

EAST SUSSEX PLAY PATHFINDER

Guidance Notes for Play Pathfinder Grants to Build or Further Develop Play Spaces in East Sussex

Main Points of the Play Pathfinder Grants Fund

- Funding grants are available up to £50,000
- Funding is Capital only and therefore must be spent on improving/building new ventures that significantly enhance play opportunities for children and young people whilst considering the level of impact and need for such a development
- Children and young people must be involved in deciding what should be in the play space and what the money should be spent on
- Funding is targeted towards the development of play opportunities for all children and young people with particular consideration for those young people aged between 8-13 years old.
- The play space must be free at the point of access and children must be free to visit and leave when they choose to.

East Sussex Play pathfinder



The Play pathfinder project is working in close partnership with colleagues across the Children's Trust and in particular our District and Borough partners to deliver improved/new creative and imaginative outside play opportunities for children and young people. Should you wish to discuss your application further please contact your local representative in the first instance.

Contacts

For more information about the Play Pathfinder bids in your area, contact your local Council representative:

Eastbourne: Rick Newman, 01323 415421

Hastings: Martin Etchells, 01424 451103

Lewes: Owen Clifford, 01273 484404
Chris Bibbs, Project coordinator, 01273 484404

Rother: Rebecca Owen, 01424 787522

Wealden: Helen Markwick, 01892 602756

Play Pathfinder project manager
Hugh Fairless , 01323 463366

Play Pathfinder Development Grants 2009/10

During 2008/09 East Sussex became a Play Pathfinder authority to help promote and deliver the Government's vision of further developing and creating exciting new play opportunities for children and young people.

Working closely with local District and Borough councils and other Service colleagues throughout East Sussex the Play Pathfinder Project Board has made available almost £600,000.00 of capital funding to improve and develop 15 local play sites across the County during 2008.

Through the next phase of the project further grants totalling in the region of £700,000.00 will be available for District and Borough partners to further develop/create up to an additional 13 local outdoor play venues. It is anticipated that the costs for individual developments will generally range from £20K up to a maximum of £50K. Alongside this, a grant of £800,000.00 will be spent on developing an Adventure Playground in Hastings; the development of which may be of interest to other District and Borough colleagues. Unfortunately, grants are not available for school developments under the Extended Schools provision.

Due to the tight timescales for project delivery it is hoped that we could have all applications for grants submitted by the end of February 2009. However, there may still be opportunity after this date to submit proposals for developments.

In completing your applications it is of paramount importance to evidence the work that has been undertaken/will be undertaken to capture the thoughts and wishes of children, families and communities, particularly those young people with a disability or those who may be regarded as 'hard to reach' or those who represent the Black and Minority ethnic groups within our communities. Should you require help with this feel free to contact the Play Pathfinder project manager to discuss what assistance may be available from the Project Team or speak directly with your District and Borough lead.

Please do not become bogged down with the application form though it is important for you to give the Board a good understanding of what you hope to achieve and how this will benefit children and young people in your area.

Section One

About Your Organisation

Q1. Name of Organisation

Q2. Main contact for this application

This must be someone who can talk about the project and can be contacted during office hours. The person will need to be responsible for providing any additional information that is needed to support the application and fulfil the terms and conditions of the grant.

Q3. Communication

If you have any communication needs please tell us about them. We aim to make this grant accessible to everyone regardless of communication needs

Section two

About the play development

Q4. Where is the location of the project?

Please include maps, pictures, or aerial photographs to if you wish to illustrate the location

There are a range of websites that can provide maps and aerial photographs such as Google maps and Multi map if you wish to highlight the position of the site within the community.

Q5. Is the project planned on an existing or new play space?

If yes, is there any equipment in need of removal? What is it and why does it need removing?
If no please describe the new space and how it has become available for play.

Q6. Is planning permission required?

The Local District Council and Parish Council will be able to assist with this.

Q7. If funding was allocated to the project how long would it take to complete the project?

This is obviously dependant on funding but we need an indication of how quickly work can commence once funding has been secured.

