

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Pembrokeshire County Council

Name of responsible officer: Hayli Gibson

Job title: Lead for Early Years Childcare and Play

Date of completion: June 2022

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 30 June 2022



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.	

Pembrokeshire is one of Britain's special places, combining some of the most spectacular coastal scenery with a unique cultural heritage. Nearly a third of the county is in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park – the only coastal national park in the country, and its numerous beaches are renowned as being amongst the finest anywhere. This all makes it a particularly attractive and satisfying area in which to live, work and play.

The County has a resident population of 126,751, according to mid-2020 population figures published by ONS, which increases very considerably throughout the summer months through its thriving tourism. It is essentially rural in character, with the largest centres of population being Haverfordwest (the county town), Tenby, Milford Haven, Pembroke and Pembroke Dock and Fishguard, together with the smaller town of Narberth.

As well as its natural beauty, the county has a considerable historical heritage. Agriculture also remains an important feature. As one of the finest deep-water harbours in the country, the Milford Haven estuary is an important centre for the energy industry, with facilities for oil refining, storage and distribution. As well as the industrial presence, the estuary is also a popular area for leisure activities including yachting and water-sports. For many people, Pembrokeshire holds a strong attraction as a place to live, work and play; their reasons for this can probably be summed up in one phrase – quality of life.

Play is a child's right and is enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This means that every child living in Pembrokeshire is entitled to and has a right 'to engage in play and recreational activities' (Article 31 - UNCRC). A popular definition of play within the profession is that play is freely chosen, personally directed, intrinsically motivated behaviour that actively engages the child' (Hughes and King 1982). The key implication is that children choose WHAT they do, HOW they do it and WHY they do it.

Children and young people (CYP) learn about themselves, others and the world through play. The Pembrokeshire Play Strategy Group promises to work to improve the availability, commitment and understanding of the importance of high-quality play opportunities for children and young people of Pembrokeshire. The 3-year Strategy covers all children and young people between the ages of 0 – 25 years and will be supported by an Annual Action Plan. The local authority is working with all school in Pembrokeshire to implement a standardised play policy, to ensure play is championed and limiting play is not used as a sanction. In a youth setting it is expected that a group of children or young people will action and monitor their action plan.

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.

Pembrokeshire County Council (the Council) commissioned Premier Advisory Group (PAG) to complete this Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA). To ensure PAG met the specification requirements of the Council's PSA, a rigorous mixed methods methodology was deployed that involved primary and secondary, and qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. A guiding theme throughout data collection and analysis was to ensure every voice was heard, and so desk-based research was supplemented with surveys taken by CYP, parents/carers and providers, as well as free-play observation. 1:1 interviews were also conducted with playworkers to understand play from the perspective of professionals across the county.

The fieldwork and research which informed the 2022 Pembrokeshire County Council PSA was conducted during the period December 2021-March 2022. Multiple types of research and analysis were undertaken:

- Structured desk-based research
- Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) with playworkers
- 2 focus groups with CYP

- Online Survey Monkey questionnaire with key stakeholders
- Online Survey Monkey questionnaire with parents/carers
- Online Survey Monkey questionnaire with CYP
- Paper-based survey for children under the age of 5
- Play observation consultation forms.

An outline of the methodology is provided below:

1. Desk-based research

At the Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level, data was gathered through desk-based research using secondary data sources to map the demand for play and prevalence of children and young people across the local authority (LA). Research focused on population projections, migration and the incidence of key groups, to map current and expected demand for play. A concerted effort was made to obtain the most current practicable data from the most appropriate source, and due regard was given to timescales for the release of the most relevant data. As such, data was primarily obtained from the Office for National Statistics and supplemented and supported by data from PLASC, the National Census, HM Revenue and Customs, and the Assessment of Local Wellbeing.

2. Consultation with key groups

Following desk-based data analysis, PAG consulted with a range of key groups, including CYP aged 0-17, parents/carers across Pembrokeshire and playworkers currently working at a range of youth and after-school provisions.

In the first instance, PAG created a child-friendly online survey for CYP people aged 5-17 to complete; a paper-based survey for under-5s was also distributed across Pembrokeshire. Due to the impact of COVID-19, opportunities for in-person consultation were limited. Consequently, PAG consulted with CYP through focus groups and a play observation sheet, which was filled out by playworkers to comment on the play enjoyed by CYP at settings.

A short, voluntary and anonymous online survey was shared with parents/carers in the area, which gathered views around their perception of children's enjoyment of play, alongside their safety and access to play.

PAG also carried out 4 short, structured interviews with a sample of playworkers across Pembrokeshire.

3. Consultation with wider stakeholders

In order to supplement our consultation with CYP, parents/carers and playworkers, a variety of stakeholders were consulted with via a short, voluntary online survey. The survey gathered the views of stakeholders on existing opportunities for play and access to play facilities, alongside the impact(s) of COVID-19 on play over the last two years.

4. Reporting and Action Plan

After the end of the consultation period, data was gathered and analysed to inform an overall picture of play in Pembrokeshire, with a summary of findings written with regards to the sufficiency of play.

Based on this, PAG has provided recommendations for how the LA can address gaps in supply and demand, as well as the impact(s) of Covid-19. Using the analysis and findings, PAG and the Council will draft a detailed, costed Action Plan, which the authority can implement immediately.

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 play associations and play providers
- The private sector if appropriate
- Community groups

A number of individuals and representatives from various organisations were involved in the undertaking of the Assessment and the development of the Action Plan.

Play Wales have been on hand to offer additional advice and support to the Play Sufficiency Officer as and when required. The PSA involved consultation with representatives from educational establishments, play organisations and charities, the County Voluntary Council, Pembrokeshire Coast and National Parks Authority (PCNPA), members of Pembrokeshire County Council, the NHS, and local residents/community groups.

Within Pembrokeshire County Council, consultation took place with representatives from Play Strategy, Planning, Housing, Youth, Flying Start, Transport, Policy & Corporate Planning, Housing, Health & Safety and National Parks.

Information was sourced via survey, telephone conversations, emails, online research, and Play Wales' guidance and advice. The 2019 PSA and PSA Progress on Action Plan 2020-2021 were also utilised.

Meeting the requirements of the Action Plan will be the main agenda item for the Play Team at termly review. The Assessment and Action Plan will be shared with Cabinet in June 2022 and any requested amendments will be dealt with in the Play Strategy Group.

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 how it has been used to inform future plans

Children and Young People

Context

To gain an understanding of how play sufficiency directly impacts school-age children, primary and secondary schools in Pembrokeshire were surveyed via a short, online, anonymous survey. The surveys were primarily based around afterschool play time, school clubs, areas of play and barriers that effect play e.g. the area and/or COVID-19.

School surveys

In total, 157 pupils completed and submitted a survey. The age group of each respondent is detailed below: as is shown, the most respondents to the survey are aged between 11-12 (i.e. year 7/8 pupils) at 24.2% , however participants range from primary school to college age students. Invalid ages were not included in the table below.

Age Group	Responses.
3-4	10
5-6	17
7-8	9
9-10	32
11-12	38
13-14	6
15-16	31
16+	3

The gender of the participants can be seen below. Just over 15% more boys answered the survey when compared to girls.

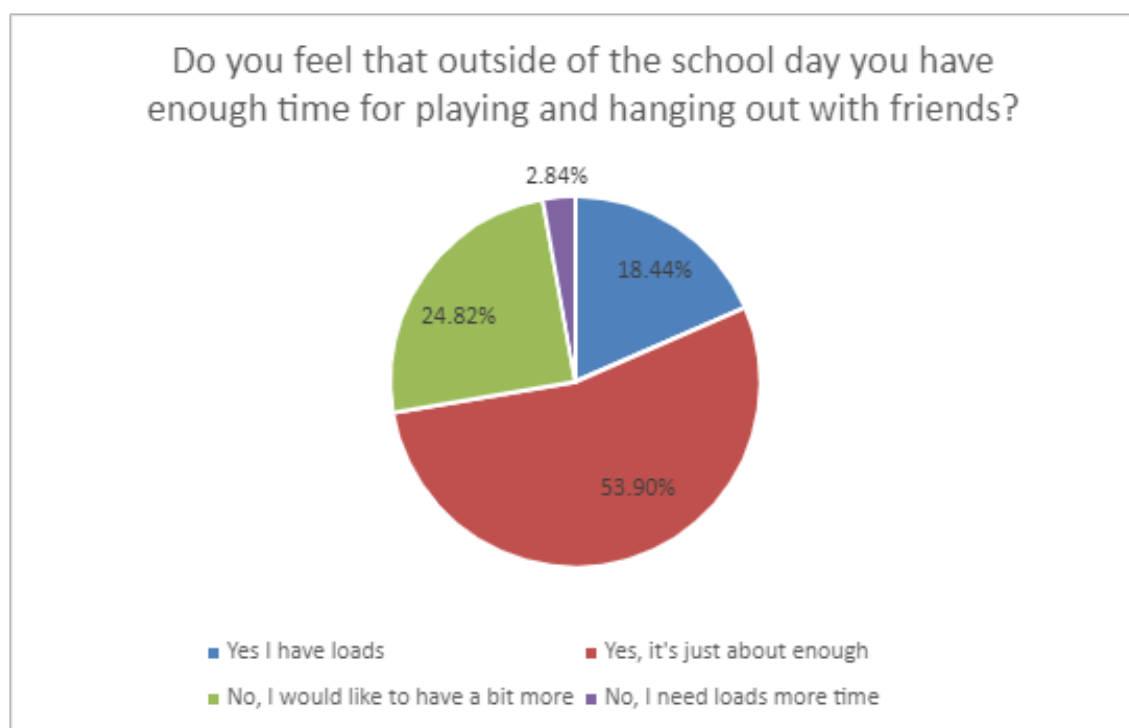
Answers.	Total %.
Boy	57.69%
Girl	42.31%

