

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority:	FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Name of responsible officer:	MIKE WELCH
Job title:	PRINCIPAL OFFICER LEISURE SERVICES
Date of completion:	Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 31st March 2016



Conducting the Assessment – Play Sufficiency Assessment

As well as establishing a baseline of provision, the Play Sufficiency Assessment will enable the following:

- Identification of gaps in information, provision, service delivery and policy implementation
- Support the establishment of evidence to give an indication of distance travelled in relation to play sufficiency
- Highlight potential ways of addressing issues relating to partnership working
- The input and involvement of all partners increasing levels of knowledge and understanding
- A monitoring system which will involve and improve communication between professionals
- The identification of good practice examples
- Increased levels of partnerships in assessing sufficient play opportunities
- The identification of actions for the Securing Play Sufficiency Action Plan which accompanies the Play Sufficiency Assessment

A template has been produced to support a corporate appraisal of the matters that need to be taken into account as set out in the Statutory Guidance. The indicators listed within each matter are provided as sample indicators which should be amended to meet local issues as appropriate.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment must demonstrate that the Local Authority has taken into account and assessed the matters set out in The Play Sufficiency Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2012 and Statutory Guidance.

As well as providing baseline information, the Assessment can include examples of current practice that the Local Authority wishes to highlight.

Local Authorities might consider structuring the Play Sufficiency Assessment in the following way and as a minimum address all the identified sections.

Principle Statement

This section should be used to articulate the Local Authority's acknowledgement of the value and importance of play in the lives of children.

Flintshire County Council are committed to ensuring that all children, young people and communities children have access to enough time, space and permission for play as part of their everyday lives. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that children living in Flintshire have a right to play

Flintshire County Council recognize that play is central to children's enjoyment of life and is essential to their physical and emotional well-being and their healthy development. We recognise that some aspects of our modern society can limit children's time and space for play and we will continue to create partnerships for play to help create environments where children can freely play and encourage communities to be more play friendly.

The Play Development Team works with other Local Authority departments and partner agencies, encouraging individuals to recognise their own impacts on children's play; advocating for play to be considered in the planning of local services; enhancing the development and delivery of play work projects, and providing ongoing practical advice to families, communities and other professionals in their support of children's right to play.

Through the work of the Play Development Team, Flintshire place greater value on play and emphasis on children's right to play and, by increasing opportunities for play within local communities, we will enhance children's experience of growing up in Flintshire

Context

This section should describe the methodology used to undertake and approve the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan and any consultation with partners on the Assessment/Action Plan. It should also list the key partners that engaged with the process and identify any challenges in undertaking the Assessment. It should describe the mechanism that the Local Authority proposes to use to take forward the identified actions for the action plan.

The local Authority has reviewed and assessed all of its play action plans since the baseline audit undertaken for the Play Sufficiency Assessment in 2013. This review and assessment process has formed the basis for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2016 and action planning thereafter.

Partnership working

This section should demonstrate to what extent the following (and others) were involved in the undertaking of the Assessment and the development of the action plan:

- Town and Community Councils
- Third sector organisations, particularly regional play associations
- The private sector if appropriate
- Community groups
- Community First Partnerships

The Local Authority continue to work closely in partnership with all town and community councils both for equipped play area match funding schemes and summer playschemes. The Local Authority also work closely with a range of other partners including third sector organisations and community groups for play projects delivered across the county

e.g.

The Local Authority Play Unit work with Action for Children via the families First grant to provide the PALS Project – Play and leisure Support

Flintshire Summer Playschemes Programme 2015 in partnership with all local town and community councils and in discussion for 2016

Match funding scheme for the upgrading of equipped play areas in the County on RAG system to identify those communities most in need

The Play Unit work in partnership with the Urdd to provide play opportunities for children through the medium of Welsh as part of the county summer playscheme programme.

Consultation and participation

This section should describe how the Local Authority has:

- Obtained the views of children with regards to the play opportunities they currently access, how they would like the community to better support them to play and what barriers stop them from playing
- Obtained the views on play provision from parents, families and other stakeholders
- Analysed the information and have used it to inform future plans

All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2013 and 2016 and to comment with regard to any change.

The following service areas were consulted:

- Flintshire Children's & Young Peoples Partnership
- Countryside Services
- Inclusion & Progression
- Business Change & Support
- Planning & Environment
- Health & Protection

- Public Open Spaces
- Information & Involvement
- Sports Development
- Housing Regeneration & Strategy
- Community & Enterprise
- Libraries, Arts & Culture
- Streetscene & Transportation

The Local Authority undertake an annual 'exit' poll from children attending the Summer playscheme. 290 children provided their views on play at the end of the summer delivery 2015

A countywide consultation of Welsh speaking children was undertaken in 2014/15 In partnership with Play wales and the Urdd

Via a specific consultation the views were collated of the 41 disabled children attending the summer playscheme via the Flintshire Buddy Scheme

All of this information has been recognised and incorporated into the Play Action plan 2016

Maximising resources

This section should provide an overview as to how partners currently use their existing budgets to support children's access to play opportunities. It should identify how budgets have been reprioritised as part of the 2013 Play Sufficiency Assessments and subsequent plans.

Please use this section to highlight what has changed since the 2013 Play Sufficiency Action Plan in terms of how resources are allocated.

Please also highlight how Welsh Government programmes have been used locally for the provision of play and how they have addressed priorities from your 2013 play sufficiency assessment:

The local authority has maintained its core budget for both capital and revenue for children's play. However, due to financial austerity the Local Authority is seeking to find ways to meet the play needs of children and communities against a backdrop of financial austerity. This is a challenge

The grant received from Welsh Government through PSA 203/14 and 14/15 has been the only source of funding to develop play opportunities identified within the Play Action Plans

E.g.

Enhancements of equipped play areas in those areas as identified as most in need

Piloting of the 'Playful Futures' Project to provide the evidence of how the school day is improved through increasing the quality of school playtimes

Consultation with Welsh speaking children via the Urdd

Piloting of a project in the county specifically with regard to gypsy traveller children in partnership with Play -wales

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and the Single Integrated Plan

This section should identify how the Play Sufficiency Assessments form part of the local needs assessment and to what extent the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan are integrated into the planning, implementation and review of the Single Integrated Plan.

The Chief Officer for Lifelong Learning represents play issues to be incorporated into the Single Integrated Plan. The Chief Officer is the Chair of the Families First Board in Flintshire and the Flintshire Children's and Young Peoples Partnership. The Flintshire Strategic Play Forum is a sub group of the Children's and Young Peoples Partnership.

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

This section should identify the lead director and lead member for children and young people's services. It should also describe the Play Monitoring Group or equivalent. Along with a list of members, please describe how the group has been facilitated and the benefits and challenges of the group.

The Lead Member for play is Councillor Kevin Jones the Lead Member for Waste Strategy, Public Protection and Leisure. The Chief Officers representing play are Ian Bancroft, Chief Officer for Organisation Change 1 Communities and Ian Budd, Chief Officer Lifelong Learning.