Q8. The grant fund is aimed at children aged 8-13 years and other ages can be catered for in the play space. How many people do you expect will benefit from the project

(Please enter a number in each box)

The Play Pathfinder funding is aimed at 8-13 year olds and the design must cater for this age range as well as being accessible to other ages.

Girls	<input type="text"/>	Ages 8-13	<input type="text"/>	Ages 13-18	<input type="text"/>	Ages 18+	<input type="text"/>
Ages 0-8							
Boys	<input type="text"/>	Ages 8-13	<input type="text"/>	Ages 13-18	<input type="text"/>	Ages 18+	<input type="text"/>
Ages 0-8							

For evaluation we need to be able to demonstrate to DCSF how many people have benefited from the Play space.

Q9. Please identify which ethnic minorities exist in your community that will access the play space

This is also required for monitoring purposes.

Q10. Please explain the need for the project and how it will benefit the community.

Why will the area and children benefit from the development? If there is a Parish plan or existing Play Strategy you may like to refer to this and include relevant pages. Draw on any other consultation that has recently taken place locally. Highlight the gaps in opportunities for children to play outdoors.

Q11. Please describe any other free places to play that can be accessed on foot or bike by children.

Other Play provision you mention should describe the approximate distance from the play space project and what ages use it including any particular features that it offers.

Design:

Q12. Please explain the main elements of the design including natural features and landscaping

(Please attach additional pictures/ diagrams and text to support your answer).

It is essential for you to show what the design of the play space will look like. This can be done through sketches and cut outs from catalogues. You can also have plans drawn by landscape designers and play equipment manufacturers. Each element of the design should reflect what the children have chosen.

A percentage of the design must incorporate landscaping and planting that offers play opportunities please see examples. Equipment should reflect the environment that it is in. Locally sourced materials are favoured. Please see the Places of Woe: Places of Possibility exhibition through the following link.

Playlink Place of Woe: Places of Possibility

- www.freeplaynetwork.org.uk/playlink/exhibition/woepossibility/

Further information: Please follow the links

Natural play environments – London Play

- www.londonplay.org.uk/document.php?documentid=584

Natural Play NCB

- http://www.ncb.org.uk/dotpdf/open_access_2/factsheets_naturalplay_141107.pdf

Play design guidance – Free Play Network and Play England

- www.freeplaynetwork.org.uk/designforplay

ROSPA - Fact sheets

- http://www.rospace.com/playsafety/info/33_wooden.htm
- http://www.rospace.com/playsafety/info/22_design.htm

Q13. What opportunities will the design offer to young people? Equipment, natural features or landscaping that allows for a selection of any of the following (Please tick)

Running	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jumping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swinging	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climbing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sliding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socialising	<input type="checkbox"/>
Touching	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smelling	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Please describe any other play opportunities here. Children need a wide range of opportunities and challenges to hold their interest. They also benefit from opportunities to try new things, explore and play in different ways.

Q14. If your play space requires a boundary or surfacing please describe.

Please consider the need for this carefully; a large proportion of funding is often used for these purposes where it is not always necessary.

Fences and boundaries:

Why is it needed?

Is it to protect children from danger?

Would the lack of a boundary or fence have severe consequences?

Is there a real threat to safety?

If you decide to make a boundary or fence off the area think about the following;

Does the boundary need to be a fence?

Could landscaping be used?

Could planting be used?

Could the boundary be used for seating or as something else to play on?

Is there adequate open space to play on within the boundary or fence?

Safety surfacing:

Some safety surfacing is very expensive and is not always necessary or a saving when it comes to maintenance. There are a wide range of choices for surfacing.

What are the options?

What is affordable?

Does the height of the equipment warrant the use of safety surfacing?

What are the practicalities?

What loose fill options are there/

Will grass be adequate?