In the survey the respondents were also given the chance to give the name of the school they attended. Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi had the most pupils participate in the survey compared to any other school in Pembrokeshire. A total percentage of 23.71% of received surveys were completed by pupils at this school.

School name	Percentage Total	Amount
Golden Grove School	5.76%	9
Haverfordwest High VC	5.12%	8
Holy Name Catholic Primary	2.56%	4
Ysgol Bro Ingli	5.12%	8
Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi	23.71%	37

Pembrokeshire College	1.28%	2
Pembrokeshire Learning Centre	1.92%	3
St David's	0.64%	1
Stepping Stones	1.92%	3
St Francis's	3.84%	6
Fenton C P	8.97%	14
St. Oswald's VA	9.61%	15
Other Schools	20.51%	32

Pupils view on out of school play time



A majority of pupils believe they are given enough play time outside of school hours, with 53.90% stating: 'Yes, it is just about enough'. In addition, a further 18.44% stated: 'Yes, I have loads' (see below).

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The responses suggest that the amount of playtime given to the children across the surveyed schools is currently sufficient, with only 2.84% stating: No, I need loads more. When the 39 respondents who answered 'No' were asked to give reasons on why they felt this way, one pupil replied:

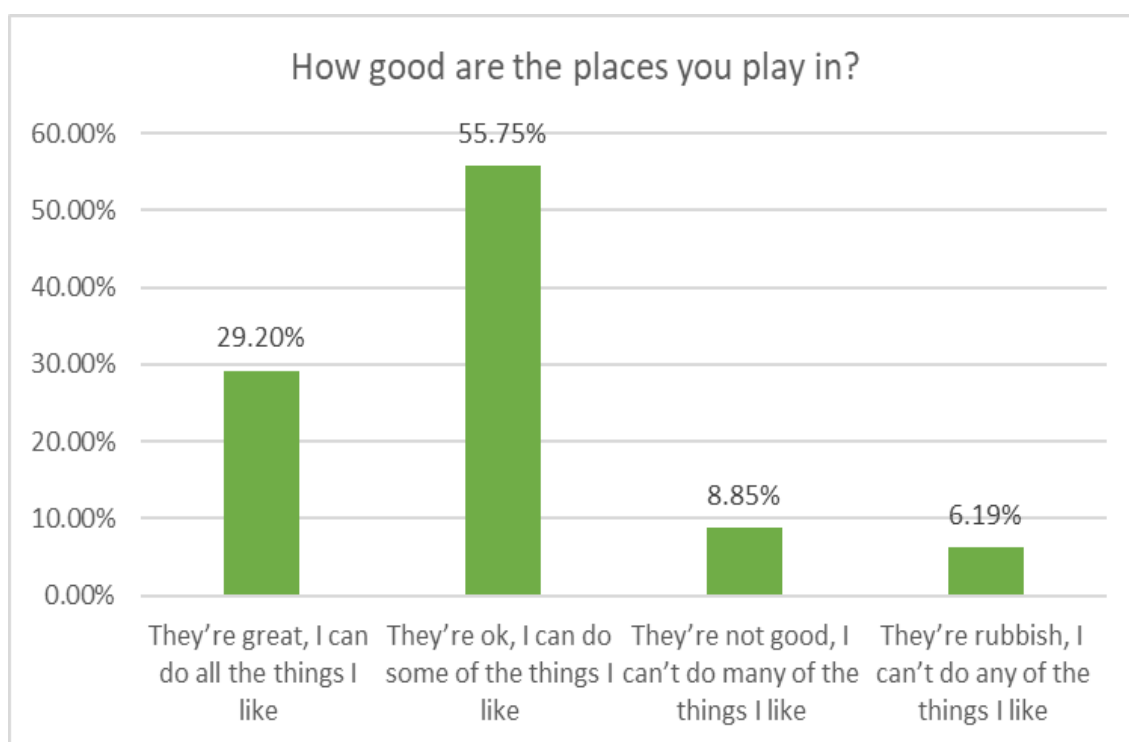
"It's difficult to find places to go locally, especially during bad weather."

Another individual stated:

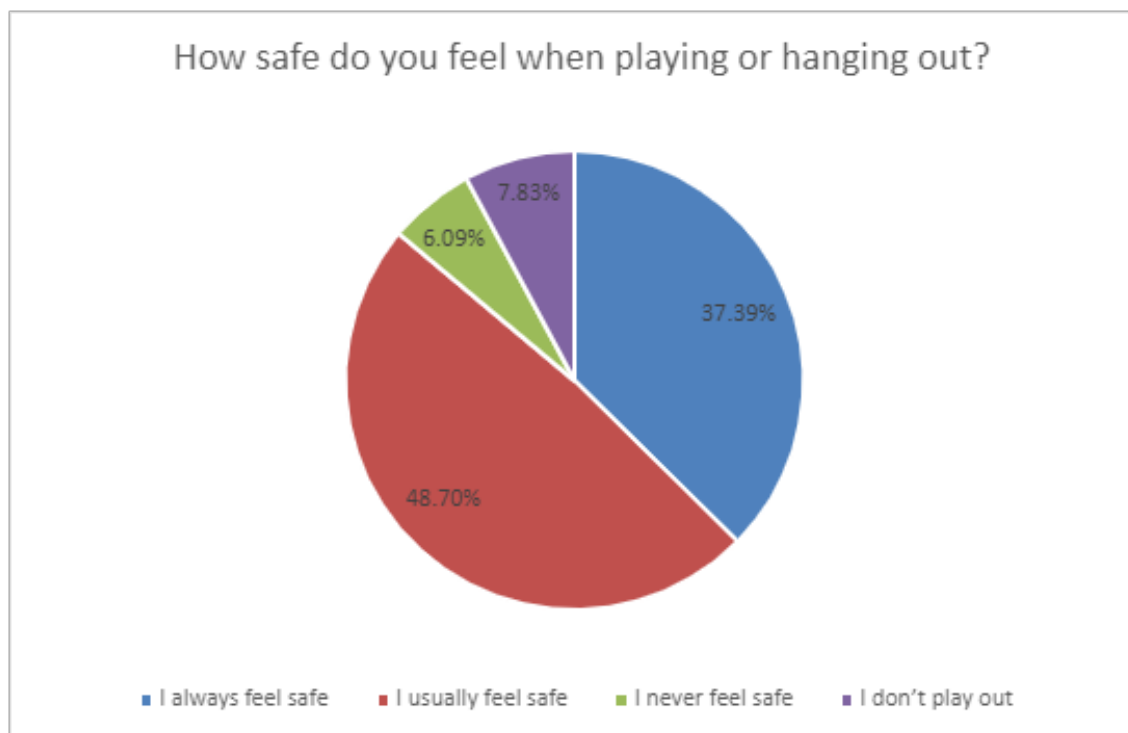
"No, I can't go out on my own."

A recurring statement from CYP was that the school day hours take up a lot of time, leaving minimal time for play.

When asked what the participants think of the areas they play in, the majority responded that they can do some or all of the things they like.



When asked how safe they feel when playing or hanging out, almost 40% of CYP said they usually or always feel safe. Only 6.09% stated they do not play out at all.



The 7.83% who replied with 'I never feel safe' had a follow up question asking why they feel this way. A common response was 'other people' and behaviours such as bullying and older teens intimidating them.

The below table shows what the participants think of the area they live in regarding playing and hanging out. The majority of pupils, think that it is good or ok, but could be better. This gives the impression implies that CYP would like to see slight improvements such as refurbishing, new equipment and keeping the area clean.