The Flintshire Strategic Play Forum will be reformed and reinvigorated early in 2016 following local government reorganisation and will form a multi-agency forum to monitor the PSA Action Plan 2016.

This section contains the "matters that need to be taken into account" as set out under section 10 of the Statutory Guidance.

The Criteria column: sets out the data that needs to be available and the extent to which Local Authorities meet the stated criteria.

The RAG status column: provides a drop down box, whereby the Local Authority can show its assessment of whether that criterion is fully met; partially met; or not met. These have been given Red, Amber Green markers, which appear as words in the drop down boxes.

Red, Amber Green (RAG) status is a tool to communicate status quickly and effectively.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	Fully met
Criteria partially met.	Partially met
Criteria not met.	Not met

The Evidence to support strengths column: should be used to provide the reason for the chosen criteria status and how the evidence is held.

The Shortfall column: should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully meet the criteria.

The Identified Action for Action Plan column: Should be used to show the Local Authority action planning priorities for that Matter.

The General Comments: for each matter should give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance.

The template should be monitored by the officer who is co-ordinating the Assessment and reviewed on a regular basis by the Play Sufficiency Working Group.

Matter A: Population

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about the number of children living in the Local Authority to enable an assessment of their potential play requirements. The data should provide information about the numbers of children in different categories that may affect their play requirements. The data should also show if the area is classified as one of disadvantage/deprivation and whether a 5 year population projection is available.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There is data broken down by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)	AMBER	AMBER	Libraries and Leisure Services will continue to work to identify those areas most in need of play services		Flintshire County Council will consider, analyse and interpret the data within the 2011 Census and seek to provide key analysis into the public domain. Specifically Leisure and Planning Services will continue to develop existing approaches based on the new 2011 data to identify areas of sufficiency and deficiency in play provision.
There is up to date data for ages:	AMBER	AMBER			
0-3	AMBER	AMBER			
4-7	AMBER	AMBER			
8-12	AMBER	AMBER			
13-15	AMBER	AMBER			
16-17	AMBER	AMBER			
There is an up to date recorded number of disabled children in each age group	AMBER	AMBER			

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>There is up to date information regarding the number of children for whom Welsh is their first language or attend Welsh medium schools</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>Libraries and Leisure Services will continue to work to identify those areas most in need of play services</p>		<p>Working with the Children and Young People’s Partnership and the Urdd, Leisure Services (Play Unit) will seek to identify the general location of Welsh language students attending Maes Garmon the only Welsh speaking secondary school in Flintshire. This local census, will identify the play needs of this group of children and how these needs might be met either through the school (before and after school provision) and/or in their local communities. The local authority is currently working in partnership with the Urdd and Playwales and has recently completed a countywide consultation with Welsh speaking children and their families to seek out their</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					views on the quantity and quality of play provision and to pilot a scheme with regard to the identified housing needs.
There is up to date information regarding other recorded cultural factors, including other language, and gypsy traveller children	GREEN	GREEN	Libraries and Leisure Services will continue to work to identify those areas most in need of play services		Flintshire County Council will consider, analyse and interpret the data within the 2011 Census and seek to provide key analysis into the public domain. Specifically Leisure and Planning Services will continue to develop existing approaches based on the new 2011 data to identify areas of sufficiency and deficiency in play provision. Leisure Services (Play Unit) will continue to seek to engage with children of ethnic minorities.

General Comments: Population Measures

How has/will the Local Authority use its population data to plan for sufficient play opportunities locally?

The Local Authority Public Open Spaces section within Leisure Services including the Play Development Service use this information to design services in terms of identifying child population and play deprivation

Sports Development use this to help to plan provision in areas across Flintshire ensuring that its age appropriate and in the right place at the right time.

Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about how the Local Authority and partners aim to offer play opportunities that are inclusive and encourage all children to play and meet together.

RAG Status:

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER			An assessment of mapping fixed play areas has already been undertaken and it is proposed that this assessment be further developed utilising 2011 Census Data to identify the locations of greatest need in rural areas. This exercise will inform future investment decisions. It is proposed that

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					<p>further discussions be held with Education (Inclusion) and Transportation (Public Transport & Taith) to promote the development of alternative transportation services.</p>
<p>The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The play Unit recently completed a consultation with Welsh speaking children, young people and families via the Welsh Governments PSA grant 2015. This funding provided a grant to the Urdd in partnership with Playwales to analyse data from 360 families. This data supports the need for more play opportunities in the county to be delivered through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>In addition the county play development team work in</p>		<p>To work with the Urdd and the Children and Young Peoples Partnership to assess the extent of Welsh speaking children in isolated rural areas with a view to developing new appropriate play provision and to ensure existing provision affords the opportunity to converse in Welsh.</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>partnership with the Urdd to provide three summer playschemes delivered through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>There is a positive and ongoing partnership between the local authority and the Urdd and a great willingness to further develop opportunities for children’s play in the county</p>		<p>Further consideration is required to continue to promote Welsh language and ensure local needs are met whether its in the publication of FCC documentation or in the delivery of FCC services which offer the potential for people to converse in Welsh.</p> <p>To work with partners including the Urdd and welsh speaking schools and with the Children and Young Peoples Partnership to assess the play needs of Welsh speaking children with a view to developing new</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					appropriate play provision and to ensure existing provision affords the opportunity to converse in Welsh.
The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER	The play development team continue to identify links to different groups and organisations, identify training for staff, provide diversity and inclusion training for all staff and work with the Community cohesion team to further develop play opportunities for all children in the county		To continue to identify partnerships to increase and improve opportunities for children to play in inclusive and integrated sessions

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.	AMBER	AMBER			To lobby Welsh Government to make sufficient funding available to continue to provide sufficient ' Buddies' to enable disabled children to access play provision.
Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion	RED	RED			To lobby Welsh Government to allocate additional resources to continue existing funding for the Flintshire Play Service
There is a well known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with the Children's Integrated Disability Service and to explore

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					<p>what potential exists to develop and improve mechanisms for disabled children to access sufficient play opportunities To update the FCC Play Area Survey and to consider in updating the Survey undertaking full DDA assessments of all play areas. FCC Public Open Space Play Unit in partnership with FCC Corporate Services to develop a pilot fora gypsy-traveller site to be managed and operated by Flintshire County Council in partnership with the local community.</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken	GREEN	GREEN	There is an ongoing process to manage access to all equipped children's play areas in the county		Further assessment will be required in relation to other authorised sites to identify play needs and whether there are issues of deficiency
Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites	RED	RED	There is an aspiration in the authority which needs to continue to be developed via partnership working, However play wales via funding received from the local authority PSA grant. They are planning to work with other service areas e.g. Housing and are planning to pilot a supervised play setting during 2016 to identify and develop play opportunities going forward Links are maintained via the local authority play	There is currently no funding available	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			development team Links are maintained via the local authority play development team		
The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for	AMBER	AMBER			
The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for	GREEN	GREEN			
The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives	AMBER	AMBER			

General Comments: Providing for Diverse Needs

How has data been used (or how will the data be used) to address the barriers that children with diverse needs face in accessing inclusive opportunities for playing?