Links and Publications for further information:

ROSPA – Surfacing and Fencing

- http://www.rospa.com/playsafety/info/23_surfacing.htm
- http://www.rospa.com/playsafety/info/31_grass.htm
- http://www.rospa.com/playsafety/info/20_fences.htm

Q15. Please explain how the DCSF Rainbow logo will be included in the play space

The funding for the play spaces has been allocated to east Sussex for the improvement of play spaces. One of the Government departments responsible for play is the Department for Children, Schools and Families. They use a 'rainbow' logo. They have requested that all developments that are improved through the use of this funding should have the logo incorporated in the play space. Some ideas are;

- Flags
- Play space sign to feature the logo
- Planting of flowers
- A mural

The children are likely to have lots more ideas as to how to do this.

Playground development Checklist – NCB

http://www.ncb.org.uk/dotpdf/open_access_2/factsheet_playgrounddev_cpis_20080130.pdf

Access:

Q16. How will you ensure that the play space is an attractive and absorbing place where all children, families and communities can enjoy positive, social play together.

The application should make sure that all your sites are open access, where children can come and go as they wish and are free of charge.

Is your play space easily accessible for all children?

It is essential that your provision complies with disability discrimination legislation and that you include play opportunities for children with disabilities. For example, you will need to consider how children with different disabilities can access and use the site in order to play with and alongside other children.

Is there car parking so disabled carers and parents can access and take their children?

Play spaces should be attractive, welcoming and engaging for all children from minority groups in your community.

Publication and Links for further information:

Access for Disabled Children – London Play

- http://www.londonplay.org.uk/document.php?document_id=448

Inclusion by Design – A guide to creating accessible play and childcare environments

- <http://www.playwales.org.uk/downloaddoc.asp?id=224&page=532&skin=0>

Can Play Will Play – Fields in Trust

- www.fieldsintrust.org/downloads/can_play_will_play.pdf

Inclusive Play – NCB

- http://www.ncb.org.uk/dotpdf/open_access_2/factsheet_inclusiveplay_cpis_20080204.pdf

Q17. Are routes to the park considered safe by children and families? (Please explain any identified hazards that pose a real risk and any action plans you have to minimise them)

Is your play space easy and safe to get to?

You will need to consider what routes there are to your sites and ensure that children and young people can get there as safely as possible.

Q18. Please describe how parental and child confidence to play outside could be helped by the project to use the site.

It is important that parents feel confident about allowing their children out to play. Some ways of awareness raising and supporting confidence is to hold events at the play space. Parents often feel more at ease if their child or children has/have other children to go to the park with.

Section three

Consultation and Participation

Q19. Please describe how the children, young people and wider community have been/will be consulted with about the project. (Please include evidence, where appropriate, of the number of participants consulted and the age range covered particularly in the targeted group 8-13 years).

We expect you to use more than one method of consultation to ensure that the views of children and young people and the wider community are represented. Evidence of this may include questionnaires, notes/minutes of meetings, photos, video or consultation diaries or any other appropriate method.

Q20. Please describe how any British, minority and ethnic children, disabled children and those from disadvantage backgrounds have been/will be involved in the consultation process

This must go deeper than one-off consultation and should seek to engage and involve all young people throughout the process. Consultation must also include children seen as ‘difficult to reach’, which the recipient may need to access through voluntary and community sector groups. Evidence of this may include questionnaires, notes/minutes from meetings, photos, video or consultation diaries or any other appropriate method.

Q21. Please describe any other consultation or research that has been carried out in the area that highlights/reinforces the need to support such a project.

This may include previous consultation undertaken for the Big Lottery or other funded projects and parish plans. Research could include Index of Multiple Deprivation, benefit dependency, local area audit on play provision or any other appropriate research.

Q22. How might local volunteers help in the development and sustainability of the project?

Explain how you will encourage children, young people and others within the community to take an active part in the development and/or management of the project, what will be their role? Does your project include plans for volunteers to facilitate play at your project, if it does explain how this will help to sustain the project.

Publication and Links for further information:

Consulting Children about Play – NCB

- http://www.ncb.org.uk/dotpdf/open_access/2/factsheet_consultingplay_cpis_20080204.pdf

Section four

Safety and Risk

Q23. How often is any current play space inspected?

