

## APPENDIX 2

Year 1 Play Builder Programme 2009 - 2010					
	Site name	DCSF Funding	Total match funding	Source of match funding	Completed
<b>1</b>	Meols Rec. Play Area	10,000	24,975	Community Spaces	Jul-09
			7,250	Friends of Meols Park	
			50,022	BIG Lottery Children's Play	
<b>2</b>	Harrison Park, Wallasey	30,000			Mar-10
<b>3</b>	Ashton Park, West Kirby	50,000	13,000	Friends of Ashton park	Nov-09
<b>4</b>	New Ferry Park, New Ferry	30,000	50,022	Parks & Countryside	Feb-09
<b>5</b>	Moreton Linear Park	81,000			Apr-10
<b>6</b>	Woodlands play area, B'Head	50,000	49,750	Community Spaces	Apr-10
<b>7</b>	Irby Park, Irby	70,000			Apr-10
<b>8</b>	Newton Park, West Kirby	50,000			Mar-09
<b>9</b>	Tower Grounds, New Brighton	60,000			Mar-10
<b>10</b>	Victoria Park, Tranmere	50,000			Feb-09
<b>11</b>	Bromborough Recreation Ground	50,000			Mar-10
	<b>TOTAL</b>	531,000	195,019		

**Year 2 Play Builder Programme 2010 – 2011**

	<b>Site name</b>	<b>DCSF Funding</b>	<b>Total match funding</b>	<b>Source of match funding</b>	<b>Opening month</b>
<b>1</b>	Central Park, Wallasey	16,000	15,000	Parks & Countryside	Oct- 11
<b>2</b>	Whiteheath Park, Leasowe	70,000			Feb - 11
<b>3</b>	Birkenhead Park	50,000	10,000	Parks & Countryside	Feb - 11
<b>4</b>	Warwick Park, Overchurch/Upton	50,000	9,869	Parks & Countryside	Jul - 10
<b>5</b>	Ilchester Sq., North B'head	16,000	14,000	Parks & Countryside	Jun - 11
<b>6</b>	Arrowe Park	16,000			Mar - 11
<b>7</b>	Duck Pond Lane (Oxton Fields)	16,000			Mar -11
<b>8</b>	Whitfield Common, Heswall	10,000	50,022	BIG Lottery Children's Play	Nov - 10
<b>9</b>	Higher Bebington Rec.	60,000			Feb - 11
<b>10</b>	Port Causeway, New Ferry	10,000	50,022	BIG Lottery Children's Play	Jan - 11
<b>11</b>	Torr Park, Eastham	60,000			Feb - 11
	<b>TOTAL</b>	374,000	148,913		

## **Impact**

The Play Builder programme for year 1 and 2 commenced in April 2009, improving and refurbishing 22 play areas. The final play area, Central Park, Seacombe was finished in November 2011. During this period, BIG Lottery funded play projects, including the Play Rangers, have supported the programme through consultation and engagement with local children or by direct face to face play sessions located in the improved play areas. This has enabled children to feel safer when playing outdoors and parents to feel more confident about allowing their children to play out with friends. This has also increased opportunities for children to engage with the wider community which supports children's independence and resilience essential for a healthy childhood.

Monitoring the improved play areas has shown that numbers of children playing out has increased. This strategy has enabled children to have more access to safe outdoor play space and supports the child obesity programme by improving and maintaining children's physical and mental health. A play area satisfaction report was completed consulting with 143 children and young people. The general census was children and young people were satisfied with the improvements. 76% of children surveyed reported the play area was either very good or good. This increase has been reflected in national indicator for play, NI 199, Children's and Young People's satisfaction with parks and play areas. The indicator ran alongside the Play Builder programme resulting in an increase in satisfaction by a margin of 5.9% from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010. Overall, more children have been using the newly equipped play areas. This is supported by the observations of the Play Rangers who have utilised the sites to run outdoor play sessions during holiday periods and after-school.

The programme was also complimented by the support of local Friends of Parks groups and community groups who generated extra funding to support further improvements. Meols Park, one of the first play areas to be completed, was an excellent example of community involvement, ownership and collaborative engagement. Since, its completion in July 2009, it has attracted hundreds of children each week. A survey of park attendance revealed that out of 382 pupils from Great Meols Primary school, 342 pupils have been using the Park since it opened. The Park attracts children and parents from other local areas, including Hoylake, Moreton and Frankby. The involvement of Friends of Parks groups has also encouraged stewardship and the opportunity to monitor usage.

Play England was appointed by DCSF to help deliver the Government's vision for the future of play. Play England supported local authorities receiving funding under the Government's new play Pathfinder and Play Builder programmes. A RAG rating system of performance management was utilised to monitor and assess the effectiveness of the programmes and a green RAG rating was consistently attained by the Wirral programme during this period.

During the final year, a number of play areas were officially opened by elected members including Whiteheath – Leasowe; Ilchester Park – Birkenhead; Torr Park – Eastham; Higher Bebington play area; Port Causeway – Bromborough; Warwick Park - Upton and Meols Park recreation ground. The Open Days were celebratory events and showed community spirit and dedicated support to local projects. Councillors, local school children and families attended the events which were publicised in the press.

### **Access and Safety**

Children and young people (244) were surveyed on how safe they felt when playing out. The data was analysed and the key findings were developed into tasks as part of the 'Feel Safe, Play Safe' Action Plan designed to reduce children's fear of playing beyond the confines of their home environment. It was also to support the development of children's independence and resilience and how they could keep themselves safe whilst playing out. The main issues addressed were traffic and roads, groups of older youths, fear of being alone and bullying issues (appendix 4). A number of tasks and actions reflected in the recommendations of the Play Strategy Implementation plan. Consultation opportunities were built into the Youth Voice Conference and Youth Parliament for young people to describe where they are concerned about safety. These returns were used to inform programmes in youth clubs and the commissioning of services.

During Road Safety Week children participated in awareness activities about how to safely cross roads and ways they can keep themselves safe. The 130 children who attended the safety sessions all received reflective neon stickers and arm bands to wear. The Road Safety team also introduced road safety awareness when accessing local parks, to pupils when delivering their school sessions.

Playwork staff attended training sessions on inclusion and equality, road safety, promoting positive behaviour. Play workers also attended and completed the accredited Playing on the Range course delivered by Gloucestershire University.