PLAY UNIT – Currently working in partnership with:

Action for Children Families First Transition Service (PALS Project) – families first funded project to support young people aged 14-25 years on the autism spectrum to access play and leisure opportunities with a buddy

Sports Development, Dragon Sports Programme – supplying buddy staff where possible to support children aged 5 – 12 years with additional needs to enable them access sports activities during out of term sessions

The local authority in partnership with Play Wales will pilot a national play project targeting gypsy traveller children in the County 2016/2017. This has been enabled via the Welsh Government Grant for play sufficiency in Flintshire

Sports Development work with Disability Sport Wales and their InSport programme to plan and deliver inclusive and accessible opportunities for children. In addition to this the KidzFit sessions are inclusive and operate on a partner referral and self referral process. Work has also been done to provide young carers with sports qualifications in order to support their development and play needs.

The Sports Development Active 4-16 programme funded by Families First - provides additional support for children and young people aged 4 - 16 with additional needs to access mainstream sport and activity in Flintshire, the programme also offers a buddy scheme alongside inclusive family fitness and nutrition programmes, Kidz Fit is a programme developed from Active 4-16 to ensure children and young people can take part in inclusive sport sessions in a safe environment.

Education do not hold records of children with a disability, although through the PLASC they have information regarding those with special educational needs – this is for school age children only, unless health have provided them with pre-school information such as those with significant sensory loss etc.

Matter C: Space available for children to play: Open Spaces and Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

The Local Authority should recognise that all open spaces within their area are potentially important areas where children can play or pass through to reach other play areas or places where they go.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Open Spaces

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	FCC undertook an Open Space Assessment in 2005. This document was updated albeit in part in 2010, however, this is now historic. Whilst this survey is historic it is still very relevant to today and forms the starting point for detailed open space assessments for individual communities	The assessment is now 11 years old. The study was originally based upon the 6 acre standard which has since been replaced with new guidance by FIT (008 & 2015) There is a need to update the study with regards to new open space provision, changes to existing open space, and the need to update population data.	The Open space Survey needs to be updated in the context of the revised FIT Standards 2015.
The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible	AMBER	AMBER	FCC has undertaken an ANGSt survey	The ANGSt survey needs to be considered within the	The revised FIT standards are now reference

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing				Open Space Survey which at present only considers play and recreation space.	natural space and standards. The revised Open Space survey.
The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety	AMBER	AMBER	FCC undertook access audits for all equipped play spaces, skate parks and MUGAs as part of the 2010 play area survey.	The 2010 Survey is still relevant and officers are undertaking annual monitoring of this Survey to identify improvements and deterioration in facility provision.	To continue monitoring and auctioning the 2010 survey.
The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales	AMBER	AMBER	In 2013 FCC adopted its Greenspace Strategy within which is its open space standard	None	None
The Local Authority undertakes and actions Play Space assessments which include actions to make public space clear from hazards	AMBER	AMBER	FCC undertook play area audits for all equipped play spaces, skate parks and MUGAs as part of the 2010 play area survey.	The 2010 Survey is still relevant and officers are undertaking annual monitoring of this Survey to identify improvements and deterioration in facility provision.	To continue monitoring and actioning the 2010 survey

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play	RED	RED	This has never been undertaken and in light of current financial pressure is unlikely to be undertaken	The financial pressure on the Council to maintain service delivery means that all assets are being assessed to maximise value	None

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance	GREEN	GREEN	FCC have this data available	None	None
The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance	GREEN	GREEN	FCC undertook play area audits for all equipped play spaces, skate parks and MUGAs as part of the 2010 play area survey.	The 2010 Survey is still relevant and officers are undertaking annual monitoring of this Survey to identify improvements and deterioration in facility provision.	None
The Local Authority undertakes access audits at	GREEN	GREEN	FCC undertook play area audits for all equipped play	The 2010 Survey is still relevant and officers are	None

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			spaces, skate parks and MUGAs as part of the 2010 play area survey.	undertaking annual monitoring of this Survey to identify improvements and deterioration in facility provision	
The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard	GREEN	GREEN	In 2013 FCC adopted its Greenspace Strategy within which is its Open Space standard consisting of qualitative space standards for equipped play, recreation and greenspace.	None	
The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces	GREEN	GREEN	The Open space Survey needs to be updated in the context of the revised FIT Standards 2015.	The 2010 Survey is still relevant and officers are undertaking annual monitoring of this Survey to identify improvements and deterioration in facility provision	
The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds	GREEN	GREEN	This has been introduced and all play areas in the County have been appropriately signed	None	
The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the	RED	RED	No progress on this matter to date	To examine with local councillors the potential to review these signs	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
community					
The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community	AMBER	AMBER	The Council has erected signs to encourage play in designated areas	However beyond designated areas no additional signage erected	
The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made	AMBER	AMBER	There are informal procedures in place to ensure this matter is considered	However this matter is very much a secondary consideration at this time of financial austerity	
The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields	AMBER	AMBER	The formal procedure for the disposal of playing fields requires consultation with the public including familieis		

General Comments: Open Spaces

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments (OSAs) and Play Sufficiency Assessments

to improve spaces for play?

Planning and Leisure Services continue to work well in partnership to undertake Open Space Assessments

Other Comments on Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aim to offer a range of supervised play provision.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Play work provision

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	The Play Development team continue working with the Flintshire Family Information Service to update the county database of all services and activities.		To ensure the provision of up to date information about all FCC play provision through the FCC and Family Information Service Website That Leisure Services develop and maintain a system of recording to ensure the findings of the Play Survey are up to date and capable to directing investment on a priority basis to those fixed play areas in greatest need.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	All play provision (Albeit in the main temporary in terms of supervised play in the summer) provided by the local authority is delivered via the Play work Principles and measured against the First Claim quality monitoring system		Fintshire Strategic Play Forum to coordinate the development of a plan which seeks to secure resources to enable the implantation of the Priority Development Area 2 - Play in Education Settings
The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance	AMBER	AMBER	Training has been provided for external organisations, partners and other areas of the children’s workforce. This has been enabled by Welsh	Training limited to one off funding from Welsh Government via the PSA grant 2015	To continue to identify funding for providing appropriate and relevant training for partner agencies.
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	GREEN	GREEN	All supervised play provision is delivered to meet the national Minimum standards. Registered provision is inspected annually by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales and has		None Identified

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan	
			received favourable and positive reports		None Identified	
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	GREEN	GREEN	All supervised play provision is delivered to meet the national Minimum standards. Registered provision is inspected annually by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales and has received favourable and positive reports			
Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards	RED	RED	Not known	Not known		To monitor the development of any new play provision in the County. If any is identified ensure they meet the National Minimum Standards.
Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme	AMBER	AMBER	All playwork provided by the local authority, although in the main not requiring registration with CSSIW is still delivered in accordance with the regulatory requirements			To examine quality assurance programmes nationwide to identify and assess whether such programmes would be appropriate to Flintshire Play Service

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority priorities quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.	AMBER	AMBER	The local authority via leisure services and play services seeks to prioritise quality issues when commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children e.g. safeguarding and child protection		To engage with key FCC services to explore the value of developing a more integrated approach to the commissioning of private interests in the provision of children’s play and activities.
The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) play provision for children	AMBER	AMBER	The local authority provide premises free of charge during the summer wherever there is supervised play provision to provide premises for use during inclement weather		To promote the value of play to key services providers and all schools with a view to developing successful partnership approaches between facility managers and play providers. The objective being to provide play providers with ‘in-kind’ accommodation support whilst delivering free play provision for the benefit of the community.