Please describe the inspection routines for any existing site. Please describe any changes to the inspection routine should the project go ahead.

Links and Publications for further information:

ROSPA – Fact sheets

- http://www.rospace.com/playsafety/info/14_inspection_maintenance.htm

Q24. Does any current play space have a risk assessment (if yes please attach)

Links and Publications for further information:

Playground Management and Safety – Fields in Trust

- http://www.npfa.co.uk/what_we_do/our_work_programmes/publications.php

Q25. How will the design of the play site offer opportunities to engage in challenging/risky play?

It is important that the play spaces offer opportunities for challenge and risk; children will lose interest in play spaces that do not offer this.

Links and Publications for further information:

Managing Risk in Play provision

- <http://playengland.org.uk/resources/managing-risk-play-safety-forum.pdf>

Section five

Sustainability and Finance

Sustainability:

Q26. Who currently owns the land?

Q27. Is there a deed of dedication or plans to have one? (if yes please attach)

Fields in trust offer a free of charge service to any landowner wishing to make any space for the use of the community only. The land can never be sold for housing or other building apart from community buildings. Having a deed of dedication protects the land for future generations and is a sign of commitment to quality of life for the community.

Links and Publications for further information:

Fields in Trust

- <http://www.npfa.co.uk/index.php>

Q28. In what ways do you plan to ensure there is ongoing funding available to pay for necessary repairs and maintenance of the site and to make any improvements (Please show this in financial breakdown)

It is essential that the play space is well looked after and is considered a place to be proud of for all the community. Over time the site may need new developments to enhance the area. How will the organisation maintain the facilities provided through Pathfinder funding during the life of the project? How will ongoing maintenance be funded? What commitment is there from your project to support these costs for the expected life of the facilities? Please provide evidence of this commitment.

Q29. Please detail your project management arrangements

Who is overseeing the development of the play space? This person may or may not be the point of contact. Who will work with the contractors for the site?

Q30. How and where will you evaluate the success of the project?

It is important to ascertain feedback when the project is complete. The communities view on the space will give an indication of the success and can find out what more can be provided in the future to enhance the site.

Finance:

Q31. Please indicate how much funding is needed for the play project and any other funding you have secured.

Total project costs	Other income secured	Amount requested

Q32. Please tell us about any other funding that has been sought?

If some of the money for your project will come from other sources, tell us where the money will come from. Tell us how much it is and whether it has already been secured. If you intend to use money from other organisations (or you own) to support the project, please include recent evidence that you have these funds available (for example minutes from a committee meeting).

Source of funding	Total amount	Secured Y/N	Date expected to be secured

Q33. Please tell us about any ideas that you may have about the launch of the completed project.

When the play space is complete how will you mark the occasion? How will you tell the community about the event?

Financial breakdown:

You may wish to use your own financial breakdown. You need to be able to demonstrate the costing of the project and the costs that will be incurred over the next two years and how this will be funded.

The areas for cost that need to be considered are;

- Landscaping
- Construction
- Furniture & equipment (please specify)
- Professional, statutory fees and surveys
- Boundary/fencing
- Signage
- Maintenance
- Insurance
- Inflation
- Contingency
- Others – There may be other requirements please detail in the table.

Notes:

EAST SUSSEX PLAY PATHFINDER

Application for Play Pathfinder Grants To build or Further Develop Existing Play Spaces in East Sussex

The questions in this application form allow us to gather the information we need to decide whether to fund your play development proposals.

Please use the guidance document when planning the project before completing the application form.

Applications should be submitted by 28th February 2009

There may be opportunity to submit applications after this date but please speak with your respective District and Borough lead beforehand

Please ensure that you keep a copy of the application for your own reference.