Statements	Responses
They're great, I can do all the things I like	29.20%
They're ok, I can do some of the things I like	55.75%
They're not good, I can't do many of the things I like	8.85%
They're rubbish, I can't do any of the things I like	6.19%

Expanding on this, the participants were given the chance to express what they like about their neighbourhood in regard to play. Four pupils explained it is good as they live relatively close to parks and makes it easier to meet friends. A further three stated 'A park' and another two referred to 'Fields'. Two pupils also explained 'the quiet' was a factor. Other comments included:

- The beach
- Skate parks
- Tyre swing area

Contrasting this, the participants also had a question regarding what is not good about the neighbourhood and what they would change. Three participants would like the local parks refurbishing. Two participants wrote 'no parks'. Another three participants explained its

hard living in a remote area and one specially wrote 'it is rural and children are not allowed to play without an adult'. Other comments included:

- Skate park needs fixing.
- Better facilities.
- Cars and roads being dangerous.

Where the pupils decide to spend playtime

When asked 'When you're not in school, what types of places do you play or hang out in?' An extensive list was given (see below), and the pupils were instructed to tick as many statements that relate to them as necessary.

Statements	Responses
In my house or a friend's house	93
In my garden or a friend's garden	71
In the streets near my house	33
On a local grassy area	44
In a place with bushes, trees and flowers	20
In a play area with swings, slides and other equipment to play on	58
In the woods near my house	15
On a football field or sports pitch	28
In my school playground	26
Somewhere with water or sand in it	27
On the bike or skate park	30
In a community centre or leisure centre	11
In a youth club	16
In a breakfast club	18
In an after-school club	19
At a holiday club	5
At an adventure playground	13
At a playscheme	2
At a childminder's	5
Indoor play centre	19
Or somewhere else?	19

The majority of pupils stated they play in their own homes or at a friend's home. 71 pupils stated that they play in their own or a friend's garden. With these two statements being the most popular, it can be assumed the majority of children may stay at their own or a friend's home to play rather than going out to play. 58 children, however, stated they play 'In a place with swings, slides and other equipment to play on'. The least popular choices were: 'At a childminder's', 'at a holiday club' and 'At a play scheme'. All three of these choices had only one response each.

If responding with 'or somewhere else?' the pupils could give their own answer. Two individuals stated they play in the 'Town' while another stated they use the gym.

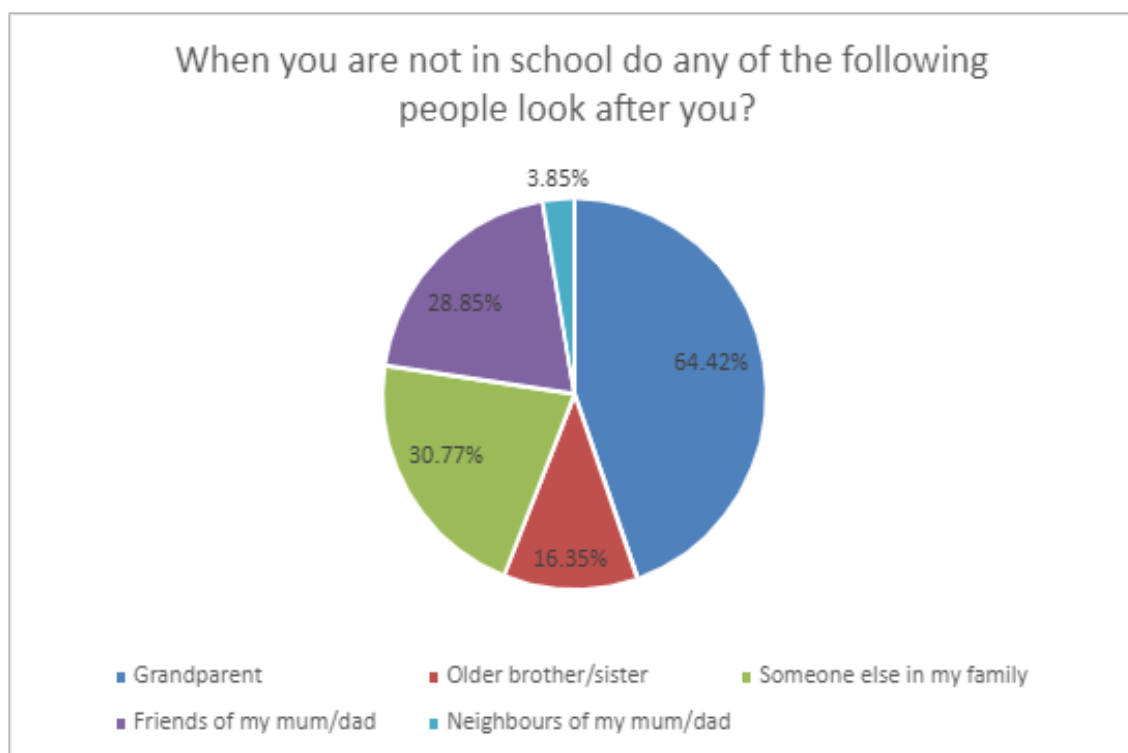
Statements.	% Total
I can play in all the places I would like to	37.90%
I can play in some of the places I would like to	36.29%
I can only play in a few of the places I would like to	18.55%
I can hardly play in any of the places I would like to	7.26%

The above table shows that 37.90% of respondents 'can play in all the places they would like to', followed by 36.29% stating 'can play in some places I would like to'. This gives the impression that most pupils have access to the places they are most interested in playing in.

To expand on this, if the pupils stated they cannot play in the places they would like, the next question asked for the reasons as to why. Overall, individuals described that they 'live too far away' to have access. Four participants detailed there being a 'lack of transport' from their village or town. A further two participants also explained that a local park is 'run down' and 'needs updating'.

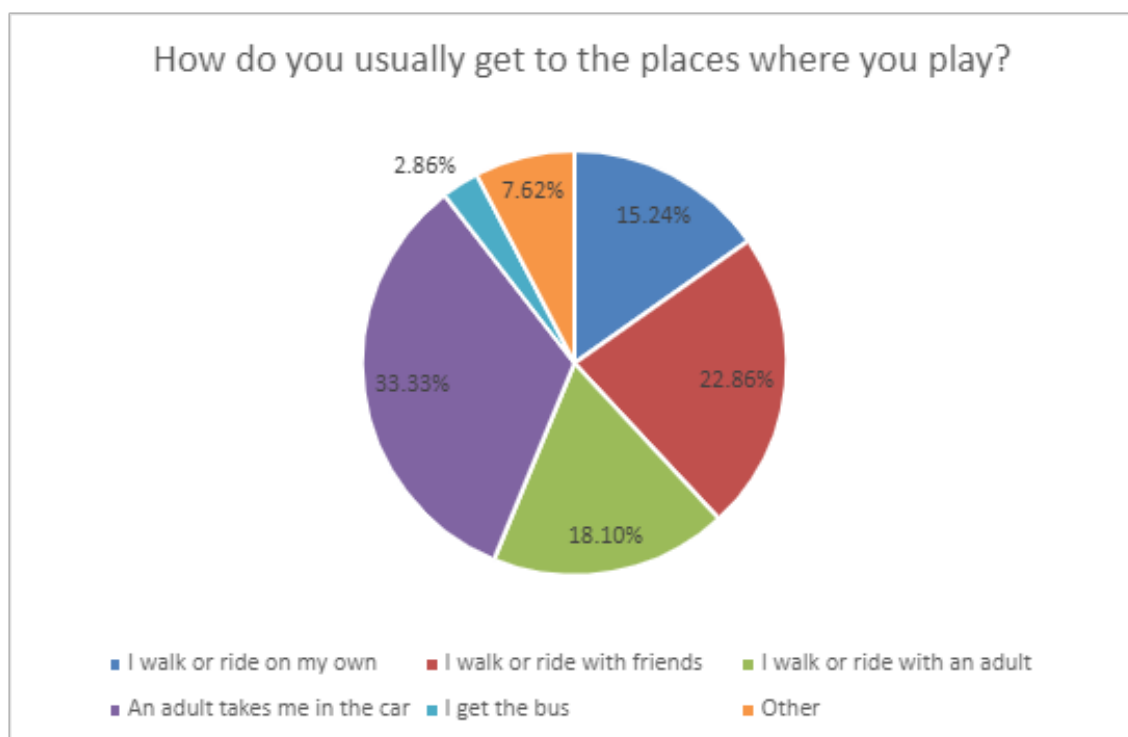
Play provision out of school time

As part of the survey, the participants were asked to identify as many people as necessary who care for them out of school hours. 64.42% stated that their grandparents look after them outside of school. 30.77% stated someone else in the family looks them after.