Structured recreational activities for children

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority is delivering on its responsibility to secure the services set out under Core Aim 4 for sport, leisure and culture	GREEN	GREEN	The local authority continue in partnership to support the play development team to provide the county summer playscheme programme		None Identified
The local “Creating an Active Wales” plan is increasing play and recreational activities for children	GREEN	GREEN			The Creating an Active Partnership forum, network and action plan provide the opportunity for actions identified through the Play Sufficiency Assessment to be developed in collaboration with other stakeholders.
Local Authority Partnership Agreements (LAPAs) are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities	GREEN	GREEN			None Identified
The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children	AMBER	AMBER			None Identified

<p>The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>			<p>Where libraries are being closed to work in partnership with Arts and Culture, together with the Asset Management Team to enable the former library facility to be transferred through existing powers to a Registered Community Enterprise eg This has already been done by Halkyn. To engage with Arts and Culture to explore the potential to deliver arts and culture activities at alternative facilities such as Schools, Leisure Centres and Community Halls.</p>
<p>The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children’s opportunities for leisure and association</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>Working in partnership with the Integrated Youth Service and Education to develop engagement mechanisms which can successfully reach out to marginalised groups. This approach would seek to promote the Youth Service and afford the opportunity for children and young people from ethnic minorities to access provision.</p>

					To engage with Youth Services to ensure the opportunity is afforded within Youth Clubs for welsh speaking children and young people to converse in the medium of Welsh
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General Comments: Supervised play provision

Where the Local Authority has assessed settings as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSAs), how have these settings been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

The play needs of children are being incorporated into the CSA in the county. There have been discussion between the assessing officer and the play department. These discussions are ongoing.

How has provision that is not part of the CSA been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

Still in discussion

Matter E: Charges for play provision

The Local Authority should consider which play opportunities involve a charge and the extent to which the Local Authority takes these charges into account in assessing for sufficient play opportunities for children living in low income families as set out in the Statutory Guidance.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families	GREEN	GREEN			To map the data and to compare the identified areas of concern, with the defined deprived areas. This may result in the identification of new areas of concern, where children may be living in poverty. The findings of this exercise will inform future corporate strategy development in tackling poverty.
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation	GREEN	GREEN			To map the data and to analyse further in relation to 2008 WIMD data. The findings of this exercise will inform future corporate strategy development in

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					tackling poverty.
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas	GREEN	GREEN			To map the data and to analyse. The findings of this exercise will inform future strategy development in improving access to play provision in rural areas.
The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with (FCC) Education to explore how the PLASC Census can be used to identify and address the needs of children and young people who may have disabilities and additional needs.
The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision	AMBER	AMBER	Information held with the Flintshire Families Information Service		
The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision	AMBER	AMBER	Information held with the Flintshire Families Information Service		
The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers	AMBER	AMBER	Information held with the Flintshire Families Information Service		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities	RED	RED			<p>Flintshire Play Unit to continue to identify financial resources in order to develop play provision FCC will seek to influence the Welsh Government in order that sufficient funding is made available to maintain and improve public transport services. To engage with Transportation (Public Transport) to identify gaps in public transport provision where key play and leisure facilities could be better served and services orientated for children and young people’s needs (eg children travelling unaccompanied)</p> <p>To engage with the Family Information Service and the Public Transportation Team in order to promote the advice and expertise available within FCC with regards to the hire and provision of transportation for events regular activities and out of school hours play provision</p>

General Comments: Charge for play provision

How is the Local Authority ensuring that children have access to no or low cost provision?

Sports Development work with a range of partners including town and community Councils, the police and housing associations in order to deliver sports sessions at no cost to children in deprived areas. Where a charge is needed in order to support sustainability, this is kept as low and as affordable as is possible.

Matter F: Access to space/provision

The Local Authority should consider all the factors that contribute to children’s access to play or moving around their community.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas	GREEN	GREEN	Record still maintained		To map this data alongside designated play areas and other play and recreation destinations; as well as designated pedestrian crossing points to identify where additional traffic calming may be of benefit to children and young people.
The Local Authority has an identified mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with transportation (Traffic) to explore the potential to review the existing highway safety assessment procedure to better consider the needs of children or young people

<p>The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To explore with Transportation (Road Safety) over the course of 2013 how children and young people’s needs and views will be taken into account in the development of any Road Safety Plan for Flintshire. To engage with Transportation (Traffic) to explore the potential to use the accidents database to map out accidents involving child accidents. To use this data and work with Transportation (Road Safety) and make comparisons with mapped traffic calmed streets, locations of designated play areas; and locations of other key play/leisure destinations to identify if there is potential for further road safety improvement.</p>
<p>The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To further engage with Transportation (Policy) to promote the right of children to play and play as a key motivating factor for travelling within or away from a child’s neighbourhood area. To further engage with Transportation (Policy) to explore and better understand the needs of child in accessing play opportunities</p>

					<p>This could be achieved through schemes designed to meet ‘commuter’ needs which are also mindful of how children will access and use these same routes possibly justified using child road traffic accident data.</p>
<p>There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To explore with Transportation (Road Safety) how children and young people’s needs and views will be taken into account in the development of any Road Safety Plan for Flintshire To engage with Transportation (Traffic) to explore the potential to use the accidents data base to map out accidents involving child accidents. To use this data and work with Transportation (Road Safety) and make comparisons with mapped traffic calmed streets; locations of designated play areas; and locations of other key play/leisure destinations to identify if there is potential for further road safety improvement.</p>