Please return completed application to your local D&B lead

Contacts

For more information about the Play Pathfinder bids in your area, contact your local Council representative:

Eastbourne: Rick Newman, 01323 415421

Hastings: Martin Etchells, 01424 451103

Lewes: Owen Clifford/Chris Bibbs, 01273 484404

Rother: Rebecca Owen, 01424 787522

Wealden: Helen Markwick, 01892 602756

Play Pathfinder project manager: Hugh Fairless , 01323 463366

Section One
About Your Organisation

Q1. Name of organisation

Address of organisation (Head office or contact address)

Q2. Main contact for this application

This must be someone who can talk about the project and can be contacted during office hours.

Full name

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Q3. Communication

If you have any communication needs please tell us about them.

Section two

About the Play Development

Q4. Where is the location of the project?

Please include maps, pictures, or aerial photographs if you wish to illustrate the location.

Q5. Is the project a development of an existing play space or the building of a new play space?

Q6. Is planning permission required?

Q7. If funding was allocated to the project how long will it take to complete the project?

Q8. The grant fund is aimed at children 8-13 years old and other ages can be catered for in the play space. How many people do you expect to benefit from the project? (Please enter a number in each box.

Girls	Ages 0-8	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 8-13	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 13-18	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 18+	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Boys	Ages 0-8	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 8-13	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 13-18	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	Ages 18+	<input style="width: 40px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>

Q9. Please identify which ethnic minority groups exist in your community that will access the play space

Q11. Please describe any other free places to play that can be accessed on foot or bike by children and young people.

Design:

Q12. Please explain the main elements of the design including natural features and landscaping
(Please attach additional pictures and diagrams)

Q13. What opportunities will the design offer to young people? Equipment and natural features that allows for a selection of the following (Please tick)

- Running Jumping Climbing Swinging Sliding Socialising
Touching Smelling

Please describe any other experiences/play opportunities here (e.g. physical, use of senses)

Q14. If your play space requires a boundary or surfacing please describe

Q15. Please explain how the DCSF Rainbow logo could be included into the play space

Access:

Q16. How will you ensure that the play space is an attractive and absorbing place where children, families and community can enjoy positive, social play together?

Q17. Are routes to the park considered safe by children and families? (Please explain any identified hazards that pose a real risk and any action plans you have to minimise them).

Q18. Please describe how the project can help to raise parental and child confidence to play outside and to use the site

Section Three

Consultation and Participation

Q19. Please describe how the children, young people and the wider community have been consulted with about the project. (Please include the number of participants and the age range. Please include evidence).

Q20. Please describe how any Black, Minority and Ethnic children , children with a disability and those from disadvantaged backgrounds have been involved in consultation?

Q21. Please describe any other consultation or research that has been carried out in the area that highlights the need for the project

Q22. How might local volunteers help in the development and sustainability of the project?

Section Four Safety and Risk

Q23. How often is the current play space inspected?

Q24. Does any current play space have a risk assessment? (If yes please attach)

Q25. How will the design of the play site offer opportunities to engage in challenging/risky play?

Section Five
Sustainability and Finance

Sustainability:

Q26. Who currently owns the land?

Q27. Is there a deed of dedication or plans to have one? (If yes please attach)

Q28. In what ways do you plan to ensure there is ongoing funding available to pay for necessary repairs and maintenance of the site? (Please show this in financial breakdown)

Q29. Please detail your project management arrangements

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Q30. How and when will you evaluate the success of the project?

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Finance:

Q31. Please indicate how much funding is needed for the play project and any other funding that you have secured

Total project costs £	Secured funding	Amount requested

Q32. Please tell us about any other funding that has been sought

Source of funding	Total amount	Secured Y/N	Date expected to be secured

Q33. Please tell us about any ideas there are to launch/open the developed play space

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Financial Breakdown:

	Total costs (A)	VAT recoverable from total (B)	Other secured finance (C)	Grant requested (A-B-C)
Landscaping				
Construction				
Furniture & equipment (Please specify)				
Professional statutory fees and surveys				
Boundary/fencing				
Maintenance				
Insurance				
Other costs (Please specify)				
Signage				
Inflation				
Contingency				
Total				