via the planning process on making space available and suitable for play and for the provision of play and recreational opportunities for children and young people. This helps to create positive attitudes towards children's play.</p>	<p>There is some community engagement in these processes, but this does not necessarily take place at an early enough stage.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	- training on the importance of play.				There is a lack of training on the importance of play at most levels.	

**Community engagement and participation.**

**How has the Local Authority effectively used existing mechanisms for children’s participation and family consultation processes with regards to play?**

Given the wide engagement around play delivery this plan has been informed by ongoing participation and consultations, including the destination play area and the local places for nature funded projects in Monmouth. We have also drawn on previous child questionnaires and the views of children and feedback from parents obtained at play sessions. We have also utilised the “playmakers” school conferences and Active Travel consultations to extract information relating to play opportunities.

**Have there been challenges?**

The proposed roll out of the “Young People’s Voices in Play Toolkit” to obtain young people’s views on local play issues and opportunities was delayed due to the impacts of the pandemic but is still our intention.

**How can these be overcome?**

We intend to rollout the Young People’s Voices in Play Toolkit to other schools and communities in Monmouthshire to gain more local intelligence. We also intend to recommence the playmaker conference to capture comparative data during the summer term of the 22/23 academic year. We intend to undertake focussed research to identify the barriers, and the required measures to overcome these, to assist in greater equality of provision (see Providing for Diverse Needs).




### Comments

We will continue to gain direct feedback from users of the play schemes and use our engagement in the wider youth and family offers to gain additional input.

**Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas**

The Local Authority should examine all its policy agendas for their potential impact on children’s opportunities to play and embed targets and action to enhance children’s play opportunities within all such policies and strategies.

**RAG Status**

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I1	There is a named person on the Local Public Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Well-being Plan			<p>The Well-Being Plan includes action to ensure children and young people have access to flexible and appropriate play opportunities.</p> <p>The plan, which remains in place until March 2023, also has a set objective which is; ‘Providing children &amp; young people with the best possible start in life’.</p>	<p>We have moved to a Gwent PSB model and as such there are now five local subgroups of the PSB for Gwent. In Monmouthshire our PSB Programme Board is the strategic sub-group for the county and is in the process of re-establishing a Children &amp; Young Peoples Strategic Partnership, which is chaired by the Director of Education. This partnership will have the governance and oversight of play in Monmouthshire, on behalf of Gwent PSB</p>	<p>Identify better links and integration with other programmes and partnerships through the Play Strategy Group</p>

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
12	The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			During the consultation phase of the current Well-Being Plan there was significant public feedback on the need for children and young people to use the outdoors for play and recreation. This helped to contribute to the establishment of <b>“Providing children and young people with the best possible start in life”</b> as one of the Council’s four main well-being objectives in its current Well-Being Plan	<p>There is no specific reference contained in the Plan to the provision of rich play opportunities. The overall aim of the current wellbeing plan is to <b>Build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current &amp; future generations.</b></p> <p>The establishment of a children &amp; young strategic people’s partnership (CYPSP) for the county recognises the need to have a clear governance and accountability framework that oversees the quality of delivery of services, support, intervention, and activity for all children &amp; young people across Monmouthshire. Play and the PSA will form part of the board’s remit and will ensure there is a solid focus on play opportunities and equity of play for all</p>	



## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
					children across the county.	

### Education and schools

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
13	Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day			Schools' outdoor areas, especially those built as part of the primary review, offer excellent environments with rich and varied provision for children's play		
14	Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			All schools provide access to play during breaks and lunchtimes, using a range of equipment and playground markings.		
15	Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			A number of schools and school grounds are used during school holidays for supervised play sessions and some schools do allow access to their grounds for playing out of school times. The four secondary sites are dual use, so these enjoy extensive use outside of school hours.	The use of primary school grounds for playing out of school times is not widespread. This lack of access was identified as an issue by children & young people in the pupil-led research in Bulwark & Thornwell.	
16	Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school			Schools do encourage children to walk and cycle to school and they also participate in the annual "Walk to School" week.	This is not a practical option with some of the more rural schools in the county.	
17	The Local Authority offers			The council's Food and Fitness Policy is currently under review		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			and a new policy will be issued to schools in the autumn term 2022. This will include appropriate guidance for schools on the importance of outdoor play.		