Pupils were asked how they commute to their areas of play. Around a third of pupils are taken to their play settings in the car, with around a quarter walking or riding with an adult.

Following up from this, participants were then asked how they travel to school. The below chart displays the data collected.



Data shows that 18.10% of pupils 'walk or ride with an adult' to get to school. Almost a third stated 'An adult takes me in the car'. Linking this chart to the previous, we can assume that a majority of the children are taken to needed location by parents/carers in a car. Interestingly, more children walk to school with friends, opposed to walking alone, 15.24% stated they walk alone and 22.86% walk with a friend.

Activities and clubs wanted by participants

CYP listed up to five activities they participate in when not at school. A common activity that came up was football, with 15 individuals including this as one of the five activities. Another popular answer was gaming with 12 pupils giving this as an answer, including 'Xbox', 'PlayStation' or 'iPad/computer games'. Nine participants stated 'park' or 'field'. Other comments included:

- Arts and Crafts
- Drama/acting club
- Mountain biking
- Playing with dinosaurs

Breakfast club, holiday club and after school club

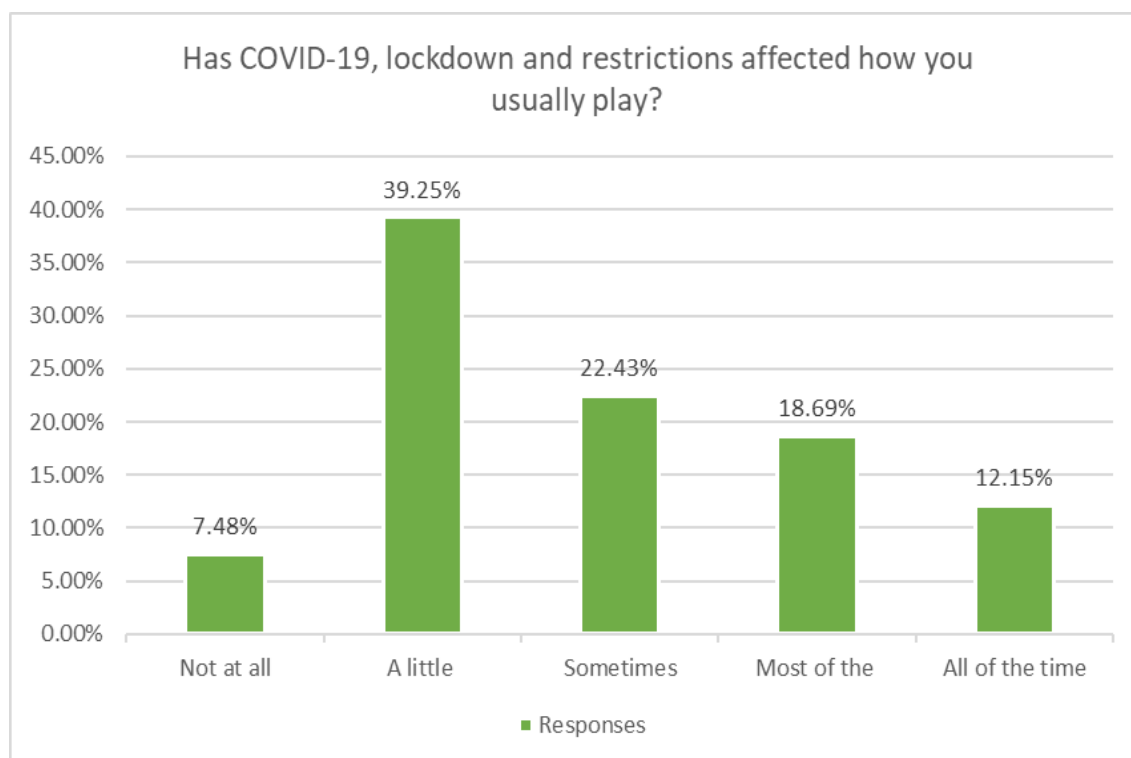
When asked 'Does the breakfast club, holiday club or afterschool club you attend take place at your school?' More than half of CYP replied with no.

Choice.	Total %.	Responses.
Yes	52.03%	64
No	47.97%	59

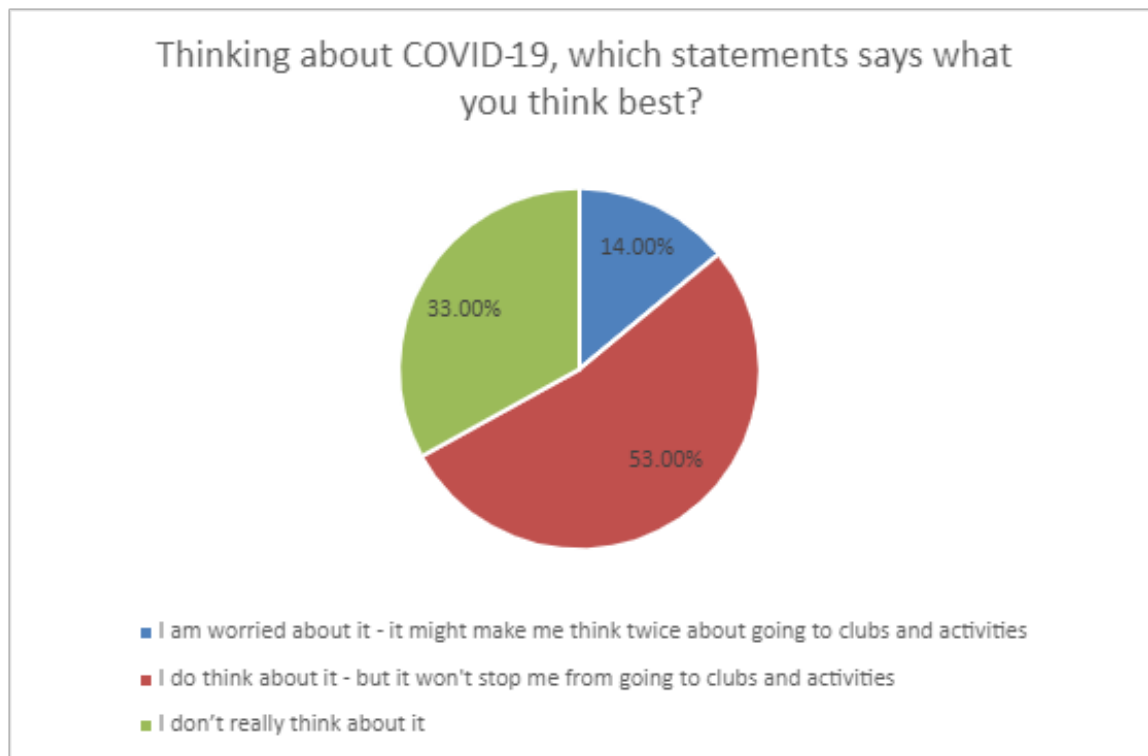
This may indicate that either the children do not go to any sort of clubs, or they attend clubs elsewhere.

The impact of COVID-19 on play

The way the COVID-19 pandemic impacted children's play is considered throughout this PSA to create a more accurate assessment of play sufficiency. The below graph helps demonstrate how CYP think COVID-19, lockdown and restrictions affected how they play.



39.25% claimed the pandemic only affected their play 'a little'. 22.43% of CYP responded 'sometimes' and 'most of the time'. This information can be linked back to where the pupils decide to spend their playtime and a majority voted for 'at my own home'.



When asked how the pandemic affected them a respondent said: 'It has affected my rugby, football and motorbikes because all of those sports involve close contact with other people.' A further three pupils indicated that a sport they play was affected. Two pupils made a point about after school clubs being postponed. A pupil also stated: 'I wasn't allowed to meet up with my friends as often', a further nine pupils made statements about not being able to meet with friends.

Focus Groups with Children and Young People

Two focus groups took places with primary and secondary age children from Prendergast Community School and Spittal School.

Primary school aged pupils were from years 5 and 6. The children noted that play to them mostly involved playing with friends, rather than playing alone. However, when asked if using technology/devices was classed as playing, nearly all children said yes. The children talked a lot about outdoor spaces accessed for play, including a local park and football field, which they visit regularly. They also noted that at weekends, the school car park is opened for play. All children in the focus group feel safe when going out to play but acknowledged that cars and traffic were sometimes an issue. Children also noted that whilst they had some play equipment for use at school, the Parents and Friends Association were working on providing more.

The children noted that the after-school club was no longer available, as this had not restarted after the pandemic.