<p>The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To explore with Transportation (Road Safety) the potential to target key areas through the use of child accident data and possibly focusing on deprived communities (eg Communities first) to deliver cycle proficiency training for younger children through mapping of this data, alongside designated play areas and other play and recreation destinations; as well as designated pedestrian crossing points to identify where additional traffic calming may be of benefit to the children and young people.</p>
<p>The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To engage with the Local Education Authority to explore the potential to identify what measures could be taken to help those schools who wish to participate in the KERBCRAFT scheme, but cannot provide sufficient competent volunteers</p>
<p>The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes</p>	<p>RED</p>	<p>RED</p>			<p>To engage with Communities First and with Children and Young Peoples Partnership to identify whether there is a demand for temporary road closures to allow one of community play events. To engage with Transportation (Traffic) to explore the mechanism</p>

					currently available and the resource implications of putting in place temporary road closures.
The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with Transportation to explore what opportunities exist to incorporate the needs of children and young people within street design and how the best practice contained within Manual for Streets can be used with greater success.
The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities	AMBER	AMBER	The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 was passed by the National Assembly for Wales on 1 October 2013 and received Royal Assent on 4 November 2013. Its purpose is to enable more people to undertake active travel for short journeys instead of using motorised vehicles where it is suitable for them to do so. Active Travel Routes will be utility routes i.e. to shops, health facilities, and education and health facilities and to employment. The local authority have a duty to map out their existing active travel routes and to also produce a map of routes for improvement which will be our aspirations over a 15 year plan period. We also have a duty to		Consultation completed December 2015 Implementation of plan to follow in due course

			publish the Existing Route Maps and to promote these routes.		
The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with Transportation (Traffic) to explore the potential to use the accidents database to map out accidents involving child accidents. To use this data and work with Transportation (Road Safety) and make comparisons with mapped traffic calmed streets; locations of designated play areas; and locations of other key play/leisure destinations to identify if there is potential for further road safety improvement in communities outside of defined Community First areas.
The Local Authority considers children’s needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure	AMBER	AMBER			To explore with Transportation (Public Transportation) what options may exist in reviewing the Deeside Shuttle Service in offering children and young people access to key leisure and play destinations. To explore with the Local Education Authority and Transportation (Public Transportation) what options may exist for improving flexibility in school bus services. Possibly a longer school day may be appropriate for some schools.

Information, publicity and events:

For children and families to take part in play opportunities, recreational activities and events it is necessary for them to know what is available in their area.

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility)	GREEN	GREEN	Information on The Flintshire county Council webpages headed Play Sufficiency or Children Play in Flintshire; Sports Development, Culture and Libraries and Leisure Services – also information posted on the Family information Services webpages		To ensure the FIS web pages are linked and prominently promoted by the FCC Play Unit web pages and other key websites eg. Children and Young Peoples Partnership
The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required	GREEN	GREEN	Information on The Flintshire county Council webpages headed Play Sufficiency or Children Play in Flintshire; Sports Development, Culture and Libraries and		To ensure the FIS web pages are linked and prominently promoted by the FCC Play Unit web pages and other key websites eg. Children and Young Peoples Partnership

			Leisure Services – also information posted on the Family information Services webpages		
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<p>The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The local authority has continued its support of the county summer playscheme programme in Flintshire and all new play initiatives including new build and refurbishment of children’s equipped play areas</p>		<p>To explore with the Children and Young Peoples Partnership to identify whether the FIS website is widely promoted. To engage with the Local Education Authority to explore the options for engaging successfully with known ethnic minority communities whose children attend local schools. To target these communities through Schools and to ensure that the information is made available in appropriate language formats.</p>
<p>The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	<p>The local authority promotes and supports via corporate communications the county summer playscheme programme in Flintshire and all new play initiatives including new build and refurbishment of children’s equipped</p>		<p>To continue to engage with the media to highlight and promote existing good practice and good news stories from the County; to promote play opportunities, to identify the need for play opportunities particularly</p>

			play areas		in those areas where there are identified deficiencies in provision; and to positively challenge public perceptions of children, young people, and the value of play
The Local Authority publicises helpful hints and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play	AMBER	AMBER	<p>This action has been achieved via the PSA grant from Welsh Government to work in partnership with Playwales to analyse data received from 600+ children, young people and residents in Flintshire with regard to their PLAY MEMORIES and play experiences. The results were collated and published on the Flintshire webpages. Posters with tips for parents and carers were also sent to all Flintshire schools library services etc. during 2015</p> <p>General Information is published on the local authority</p>		<p>To explore with Family Information Service and the Children and Young Peoples Partnership what additional measures could be developed to help parents meet children's play needs</p> <p>There is a need for the Play Unit (Public Open Spaces to review current practice and consider the introduction of a new policy where play is promoted on all appropriate public open space (eg not allotments and other sensitive spaces)</p> <p>To continue to engage with the media to highlight and promote</p>

			<p>website with regard to advice for parents and carers about playwork</p> <p>Practical tips for children playing out in the summer and links to other play orgs etc.</p> <p>The county Twitter account has access to 10,000 residents and any play/leisure/recreational activity is communicated through this for maximum publicity</p>		<p>existing good practice and good news stories from the County; to promote play opportunities; to identify the need for play opportunities particularly in those areas where there are identified deficiencies in provision; and to positively challenge public perceptions of children, young people, and the value of play.</p>
<p>The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>Signs are placed on every equipped play area in the county and temporary signs erected at the 60 sites for the delivery of playschemes during the summer</p>		

The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area	GREEN	GREEN	There is a great emphasis on good news stories from the local authority to the local media and children's play/leisure/recreation in Flintshire all feature		
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General Comments: Access to space/provision

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration to ensure children can move around their communities to increase access to opportunities for playing?

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 was passed by the National Assembly for Wales on 1 October 2013 and received Royal Assent on 4 November 2013. Its purpose is to enable more people to undertake active travel for short journeys instead of using motorised vehicles where it is suitable for them to do so. Active Travel Routes will be utility routes i.e. to shops, health facilities, education and health facilities and to employment. Local Authorities have a duty to map out their existing active travel routes and to also produce a map of routes for improvement which will be our aspirations over a 15 year plan period. The local authority have a duty to publish the Existing Route Maps and to promote these routes. Flintshire County Council have recently completed their consultation in December 2015

General Comments **Information, publicity, events**

How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?

The County still manages and delivers in partnership with local town and community councils and the Urdd a summer playscheme programme for 4000 + children during a five week period. This event provides a ‘cornerstone’ for play delivery in the county. The scheme has a high profile and is highly regarded by communities in Flintshire. The summer programme is a major event in the county and is well promoted and showcased via the local media

All of the information relating to children’s play including PSA, locations of summer play service, equipped play areas, skate parks and other recreational and cultural services are maintained on the Flintshire Families Information Services database and also via the local authorities webpages

Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

The Local Authority should provide information on the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, play management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers)	AMBER	AMBER	All records are retained by Managers via the county electronic system	The majority of play workers (100 Community Play Team Members) employed by the local authority are employed on a relief, fixed term contract As such are provided with 37 hours of a variety of training opportunities including paediatric first -- aid, safeguarding and child protection, health and safety in the delivery of play services and risk management	For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to undertake a Workforce Skills Audit of FCC to assess skill levels in managing children’s play opportunities. For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to include play awareness and play development within the Flintshire Workforce Development Plan

