

**REPORT TO:** Housing, Dundee Contract Services & Environment Services Committee - 28 January 2008

**REPORT ON:** Play Areas - 2007/2008  
Jacobson Gardens Playground

**REPORT BY:** Director of Contract Services

**REPORT NO.:** 62-2008

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To obtain approval to carry out removal of Jacobson Gardens Playground as part of the Play Area Improvements programme for 2007/2008.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to approve:

- 2.1 the removal of Jacobson Gardens Playground in 2007/2008; and
- 2.2 the work be carried out by Dundee Contract Services at an estimated cost of £4,300.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The above costs £4,300 can be funded from provision within the Capital Budget for Playgrounds Improvements 2007/08.

**4. MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 The original Play Area Report approved in 2000 recommended that no works be carried out to the play park at Jacobson Gardens. However the department have received a number of reports of vandalism at this site and complaints from local residents concerning anti-social behaviour at this location.

The department consulted with the Community Liaison Police Officer who advised that he also had received several complaints and call-outs for problems at properties in the vicinity of the park. These included smashed windows, graffiti on walls, theft of garden furniture and general anti social behaviour.

- 4.2 As a consequence of the vandalism in the area, much of the existing play equipment has been damaged beyond repair and removed and proposals have now been drawn up to remove this facility. Consultation with community groups/representatives has been undertaken and a survey of 68 residents in the surrounding area. Of those responding to this consultation 74% were in favour of the playground being removed.

4.3 The above works are estimated to cost £4,300 and it is proposed they be carried out by Dundee Contract Services. Allowance for this expenditure is available from the Capital Funding in 2007/2008 for the works.

## **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The report has been screened for any policy implications. There are no major issues in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance, the Director of Leisure and Communities were consulted on the contents of this report and are in agreement.

## **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**KEN LAING**  
**DIRECTOR OF DUNDEE CONTRACT SERVICES**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2008**