CYP from the secondary school noted that they had opportunities for play through the school's 'Wellbeing Fridays', where classes finished early for the afternoon and children

take part in recreational activities such as sports, drama, swimming and radio projects. This shows that play is being incorporated into the school day.

CYP noted that other types of play they engage in include playing with friends, playing on the school field, using the youth room, which has a pool table available, and that they have sufficient time for play. Other activities they enjoy outside of school included going to the theatre, football, going to the skate park, racing and walking.

Some children noted being bored and their 'mind not knowing what to do' during recreational time.

Points that the CYP noted for improvement were having more things to do, more fitness equipment, cleaner, safer parks and more fun days and community events. In particular, they felt that the parks could be improved. Children also note some suggestions, including:

- More evening discos
- A dedicated graffiti area
- An indoor skate park.

Parents/Carers

Context

Parents and carers were also invited to undertake the online surveys. 291 parents/carers responded to the surveys in total. These surveys were primarily based around parents/carers thoughts on children going out to play, the suitability of the local area for playing and how the pandemic affected their children's play.

Parents/carers information

The below table shows how many children the parents have who participated in this survey, with the majority having between 1-2 children.

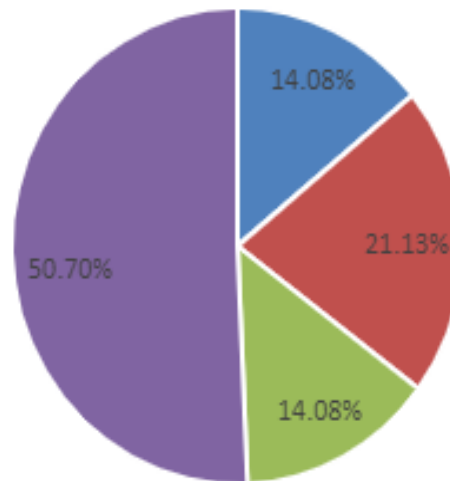
Answer Choices	Total %
0	0.34%
1-2	72.45%
3-4	24.83%
5+	2.38%

The parents were questioned about how many hours of play they allow their children to have a day. As seen below, a majority answer was '1-3 hours' with 51.39%. This is closely followed by 48.26% allowing their children to play for 4+ hours.

Answer Choices	Total %
Less than 1 hour	0.35%
1-3 hours	51.39%
4+ hours	48.26%

Next, the participants were questioned on if their children are allowed to play out without adult supervision. Almost half of parents said 'Not at all'.

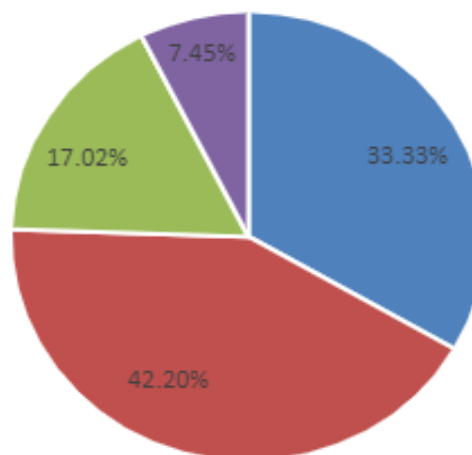
Are they allowed to play out on their own or with friends, without adult supervision?



■ Yes, often ■ Yes, sometimes ■ Yes, but rarely ■ Not at all

Following up from this, the survey then questioned how often the children go out to play, as seen below.

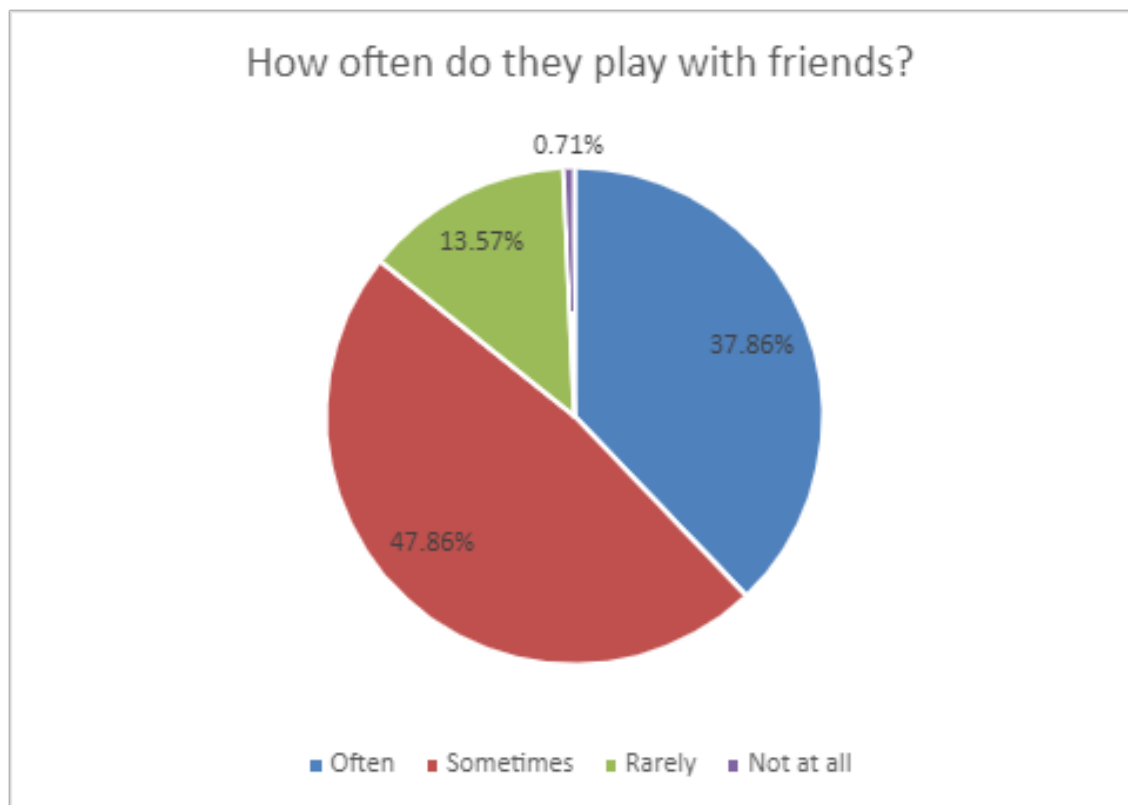
How often do they go out to play each week?



■ Most days ■ A few days ■ Hardly ever ■ They do not go out to play

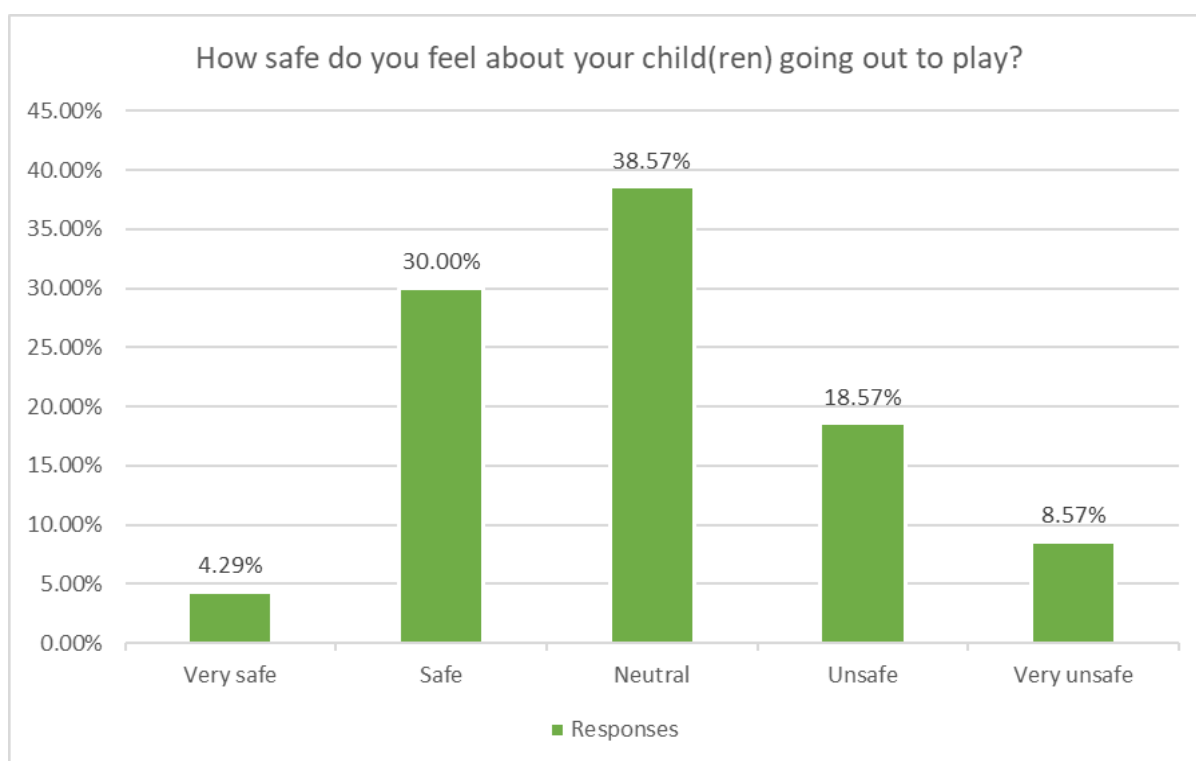
Interestingly, as 50.70% claimed children are not allowed out without adult supervision on the previous chart, 42.20% stated here their children are allowed out 'a few days' in a week, indicating that a large proportion of this play is adult supervised. This statistic is then followed by 33.33% respondents saying their children are allowed out 'most days'. Only 7.45% stated their children do not go out and play.