<p>The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government’s National minimum Standards</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The local authority does support permanent staff to achieve the level of qualification required by Welsh Government to meet the minimum standards.</p>	<p></p>	<p>To annually review every staff members progress in achieving Playwork Qualifications to ensure we meet any requirements set out via National Minimum Standards.</p>
<p>The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by Skills-Active</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p></p>		<p>To identify a funding source to support summer seasonal staff to work towards a playwork qualification over the time of their employment. Develop FCC staff as training deliverers so they are able to provide training and qualifications.</p>
<p>The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies</p>	<p>RED</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>Playwork is considered an integral part of the local authorities Children’s workforce development strategies</p>		<p>To annually review every staff members progress in achieving Playwork Qualifications to ensure we meet any requirements set out via NMS</p>

					<p>To identify a funding source to support summer seasonal staff to work towards a playwork qualification over the time of their employment Develop FCC staff as training deliverers so they are able to provide training and qualifications For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to undertake a Workforce Skills Audit of FCC to assess skill levels in managing children’s play opportunities</p>
<p>The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>Through the provision of the PSA grant awarded to Flintshire County Council by Welsh Government in 2014 & 2015 the local authority has delivered play-work and community play training to 120 community members including:- Children’s workforce; Voluntary sector; child-minders, Flintshire Primary schools & Forest schools; other service areas</p>		<p>For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to include play awareness and play development within the Flintshire workforce development plan. To further consider the use of volunteers across the Authority with FCC Human Resources to explore</p>

			<p>within the local authority and local town and community councils</p>		<p>the potential for maximising the opportunities that can be made available to volunteers (up-skilling and experience) whilst maximising the value of volunteers for assisting in the provision of play services.</p>
<p>The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>A full comprehensive training needs analysis is undertaken for leisure Services staff in relation to the necessary skills required to deliver services appropriately. Both the Play Development team and the technical play team are qualified to the required level to deliver quality public services</p>		<p>For FCC Play Unit to engage with FCC corporate services and the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council to explore the potential for the provision of appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers. To lobby Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council to make the resourcing available to fund the training programme.</p> <p>FCC Play Unit to undertake an annual review of</p>

					comprehensive training needs analysis and to develop an appropriate training programme. FCC Play Unit to develop and present a case through the Strategic Play Forum the needs for a ring-fenced training budget to develop the Play workforce.
The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork	RED	AMBER	Leisure Services hold a limited general training budget		FCC Play Unit to develop and present a case through the Strategic Play Forum the needs for a ring-fenced training budget to develop the play workforce.
The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff	AMBER	AMBER	There are a wide variety of in house training opportunities to add to individual workers own CPD including IT skills, first aid, manual handling, report writing		To lobby FCC and Welsh Government for resources to fund the training objectives of the Flintshire Play Strategy. For FCC

<p>There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>There are a wide variety of in house training opportunities to add to individual workers own CPD including IT skills, first aid, manual handling, report writing</p>		<p>Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to undertake a Workforce Skills Audit of FCC to assess skill levels in managing children’s play opportunities. For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to include play awareness and play development within the Flintshire workforce development plan.</p>
<p>There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>There are a wide variety of in house training opportunities to add to individual workers own CPD including IT skills, first aid, manual handling, report writing</p> <p>Partner organisations are able to access summer play team training opportunities which includes: First aid training, safeguarding and child protection, risk management and equality training</p>		<p>For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to undertake a Workforce Skills Audit of FCC to assess skill levels in managing children’s play opportunities.</p>
<p>Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in play work</p>	<p>RED</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>Through the provision of the PSA grant awarded to Flintshire County Council by Welsh Government in 2014 & 2015 the local authority has</p>	<p>The ‘one off’ nature of the PSA grants from Welsh Government made this work within the action plans achievable. There is</p>	<p>For FCC Play Unit and FCC Corporate Training to include play awareness and play development within the</p>

			delivered play-work and community play training to 120 community members including:- Children’s workforce; Voluntary sector; child-minders, Flintshire Primary schools & Forest schools; other service areas within the local authority and local town and community councils	a big demand in the county and these courses were well received. However, without additional funding it is not possible to continue to provide this type of training	Flintshire workforce development plan To lobby Welsh Government and FCC to make the resourcing available to fund the training programme
Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children’s opportunities to play	RED	AMBER	Through the provision of the PSA grant awarded to Flintshire County Council by Welsh Government in 2014 & 2015 the local authority has delivered play-work and community play training to 120 community members including:- Children’s workforce; Voluntary sector; child-minders, Flintshire Primary schools & Forest schools; other service areas within the local authority and local town and community councils	The ‘one off’ nature of the PSA grants from Welsh Government made this work within the action plans achievable. There is a big demand in the county and these courses were well received. However, without additional funding it is not possible to continue to provide this type of training	To lobby Welsh Government and FCC to make the resourcing available to fund an awareness raising programme.

General Comments Securing and developing the play workforce

How has the Local Authority met the requirement to undertake or secure the managerial and delivery functions necessary to achieve sufficient play opportunities?

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides for the workforce development needs of the play workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country*)?

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides the playwork workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country*)?

The local authority via the Play team within public open spaces has continues to implement the Play Action plan for year 1. Where it has been able to maximise resources or undertake some quick wins. Progress has been made in a number of areas since 2013 against a back drop of financial challenges

Sports Development – There is a workforce plan for sports coaches with a qualification structure. We also support a wide range of volunteers including young volunteers and adults (including parents)

Up to date information is kept on the workforce including future needs for CPD

Matter H: Community engagement and participation.

The Local Authority should consult widely with children, their families and other stakeholders on their views on play provision. It should also promote wide community engagement in providing play friendly communities.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage youth groups, school councils, school governing bodies, community groups and other relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.	AMBER	AMBER			To work with Corporate Services to develop approaches to minimise consultation duplication and overload for stakeholders, whilst simultaneously maximising the potential for collaboration between FCC Services, in delivering play opportunities for children and young people
The Local Authority promotes community engagement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making space available and suitable for play - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - training on the importance of play. 	AMBER	AMBER			To work with Corporate Services to develop approaches to minimise consultation duplication and overload for stakeholders, whilst simultaneously maximising the potential for collaboration between FCC Services in delivering play opportunities for children and young people. To continue to engage with FCC

					<p>Councillors; Town and Community Councillors, FCC decision makers, Third Sector, with adults in the community to raise awareness of the importance of play, to highlight how decisions impact on play, and to provide training and raise awareness of play value. To engage with local, regional and national media to promote positive attitudes to children and young people and to promote the value of play.</p>
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General Comments Community engagement and participation.

How has the Local Authority effectively used existing mechanisms for children’s participation and family consultation processes with regards to play?

