

ANGUS COUNCIL

Housing Committee - 15 January 2004  
Environmental and Leisure Services Committee - 22 January 2004

PROVISION OF PLAY FACILITIES AT KIRKTON, ARBROATH

JOINT REPORT by DIRECTOR OF HOUSING and DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

**ABSTRACT**

This report relates to the provision of play facilities at Kirkton, Arbroath.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended to members that:

- (i) the Housing Revenue Account ground at Kirkton, Arbroath be appropriated to the Leisure Services Account at a value of £760;
- (ii) the Housing Revenue Account contribute £13,000 towards the provision of suitable play equipment;
- (iii) that Leisure Services contribute £13,000 from the Play Equipment Revenue budget.

**2. BACKGROUND**

Within the Kirkton area of Arbroath there is an area of ground held on the Housing Revenue Account. This ground is shown hatched on the attached plan. The ground is land-locked and cannot be developed for housing purposes. Consequently, the ground is surplus to Housing Revenue Account requirements.

Over a period of time there has been discussion with the Leisure Services Department and a degree of consultation has been carried out with residents regarding the utilisation of the ground for the provision of play facilities and general public open space.

Work has already been undertaken to improve the overall condition of the ground but rather than the ground continuing to be maintained on the Housing Revenue Account consideration should now be given to the ground being appropriated to the Leisure Services Account and for suitable play equipment to be located on part of the ground to improve the overall play facilities for children in the Kirkton area of Arbroath. Appropriate items of play equipment have been identified by Officers and the total cost of the provision of play equipment is estimated at £26,000. It is accepted that there is a requirement to undertake more detailed consultation with residents of the Kirkton area to ensure that the play equipment provided meets the requirements of children in the area. Given the mixed tenure nature of the estates in Kirkton it is suggested that the Housing Revenue Account contribute 50% towards the cost of the provision of play equipment. In exchange for this contribution the ground would be appropriated to the Leisure

Services Account and this account would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the ground and play equipment.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The financial implications arising from this report can be contained within the Housing Revenue Account Capital budget and Leisure Services Revenue Account.

### **4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

In preparing this report there has been consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration and Director of Planning & Transport.

### **6. CONCLUSION**

As the ground is surplus to Housing Revenue Account requirements and as a need has been identified to improve play facilities within the Kirkton area of Arbroath it is considered that the proposal to transfer the ground to the Leisure Services Account and for a contribution to be made from the Housing Revenue Account and Leisure Services Revenue Account, towards the provision of play equipment is an appropriate way to proceed.

Ron Ashton  
Director of Housing

John Zimny  
Director of Leisure Services

Note:- No background papers, as defined by Section 50d of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied upon to any material extent in preparing this report.