As seen below almost half of parents allow their children to play with friends.



Feelings on safety of children in Pembrokeshire.

The below graph shows respondents stats when asked 'how safe do you feel about your child (ren) going out to play?' the majority of the parents responded with the neutral option, as seen below with 38.57%. Secondly, 30.00% responded with the 'safe' option. In addition, 18.57% said they feel 'unsafe' and 8.57% said 'very unsafe'.



If 'very unsafe' was chosen, the participants were prompted to give an answer as to why they selected this option. Six of the respondents mentioned their children are too young, once specifically stating:

"They are young (not long turned 4 and 6). 6-year-old has ADHD and no real awareness of danger. It is too dark to play currently. There is also Covid sweeping throughout the area currently. They attend clubs in the evenings - acrobatics, ballet, football, rugby, kung fu, Beavers. At weekends, they play with their cousins on the farm or at the beach, etc. They also attend afterschool, holiday club in Narberth, and play there. This can include trips to castles, beaches, etc."

Another six responses consisted of comments made about 'busy roads' or 'traffic'. Expanding on this, two participants mentioned lack of safe pavements.

The effects of COVID-19 on play sufficiency.

The table below shows parents' feelings on their child's safety when asked 'Has COVID-19 affected how safe you feel about your children going out to play'. A large majority said no, leaving around a fifth who answered yes.

Answer.	%.	Respondents.
Yes	10.87%	30
No	79.71%	220

The respondents who replied with yes were asked to expand on this with a comment on why. Some parents responded with comments about not being able to mix or socialise during the lockdown:

"[The children] have missed out socially so haven't socially matured as soon as they would have, as [they] have been kept home more."

Another five parents referred to their child being vulnerable to catching COVID-19, with statements such as:

"We can control our household contacts but not others."

"Concerned about them catching covid".

Expanding on this, the next question was 'How has COVID-19, lockdown and restrictions affected your child (ren)'s play?' 14 of the 185 responses on this question mentioned that they did not feel like their child was affected. Quoting one individual:

"No change if anything they had more time to play in the garden. There is nowhere in our village for them to play safely."

13 parents referred to sports, exercise physical activity being suspended. Two individuals stated:

"During lockdown we had no sport groups, or training which affected his mental health."

"Lockdown was hard for the children - their sports stopped, along with regular physical exercise and social interaction with their peers ... one of my children went from doing sports 5 times a week to nothing. Luckily my daughter has got a pony so this helped with her mental well-being as well as her physical wellbeing."

A huge portion of responses were also highlighting a lack of socialising with other kids, Other comments include:

- More time spent online
- Playgrounds being restricted

Information on children's play

The survey included a multiple choice question asking 'What type of places do you allow your child (ren) to play or hang out?' Parents could choose as many options as applicable.

Statements.	% Total.
At home or a friend's house	87.07%
In the garden or a friend's garden	92.02%
In the streets near my house	22.05%
On a local grassy area	44.11%
In a place with bushes, trees and flowers	33.08%
In a play area with swings, slides and other equipment to play on	78.71%
In the woods near my house	27.00%
On a football field near my house	31.18%
Somewhere with water or sand in it	37.64%
On a bike or a skate park	27.00%
In the community or leisure centre	28.52%
In a youth club	5.70%
In an after school club	25.76%

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At an adventure playground or play	27.76%
In an indoor play centre	34.60%
Somewhere else (please tell us where)	10.65%

Results were in line with the children's survey, with at home/garden or a friend's home/garden being the most popular. Over three quarters of parents also selected 'in a play area with swings, slides and other play equipment', however several parents also commented that play areas need refurbishing or are unsafe.

If somewhere was not listed, the parents were given a chance to describe areas of play. A few examples include:

- Farms
- Sports clubs like karate and rugby
- Beaches

Participants were asked what their children's favourite activities are; football was a common answer with 59 participants responding with this. Other sports such as rugby, swimming and scooting were also popular. Six parents described that their child does imaginative or pretend play. Another popular answer was skating, with 19 parents suggesting activities such as 'Skateboarding, roller skating' and 'the skate park (however it is closed at the moment as was judged unsafe)'. 13 respondents also said their children enjoy 'soft play areas'.

In contrast, parents were asked to write what they thought were the least popular activities among their children. 18 respondents mentioned that sports are not popular among their children, nine of these specifically mentioning football. Seven participants said the park is not very popular and another four mentioned Skate parks, one specially stating; "My children feel uncomfortable at skate parks". Five answers referred to their children not enjoying indoor/soft play areas. A few more answers include:

- Walking
- Soft play
- Exercise

A simple yes or no question was asked to find out 'Does your child (ren) have difficulty in participating in certain activities? (e.g. because of a disability)'. If yes was answered the respondent was prompted to elaborate.

Answer.	Total %.	Responses.
Yes	14.00%	35
No	86.00%	215

It is clear from the above table that the majority do not have any difficulty; however, the 35 respondents who ticked 'yes' gave notable reasons. Two main themes identified are ALN and mental health issues, with nine of the respondents mentioning that their child has autism, two mentioning ADHD and other comments such as:

“Anxiety”.

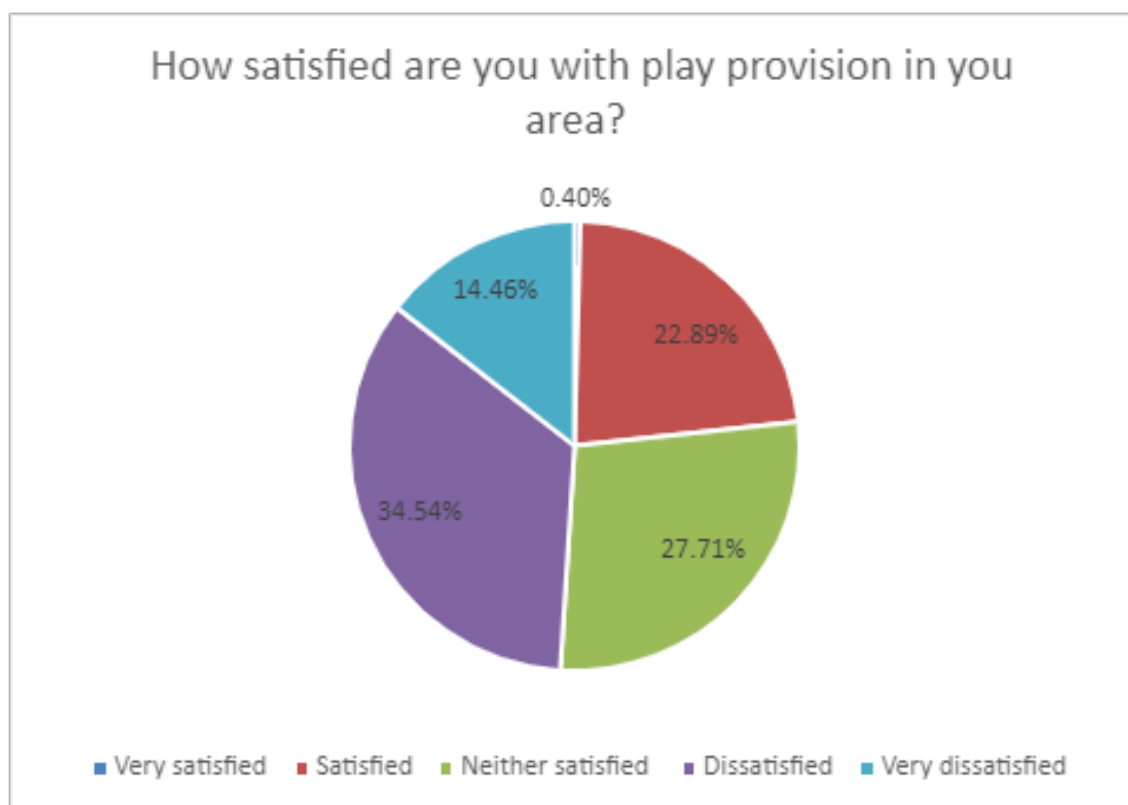
“1 of my children has ASD and sensory processing difficulties”

“Social interaction difficulties”

“They find it hard to make friends, find it hard with crowds”

Parents Views on Play provision.

