

# HIGH 5 PLAY PROJECT

## CONSULTATION ON DRAFT DESIGN

### **What is HIGH5 play project?**

HIGH5 is a play project designed to meet the needs of the children and young people within the Highcliffe area. The project forms part of a national scheme called Play Builder. Dorset has been allocated £1.1 million to improve over 22 play areas across the county over the next 2 years.

Outdoor play is an important part of every child's life. It keeps children active, healthy and happy and helps them make new friends, learn new skills, improve their self confidence – and above all, have fun. It can also help to prevent obesity as well teaching them to manage risk and make them feel more independent. Over 80% of children would prefer to play outdoors, and parents – in principle – believe children should be free to experience adventurous play (Source: <http://www.playday.co.uk/>).

### **HIGH5 play project background**

- The need for young people's facilities were established by Highcliffe Residents Association (CIC) through consultation
- This was supported by County and Borough Play Strategies
- Highcliffe Recreation Ground was established as the site for such facilities through consultation undertaken by HRA (CIC)
- The location of the facilities has been identified as between the pavilion and the existing play area
- Partners include: Christchurch Borough Council, HRA (CIC), Youth Service, Highcliffe School, Highcliffe St. Mark's Primary School C of E
- Applications for external funding were made in 2008 / 2009
- Funding was granted by the Department for Children, Schools and Families in 2009 - 'PlayBuilder'
  - £40,000 awarded for a play project at Highcliffe Recreation Ground
  - A further £3,000 granted for design works
- Funding was granted by the Youth Opportunities Fund in 2009
  - Approx. £12,000 awarded for a ball court and shelter
- Funding was granted by the Youth Service
  - £3,500 awarded for capital projects in Highcliffe
- Funding was granted by the Christchurch Youth Council
  - £940 awarded for HIGH5 project
- Conditions of all grants stipulate the project is to be completed by March 2010
- Children and young people will be able to use the new facilities by Summer 2010

### **Design of HIGH5 play project**

Following a comprehensive children's consultation involving children and young people from Highcliffe St. Mark's Primary School, Highcliffe Secondary School and users of the site. Chartered Landscape Architects –The Landscape Practice interpreted their requirements and the data supplied. They produced two possible designs for the site:-

Design 1 comprises - Aerial Cableway, Overhead Rotator, Climbing Zone, Trim Trail, Ball Court & Shelter. This design has perimeter fencing and links with the existing play area via a footpath, and mounding.

Design 2 comprises - Aerial Cableway, Single Point Swing, Climbing Rock, Overhead Rotator, Dutch Disc, Ball Court & Shelter, as well picnic tables, seating and litter bins. There would be no perimeter fencing for this option.

The feasibility of the design options were considered taking into account the impact on landscape, site users and neighbouring properties balanced with play value and importantly added value for the children and young people in the area. Both designs presented possible solutions.

The same children were then consulted on the interpretation of their original requests, and their preferred design solution.

The Children's consultation which took place in July 2009 at Highcliffe Secondary School, established strong support for the HIGH5 designs and identified that the preferred design for the play project was Design 1.

**Public Consultation**

A period of public consultation is now proposed to assess the public's preferred design.

The consultation will take place on Wed 16th Sept. (10am-1pm) and Thursday 17th Sept. (4-7pm) at Highcliffe Recreation Ground.

The Council and partners seek views and feedback from members of the public and other stakeholders on the draft designs for this project.

A range of consultation materials have been produced;- an information leaflet emailed to stakeholders, letters distributed to households in the vicinity, advertisements for site, public exhibition to be held at Highcliffe Recreation Ground, and information placed on the [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com) website.

**Timetable for the implementation of HIGH5 play project**

The preferred design will be incorporated into specifications which will be taken through a tender process, with the chosen contractors commencing work on site February 2010. The project will be completed by March 2010.

**Decision required on design of HIGH5 play project**

A decision is now required to establish the design that will now be taken forward for implementation.

Your decision	
Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Contact No.	
Preferred Design (Please tick)	Any Comments
Option 1	
Option 2	

*Data Protection Act: The information you have provided will only be used in connection with the preparation of PlayBuilder and associated activities, and be made available to Christchurch Borough Council only.*

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this form. Please return it to the address provided below:-



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