

**REPORT TO RECREATION, LEISURE & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
3RD FEBRUARY 2010****Mound Slide – Carvers Recreation Ground**

1. Members will be aware that the Mound Slide in the playground at Carvers Recreation Ground no longer meets the required standards. In addition, there is a requirement for the mound to be re-graded to enable the grounds staff to use the appropriate equipment to cut the grass.
2. As it will not be possible to replace the slide on a like-for-like basis and, in order to make use of the natural landscape, it is proposed to replace the slide with one that sits on top of the mound and curves around. It is hoped that this will maximise the play experience.
3. There are several factors that will affect how the mound is re-graded:
 - It is believed that the original concrete tunnel remains underneath the mound, but it is not known at what depth this is located.
 - There are two established trees on the mound and care will need to be taken to protect these trees and their roots.
 - Some of the earth will be used to fill in the void beneath the existing slide. It is not expected that there will be a need to dispose of any earth off site.
4. It is therefore proposed that a local contractor is used to carry out the re-grading works, together with the Council's grounds staff.
5. It is further proposed that playground equipment manufacturers are invited to provide indicative prices for a slide that meets the requirements in paragraph 2 above and that, from these, a preferred contractor is appointed to supply and install the slide and any necessary safety surfacing when the groundworks are complete.
6. It is **RECOMMENDED**
 - i) That Members agree the proposed way forward, as outlined in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, to re-grade the mound and replace the slide in the playground at Carvers Recreation Ground.
 - ii) That Members agree a recommendation to Policy & Finance Committee to authorise a variation to the arrangements for obtaining tenders and the selection of contractors for the provision of a new slide.

For further information, contact:

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