The chart below displays results from a question on parents’ satisfaction with play provision.



Above shows that a third of participants were dissatisfied with the provision in their area, with 34.54% selecting this option. 27.71% stated they were neutral about the provision in their area, with the majority satisfied or very satisfied.

Next, the parents were given the chance to say what provision they would like to see provided in their area. 14 parents would like to see 3/4G pitches for football and/or rugby. Eight parents mentioned such comments about playgrounds:

“A fully equipped playground as seen in nearby villages. Big wooden structures like the one in Templeton, or Narberth.”

“Would like to see the playground updated. The skate park is currently closed due to ramps not being safe. Also, some nets would be good on the basketball hoops in the MUGA [Multi Use Games Area].”

“Better playground or parks, nature trails, guided woodland walks.”

Parents were asked if there is anything, the LA could do to improve play opportunities. The below table shows parents responses.

Answer Choices	Total %
No	20.93%
Yes	52.23%

The 52.23% who said yes expanded on their answer and gave reasons such as:

“Help fund new Astro in Narberth or Skate Park.”

“Fixing the skate park or alternatively getting rid of the skate park as at the moment it’s not safe for younger children.”

“Improve the parks. Free parking for locals at the beaches.”

11 of the responses involved either fixing or adding new skate parks, eight respondents referred to a new Astro turf football pitch. 27 parents also believe the local parks need updating. Comments on how schools could be improved involved statements such as:

“More play opportunities should be provided at school particularly during winter when I find children return from school full of energy and needing exercise and its dark early so difficult to take them out. This is worse on wet days when children have not been outside during breaks”.

“Improved sporting facilities and teaching in some primary schools. Not enough focus on exercise in my son’s school.”

“More after school clubs.”

Stakeholders

A number of relevant stakeholders from the Council, schools and other organisations were invited to complete the play survey.

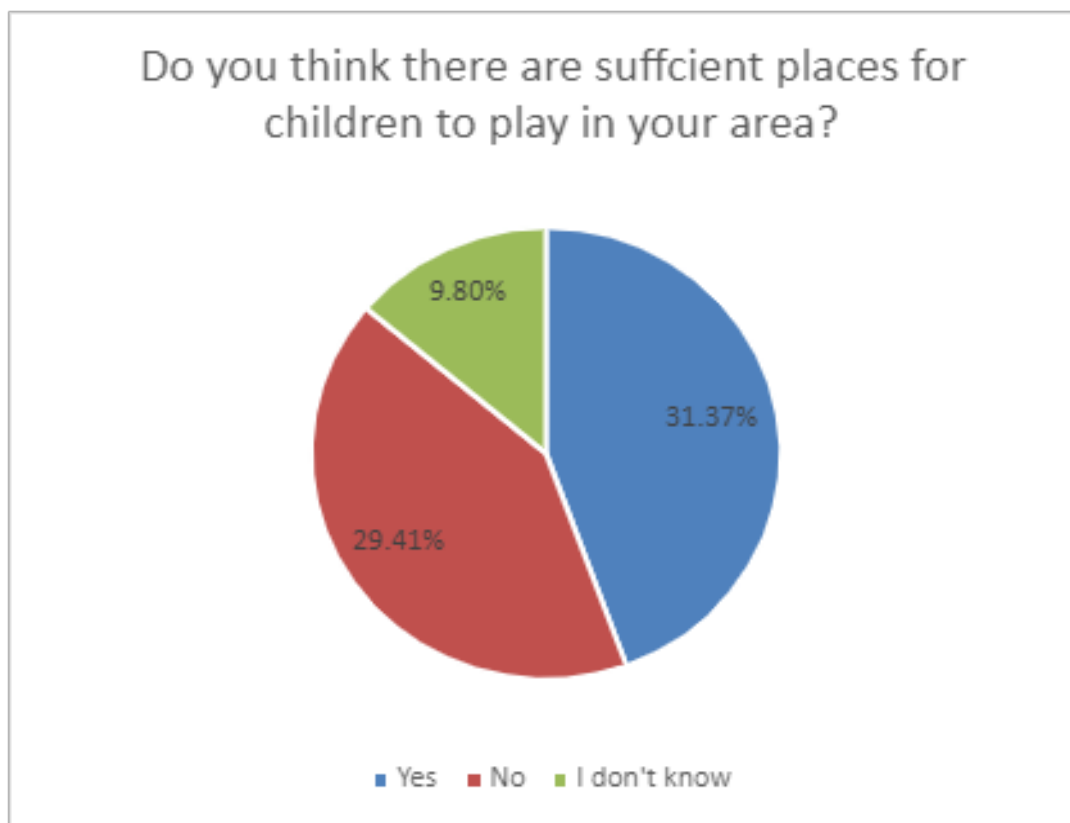
Information on stakeholders.

The below table contains information on what job role or position the stakeholders have within the community. Overall, 53 key stakeholders participated in the survey. Only one skipped the below question.

Job Role	% Total	Responses
Local Resident	21.15%	11
Secondary Headteacher	1.92%	1
Primary Headteacher	15.38%	8
Other employee at an educational setting (e.g., school, nursery, college)	28.85%	15
Local government employee	15.38%	8
Member or Trustee of a play-related charity or organisation	7.69%	4
Other	9.62%	5

Opinions on play sufficiency in Pembrokeshire

The below chart shows the responding stakeholder's views on how sufficient the places for children to play are.



Popularity of activities/play

Next, the participants were asked what sorts of activities they believe are the most popular among the children and were prompted to write their own answers. Out of the 41 respondents, six of the stakeholders mentioned sporting activities, with all of them mention football. Others gave more than one example and listed sports such as climbing and rugby. An individual specifically stated:

"It depends - some like their play to be sport based e.g. football, netball basketball. Others prefer no equipment type play e.g. tag, what's the time Mr. Wolf etc. Others imaginary play e.g. war, riding imaginary horses etc."

Including the above comment, five respondents mentioned imaginative or creative play to be popular among the children. Another five participants made comments about skate parks and/or skating to be popular. An individual specifically stated:

"Apart from swings and slides, which will always be popular, I find children are looking for more challenging and adventurous equipment. Climbing rope ladders, balancing on rope bridges, wooden themed e.g. pirate experiences, increasing their physical, mental and social skills."

Other comments include:

- Zip wires, musical areas in parks, role play centres
- Big equipment such as trim trail, climbing frame

In contrast, the stakeholders were then asked what they consider the least popular activities to be. With only 25 participants, giving answers in this section a common theme was playground equipment with three participants stating:

“Traditional playground equipment (slides, swings).”

“As I reiterated earlier, swings, slides and roundabouts will always be 'standalone' pieces of equipment especially for younger children, both as they get older, 7 plus, more challenging and imaginative experiences are needed.”

“Non-robust equipment aimed at narrow age group - e.g. pastel coloured small climbing frames / play houses. Looks tired and faded / boring / vulnerable to fatigue / failure and vandalism as well as being high carbon options in a climate emergency as declared by PCC and Welsh Government.”

“Reading, board games traditional games that are going out of fashion.”

“There doesn't seem to be much interest in the games we have marked on our school playground; hopscotch, snakes & ladders.”

“Some sports related activities - throwing and catching (tennis, cricket...).”

The effects of COVID 19 on play sufficiency.

Stakeholders were asked whether they felt COVID-19 had affected children's play. The answers were fairly divided, with more stakeholders answering that no, it had not.

Answer Choice	Answer %.
Yes	25.00%
No	54.17%

Stakeholders who answered where prompted to give a reason as to why. They supplied us with the following statements:

“Of course playgrounds are not cleaned after use”

“Anxiety is an issue with some children”

“I think children feel safe but some parents may not want their children going out to play”

Barriers of play and play provision.

In this, section the stakeholders where asked if they think children face difficulties when trying to participate in certain activities and if so to give on comment on why.

Answer Choice.	Answer %.
Yes	55.00%
No	45.00%

When giving suggestions, five respondents made note about disabilities being a barrier to certain activities. Comments about this said the following:

“Disabilities of all kinds can and do affect the way these children can participate, so all new parks should be planned, to include children, especially children with physical disabilities, to have wheelchair accessible equipment.”