### Town and Country Planning

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
18	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities			<p>The adopted LDP contains a policy requiring the provision of open space and play provision in accordance with the Council's adopted standards. The replacement LDP when adopted will contain a similar policy approach.</p> <p>The adopted Green Infrastructure (GI) <i>Supplementary Planning Guidance</i> (SPG) recognises the need to increase both formal and informal play opportunities as a distinct benefit and a key design consideration.</p> <p>Over the last four years we have developed a more coordinated approach in responding to pre-application enquiries and to submitted planning applications. This encapsulates comments</p>		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				relating to green infrastructure, ecology & biodiversity, play & recreation, trees, landscape & street services.		

### Traffic and Transport

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
19	The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities			The council's Local Development Plan (LTP) includes Active Travel Networks in seven designated settlements, all of which consider the implications of the play sufficiency assessment & play action plans. In operational terms the importance of local streets, roads and walking & cycling routes are recognised for their importance in facilitating play opportunities.		
110	The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.			The council's LTP was assessed against equality impact. Active Travel Network Plans have been designed and developed in accordance with relevant guidance, including Equality Impact Assessments.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

### Early Years Plans

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I11	Early Years and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children			The council's Early Years Policy deals mainly with early education and promotes the importance of play as an important educational tool. The fundamental principle of the Foundation Phase Framework is that learning should be active/play based and should take place both indoors and outdoors. The council's service specification agreement with approved early education providers states that all children must have access to a stimulating, safe & secure outdoor learning environment during every session.		

### Family policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I12	Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their			There is a concentration of family support initiatives based in the former Families First (FF) area in Abergavenny and in other areas to stress the importance of play & to encourage children's play.		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children to play					
I13	The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			There is no FF area in the county, but the importance of play and providing rich play opportunities is recognised in all areas of the county identified as socially deprived (including the former North Abergavenny FF area).		
I14	Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			The council has identified play as an important contributor to promote positive childhood experiences and to make provision for children in socially deprived areas to have better access to rich play opportunities		

### Inter-generational policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I15	There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			Family Learning activities within the county include a range of intergenerational activities. During the early part of the Covid pandemic play packs were produced by the Learning Manager and delivered to children of primary school age,		

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				using local Covid volunteer groups in each area.		
I16	There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages			Family Learning programmes include activities for children of different ages. Groundwork Wales has also engaged with parents, family members and community groups.		

<b>Health and Safety</b>	
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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
I17	The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge			This is not recognised in the main health and safety policy but is covered in the Trips and Visits policy under “hazardous pursuits” and “adventurous activities”.		
I18	The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)			The council works & operates in line with the All Wales Guidance for Educational Visits - a safety guide for learning outside the classroom, which embraces the HSE principles of sensible risk management.		
I19	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to				The council does not offer the provision of insurance through its own scheme and can	

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	all third sector play providers and community councils				see difficulties in doing so, particularly the transfer of legal liabilities.	

### Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

**Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities.**

As noted under Matter C the Council has a well-established collaborative approach based around applying its green infrastructure strategy, to ensure all relevant services are involved in decisions on proposed new areas of open space and improving connectivity and accessibility between existing play and open spaces, including integrating play need, nature recovery and active travel programmes and this is delivering new benefits.

We have an integrated approach across the authority to join up provision and ensure the needs of children with disabilities and/or families with diverse needs are better supported to access play opportunities.

In rolling out the “Young People’s Voices in Play Toolkit” the intent is to reproduce the successful collaborative process both in carrying out the study, and looking at how to address the identified issues, between the Council, the schools involved and the relevant town or community council.

The successful delivery of the open access community model to date has involved collaboration between the council, town and community councils and the voluntary sector, delivering high quality play opportunities, and valuable employment, volunteering and training opportunities for young people.

### Have there been challenges?

The challenges have been the lack of a dedicated play officer and therefore limits on the resource available to coordinate and encourage integration and obtaining, and sustaining, sufficient funding for specific initiatives.

**How can these be overcome?**

The appointment of a dedicated Play Development Lead will help considerably along with the continuation, and expansion, of the Play Strategy Group

**Comments:**

Longer term and more strategic planning would be supported by a longer-term commitment to AWPOG funding.

**Conclusion and the Way Forward**

The Council's key priorities and the way forward are identified in the attached play policy statement and associated action plan.

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** .....





## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

### Actions to be taken to address the issues / shortcomings recorded in the Play Sufficiency Assessment

Proposed actions for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Links to other Matters	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
Statutory Guidance-policy framework	Maintain and review the Play Action Plan	<p>Keep the Play Action Plan under review with reports to Select Committee / Cabinet as necessary</p> <p>Maintain the play strategy group as a subgroup of the Children and Young People's Partnership with a focus on the implementation of the play action plan.</p>	All matters	Core MCC / partners	Core MCC
Matter A: Population	Using available data to contribute to a better understanding of the demand for, and sufficiency of play opportunities	<p>Maintain progress, including working across services, with schools, town and community councils; sharing existing data, building a fuller picture of existing provision and the play workforce.</p> <p>Utilise the 2021 census data when available to inform future plans and programmes</p> <p>Create a pupil engagement survey to capture data and information on existing play</p>	All matters	Core MCC / partners	Core MCC / partners

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

		baseline data to support future implementation'			
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs	Seek to gain a better understanding of the local demand for, and sufficiency of play opportunities for diverse needs groups	<p>Continue to adopt a more integrated approach across the authority to join up provision and ensure the needs of children with disabilities and/or families with diverse needs are better supported to access play opportunities.</p> <p>Undertake a specific research project, including parents of children with disabilities or behavioural / specific needs, around the accessibility and suitability of existing supervised play provision (both specific provision for children with disabilities and the wider integrated provision) to identify the barriers, and the required measures to overcome these, to assist in greater equality of provision.</p> <p>Continue to work with the LGBTQ+ community in Monmouthshire to ensure that young people feel supported and confident and that they have a genuine opportunity to influence the way that the council supports young people with issues and concerns with their sexual orientation or gender reassignment</p>		Core MCC	Core MCC
				Core MCC	Core MCC



## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

	for open access play provision	<p>Playworks provision over the school October half term period</p> <p>Explore grant funding opportunities to grow reach and level of provision provided across Monmouthshire, both in term time and holiday periods.</p> <p>Continue to promote the importance of participation in play and active sports and continue to develop young people as sports ambassadors through schools and local voluntary clubs (Including links to the Monmouthshire Games, Playmakers and Positive Futures programmes and the wider youth offer)</p> <p>Deliver supervised play opportunities for primary aged children over the other school holidays (Subject to prevailing Covid restrictions)</p>			<p>bids for 21/22: Town &amp; Community Councils, Families First, SHEP (WLGA) etc.</p> <p>Welsh Govt Holiday Playworks funding</p>
Matter E: Charges for play provision	<p>Enhance our information base, including building a fuller picture of existing provision.</p> <p>Develop the community play framework for free open access play provision</p>	<p>As Matter A above</p> <p>As Matter D above</p>	Matter A & D	Core MCC	Core MCC
Matter F: Access to space/provision	Improve our information base and fully integrate	Continue to engage with children, young people and parents to better identify the	Matter C	Core MCC	Core MCC

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

	<p>these measures to better understand the local barriers to play for children and young people so we can increase access to play opportunities</p> <p>Enhanced information, publicity and events</p>	<p>limiting factors &amp; barriers to accessing play opportunities,</p> <p>Coordinating with promotion of the wider youth offer, the Family Information Service and the MonLife holiday Activities Website</p>			
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	<p>Develop a flexible and specialist workforce to support our future play ambitions.</p> <p>Enhance our information base, including building a fuller picture of existing provision and the play workforce</p>	<p>Support Playworks training at appropriate levels and explore existing leadership and pathway into employment programmes to provide the specialist knowledge, skills and training required.</p> <p>To form part of the approach to Matter A above</p>	Matter A & D	Core MCC	Core MCC
Matter H: Community engagement and participation	<p>Develop the community play framework for open access play provision</p> <p>Support and enable wider community action to enhance play opportunities</p>	<p>As Matter D above</p> <p>As Matter C above. Supporting and enabling community driven play proposals, including at The Dell, Chepstow</p> <p>Continue to support Playing Out (encouraging street play in communities) with interested communities; support and enable wider community action to enhance play.</p>	Matters C & D	Core MCC	Core MCC

## Play Sufficiency Assessment Template

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas	Identify better links and integration with other programmes and partnerships through the Play Strategy Group	Extend participation in the play strategy group supported by the appointment of the Play Development Lead	Matter A	Core MCC	Core MCC
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