All children attending summer playschemes (4,010 during 2015) are consulted on an annual basis with regard to their views on playing out and play opportunities in their own communities

The Flintshire Children and Young People’s Partnership have a variety of forums, groups and methods of engaging with children and young people across the county via their involvement and participation work

The local authority via the Children’s and Young People’s Partnership offer training for effective community engagement and participation

Sports Development work with school councils and have played a large role in establishing school sports councils. We have supported students to work with Governors and helped students become coaches with community sports groups and in youth clubs

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

The Local Authority should examine all its policy agendas for their potential impact on children’s opportunities to play and embed targets and action to enhance children’s play opportunities within all such policies and strategies.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There is a named person on the Local Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Single Integrated Plan	AMBER	AMBER			Following production of the Play Sufficiency Assessment, a presentation will be delivered for the two Play Champions of Flintshire County Council. This presentation will take the form of a briefing, to ensure that the findings of the PSA, can best be presented onto other key decision making groups, including the Local Service Board

Education and schools

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The local authority has piloted a play project the Playful Futures project in Flintshire at three primary schools during the Autumn term. The early evaluation of this pilot is that it has had a majorly positive impact on the whole school day</p> <p>This pilot was enabled via the PSA grant received from the Welsh Government 2014 & 2015</p>		To engage with the Local Education Authority and to identify how best to engage with individual schools to identify how schools have sought to provide rich play environments and to promote good practice.
Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The local authority has piloted a play project the Playful Futures project in Flintshire at three primary schools during the Autumn term. The early evaluation of this pilot is that it has had a majorly positive impact on the whole school day</p> <p>This pilot was enabled via</p>		To engage with the Local Education Authority and to identify how best to engage with individual schools. To identify how schools have sought to provide out of school hours play

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			the PSA grant received from the Welsh Government 2014 & 2015		opportunities and to promote good practice.
Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times	AMBER	AMBER	<p>The local authority has piloted a play project the Playful Futures project in Flintshire at three primary schools during the Autumn term. The early evaluation of this pilot is that it has had a majorly positive impact on the whole school day</p> <p>This pilot was enabled via the PSA grant received from the Welsh Government 2014 & 2015</p>		<p>To engage with the Local Education Authority and to identify, how best to engage with individual schools. To identify whether school grounds are accessible for community use (Out of school hours / out of term time) and whether this is open access or requires booking with the school.</p> <p>To engage with Education and the Corporate Health and Safety Team to identify appropriate methods and guidance that could be presented to schools, to show how school grounds could be made available to the</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>The Play Development Team, Playful Futures consultant and Senior lecturer in playwork at Leeds Beckett University will be presenting to the federation of Flintshire Headteachers in march 2016 as a direct result of the success of this project</p>		<p>community (Either open access or through bookings) whilst maintaining security of buildings and other assets. FCC to hold county wide public Consultation during 2016</p>
<p>Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The local authority employs a Healthy Schools officer to work with schools to encourage walking and cycling</p> <p>The local authority were able to purchase and install cycle racks (12 cycles) at 8 school and leisure locations in line with the Active Travel Plan for Flintshire. This was enabled via the PSA grant received from Welsh Government during 2014 & 2015</p>		

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
<p>The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>The local authority has piloted a play project the Playful Futures project in Flintshire at three primary schools during the Autumn term. The early evaluation of this pilot is that it has had a majorly positive impact on the whole school day</p> <p>The Play Development Team, Playful Futures consultant and Senior lecturer in playwork at Leeds Beckett University will be presenting to the federation of Flintshire Headteachers in march 2016 as a direct result of the success of this project</p> <p>This pilot was enabled via the PSA grant received from the Welsh Government 2014 & 2015</p>		<p>To engage with the Local Education Authority, to promote the value of break-times for facilitating children’s play. To engage with the Local Education Authority, Pilot project delivered at three Flintshire Primary schools during 2015/2016 to provide evidence of the effectiveness of a Playwork approach during school lunchtimes. The Play Unit have been invited to provide a presentation to the federation of Primary school Headteachers in Flintshire with the results from the pilot project which has proven very successful</p>

Town and Country Planning

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities	RED	AMBER			Flintshire County Council has already made commitments to commence a Local Development Plan. Work is currently underway. The Flintshire Strategic Play Forum will engage with the Planning Authority, to ensure that the policies that are drafted are reflective of the play needs of children of different ages and abilities

Traffic and Transport

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
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Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities	AMBER	AMBER			To engage with Taith to promote the needs of children and young people in accessing and utilising paths, cycleways and public transportation services to access play, recreation and leisure facilities.
The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.	GREEN	GREEN			To engage with Taith to promote the needs of children and young people in accessing and utilising public transportation services.

Health and Wellbeing

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority plans and agenda to promote health and well-being recognise the importance of play for children's and families' physical health and well-being	AMBER	AMBER			Each of the key strategic partnerships to continue to regularly monitor programmes, that directly impact on play for children's and families' physical health and well-being.

Child Poverty

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Local Authority's tackling poverty agenda and plans recognise the importance of ensuring that play opportunities are available to all families regardless of their income.	GREEN	GREEN			To seek to influence the Welsh Government in order that funding be made available to enable existing services to be continued for the benefit of children and promoting and providing play opportunities.

Early Years/Childcare

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Early Years, and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children	GREEN	GREEN			None identified
The Childcare Strategy offers guidance to ensure local childcare providers understand the importance of and provide a rich play environment as a routine part of the care they provide	GREEN	GREEN			To engage with the Children and Young Peoples Partnership, to explore what is already being done to engage child-care providers, to promote rich play environments.

Family policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play	GREEN	GREEN			None identified

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity	AMBER	AMBER			Flintshire Play Unit via Family Information Service to promote good practice regarding inter-generational projects.
There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages	AMBER	AMBER			All services involved in providing inter-generational activities which encourages better interaction between children of

					different ages. To utilise the services of the Family Information Service in order to raise awareness and promote activity
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Community Development

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding the rights of children to play within their communities	GREEN	GREEN			To engage with Corporate Services to explore the potential to enshrine the “Right of the Child to Play” within the community within future revisions of the Community Strategy and/or within the FCC Flintshire Single Integrated Plan
The Community Strategy supports communities to provide play opportunities for their children	GREEN	GREEN			None Identified
The Community Strategy makes a clear statement regarding how providing play opportunities	GREEN	GREEN			None Identified

contributes to community cohesion					
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Community Safety

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Community Safety Strategy makes a clear statement which recognises the rights of children to play in their communities	RED	RED			To contribute to future reviews of the Community Safety Partnership Plan, to ensure that the views of children and young people are included and that the 'right to play' is recognised within that plan.
The Community Safety Strategy includes actions which provide a safe environment for children to play in their communities	AMBER	AMBER			To contribute to future reviews of the Community Safety Partnership Plan to ensure that the views of children and young people are included and that there is explicit recognition of the value of play as a diversionary activity within the community. To engage with the

					Community Safety Partnership to strengthen existing links in the delivery of 'diversionary' and 'preventative' interventions.
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Health and Safety	
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Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge	AMBER	AMBER	The local authorities' health and safety unit provide support and advice on all children's play and leisure issues, The allocation of a specific officer has enabled a close working partnership to enable both a robust approach to health and safety, developing in partnership proper systems of working and procedures which underpin play provision. The Local		To engage with the Health and Safety Team to explore the potential to formally review Health and Safety Policies, with a view to include reference to risk and challenge within children's play

