

REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 19 AUGUST 2013

REPORT ON: MAGDALEN GREEN PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

REPORT NO: 328-2013

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval for improvement works identified to Magdalen Green Play Area and the allocation of partial funding for these works.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- remits the Director to work in partnership with the Friends of Magdalen Green in seeking external funding and progressing play improvements for the Green; and
- authorises a contribution of up to £10,000 from Dundee City Council towards the improvement programme.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Director of Corporate Services advises that £10,000 of the cost for undertaking the proposed improvements can be met from the Capital Budget 2013/14. The Department is working in partnership with the Friends of Magdalen Green in obtaining external funding.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Reference is made to Report No 573/2009 to the Leisure and Communities Committee of 7 December 2009 where the Outdoor Play and Youth Strategy for the city was approved. Within the report improvements to Magdalen Green/Roseangle Play Area were identified. Reference is also made to Agenda Note AN187-2012 of the Environment Committee of 12th November 2012 when play area improvements were agreed which included replacement of the roundabout at Magdalen Green/Roseangle play area on safety grounds.

4.2 In conjunction with the Friends of Magdalen Green further proposals are being developed for a major refurbishment of this facility. The proposed work will include landscaping, provision of safety surfacing along with the replacement of the older equipment to a more robust and exciting standard suitable for children of all ages. The budget cost of the proposed scheme is estimated to be £150,000. Potential sources of external finance have been identified and funding bids submitted to a number of external funders, including the “Legacy 2014 Active Places” fund, to renovate the play experience at the site.

4.3 The Committee is asked to approve the upgrading of the play area and the Council’s funding pledge of up to £10,000 towards the project, subject to external funding being awarded and to remit the Director of Environment to work in partnership with the Friends of Magdalen Green. A further report will be brought to Committee for the procurement of these works following confirmation of external funding.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues at present. The committee will be updated as information is issued.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Director of City Development and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

Ken Laing
Director of Environment

Gary Robertson
Head of Environmental Management

8th August 2013