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
			<p>Authorities health and safety Unit have developed a bespoke training for Risk management in the delivery of play services. This is bespoke to the temporary team and is based on years of delivery. The child is at the centre of the training but also there is protection through knowledge for the workforce. The training is delivered by the health and safety officer during the training for the summer team via a variety of both formal classroom and practical sessions. Playworkers are additionally made aware of both risk benefit and dynamic risk assessment and the practicalities within a short term delivery</p>		
<p>The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>AMBER</p>			<p>To engage with the Local Education Authority, the Corporate Health and Safety Team and with key information</p>

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)					networks such as the Family Information Service and the Children and young Peoples Partnership to help develop health and safety awareness and overcome attitudes of risk aversion
The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils	GREEN	GREEN			To engage further with (FCC) Corporate Health and Safety and with the (FCC) Insurance office, to explore what improvements can be made in extending cover for third sector and community councils to make it easier to deliver activities and 'one-off' events. This might be achieved simply by offering an advice sheet and guidance, as to what third sector and community groups

Criteria	RAG Status 2013	RAG Status 2016	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified Actions for action Plan
					need to take into account in ensuring that sufficient insurance provision is made.

General Comments: Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities.

Conclusion

This section should identify the key priorities for the Local Authorities in accordance with the regulations and described in the Statutory Guidance.

For the local authority to identify two new key Play Champions to represent children's play at the highest strategic level and to ensure that play is high on all agendas, including the Single Integrated Plan

To reinvigorate the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum, a multi-agency group to provide guidance for the larger play network. The FSPF will be responsible for overseeing and monitoring the implementation of the Play Sufficiency Action Plan, 2016

For the local authority to continue to develop effective partnerships to safeguard children's play in the county. With regard to equipped children play areas the county will continue to explore of alternative delivery models (ADM) and Community asset transfer schemes (CAT)

To continue to provide the highest quality play opportunities for children in the county, including the appropriate training of staff

To continue to deliver high quality play services to children, young people and communities in partnership via full consultation and identified need

Way forward

This section should briefly introduce the Action Plan which sets out what steps need to be taken to improve the opportunities for children to play within the Local Authority area, including what mechanism and criteria were used to agree and prioritise actions. It should also describe the actions the Local Authority will take with regards to change in infrastructure, partnership working or mechanisms to ensure that it is well placed to deliver on the duty to secure sufficient play opportunities.

Signed:

Date:

Play Sufficiency Action Plan



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of local authority:	FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Name of person responsible officer:	MIKE WELCH
Job title:	PRINCIPAL LEISURE OFFICER
Date of completion:	31st MARCH, 2016



Actions to be taken to address the issues / shortcomings recorded in the Play Sufficiency Assessment

Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017

(Funding source: funding from Local Authority own budgets and to be included in the Single Integrated Plan).

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Milestones	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
Statutory Guidance-policy framework	Reinvigoration of the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum	Representation for children’s play at the highest strategic level Delivery and implementation of the Play Action Plan	Appointment of two new play champions to represent play at the highest strategic level 1 st Meeting of newly formed Flintshire Strategic Play Forum. Minutes from all meetings recorded	No cost	N/A
Matter A: Population	To continue to access current and relevant data to plan services appropriately and to assist in targeting those most vulnerable groups	To maximise the use of resources to target communities and children most in need	Representation at the first meeting from the third sector and relevant organisation on the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum	Potential Costs of volunteer attendance	To be identified

<p>Matter B: Providing for diverse needs</p>	<p>To continue to develop existing and identify new partnerships for children with diverse needs</p>	<p>For the Flintshire Strategic play Forum to identify current availability of services and to coordinate the development of other complimentary services To work with a range of other service areas and providers to share good practice and form new partnerships</p>	<p>Representation at the first meeting from the third sector and relevant organisation on the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum</p>	<p>Potential Costs of volunteer attendance</p>	<p>To be identified</p>
<p>Matter C: Space available for children to play</p>	<p>For the play unit and leisure services continue to work in partnership with planning, housing and environmental services through joint projects and their representation within the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum</p>	<p>Access to both quality and quantity of play provision in accordance with legislation and via joint consultation</p>	<p>Representation from these important strategic service areas at first meeting of newly formed Flintshire Strategic Play Forum. Minutes from all meetings recorded</p>	<p>Core funding of existing staff within each service area</p>	<p>Local Authority core budget</p>

<p>Matter D: Supervised provision</p>	<p>Identify new and alternative methods of delivery in partnership with local town and community councils and the third sector</p>	<p>Continued delivery for the Flintshire Summer Play scheme programme from 2017 onwards</p>	<p>Identification of funding partners for summer playscheme 2017</p>	<p>The local authority core budget or summer playschemes allows for the employment of the Play development Officer who will work to identify new, alternative and sustainable resourcing</p>	<p>To be identified via partnership consultation during 2016</p>
<p>Matter E: Charges for play provision</p>					
<p>Matter F: Access to space/provision</p>	<p>For the play unit and leisure services continue to work in partnership with planning, housing and environmental services through joint projects and their representation within the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum</p>	<p>Access to both quality and quantity of play provision in accordance with legislation and via joint consultation</p>	<p>Representation from these important strategic service areas at first meeting of newly formed Flintshire Strategic Play Forum. Minutes from all meetings recorded</p>	<p>Core funding of existing staff within each service area</p>	<p>Local Authority core budget</p>

<p>Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce</p>	<p>Accessing of training opportunities for all staff involved in Children’s play</p>	<p>To maintain the quality of the delivery of play services in the county both for supervised play and the inspection and technical team</p>	<p>Development of workforce training plan in accordance with the delivery of quality play services- June 2016</p>	<p>Identification of grants and other revenue streams to assist with the costs for training in addition to the local authority core budget</p>	<p>To be identified via partnership consultation during 2016</p>
<p>Matter H: Community engagement and participation</p>	<p>To continue to safeguard children’s play in the county via new partnerships with communities in the county including the development of Alternative delivery Models and Community Asset Transfer</p>	<p>Consultation with children, young people and communities Safeguarding of equipped children play areas</p>	<p>Sustainability of children’s opportunities to access supervised play opportunities. Identified partners identified to deliver the Flintshire County Summer playscheme in 2017</p> <p>Public consultation with all partners with regard to the Transfer of assets and alternative delivery models for equipped play areas</p>	<p>The Play Unit and Leisure Services have identified this as a priority work area for 2016/2017</p>	<p>Core funding from local authority</p>

<p>Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas</p>	<p>For the local authority to ensure that children’s play issues are represented at the very highest strategic level and that all service areas are mindful and proactive with regard to childrens right to play</p>	<p>Appointment of Chair for the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum April 2016</p> <p>1st meeting to be arranged for May 2016</p>	<p>Reinvigoration of the Flintshire Strategic Play Forum</p> <p>Appointment of two new play champions to represent play at the highest strategic level</p>	<p>No cost</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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