“Having worked with a young wheelchair user and trying to find and access activities that were suitable and accessible it was very difficult. Many pavements are too narrow, we could only go to places on a bus route where the ground was paved, even going for a walk was limited.”

“If children have disabilities, then it is going to make participation in certain games more difficult: I would hope their friends would modify their play so all that wished to take part were able to.”

A few comments were also made on pavements making it hard to walk around the local area, with four participants stating this. Two comments were also made regarding transport.

Next, the participants were asked ‘What additional play provisions would you like to see provided? Please specify:’

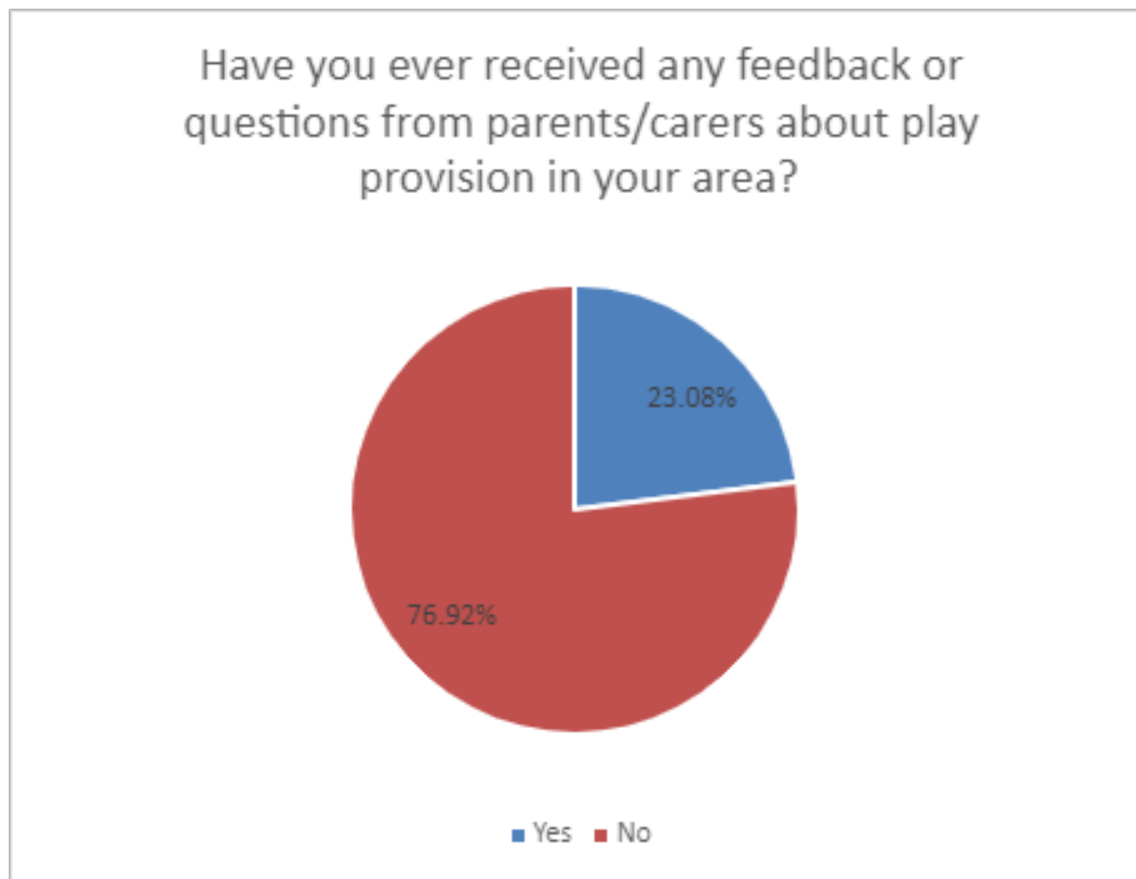
The 31 respondents to the question gave the following suggestions. 11 respondents mentioned playgrounds, with 4 of these suggesting improving existing ones and the other 7 suggesting new play areas to be built. With one individual specifically saying:

“In my area, a multi-use play area (MUGA) would be hugely beneficial.”

4 respondents made comments on how outdoor areas like parks and trail walks can be improved, 2 respondents mentioned ‘skate parks’ and three made references to more ‘indoor’ or ‘covered’ play areas.

Areas of improvement.

Interestingly, when asked if feedback or questions about play provision are received a majority said ‘No’.



Eight participants gave some examples of feedback they received. A common trend was play areas and play equipment to be added or refurbished.

"I put in a request for a grant for a MUGA."

"We send our half yearly questionnaires to all parents so we can keep on top of any changes that they would like to make."

"For the park to be toddler friendly, wheelchair accessible and friendly also."

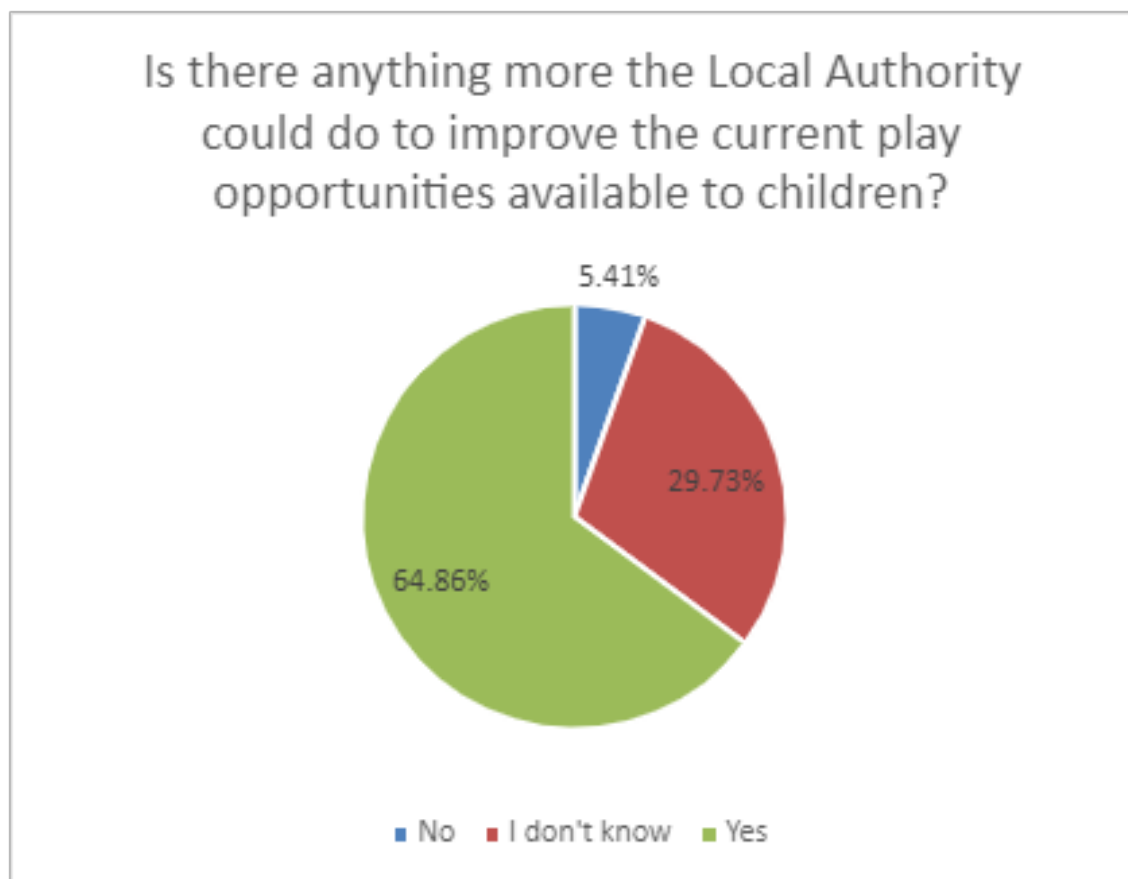
"New play equipment, safety."

"More/better strategically thought-through provision."

"What there is for children with ALN, when will their local play areas be reinvigorated, dog muck worries, lack of seating for parents and carers, lack of toilets in parks."

"We've received feedback, particularly from the children, on items that we have installed here at school."

"They appreciate the play areas within the village. They also appreciate the school grounds being accessible out of school hours."



Stakeholders were asked if the LA could improve current play opportunities. As shown below the majority 64.86% responded with yes, however 24 respondents expanded on this. A small minority 5.41% believe no improvements should be made, While the final 29.73%% were not sure what could be done.

The two statements are as follows:

“As a Palliative Care Play Specialist, I am passionate about the play and the value it brings. Children need to build confidence after COVID and increased community play events would help with this”

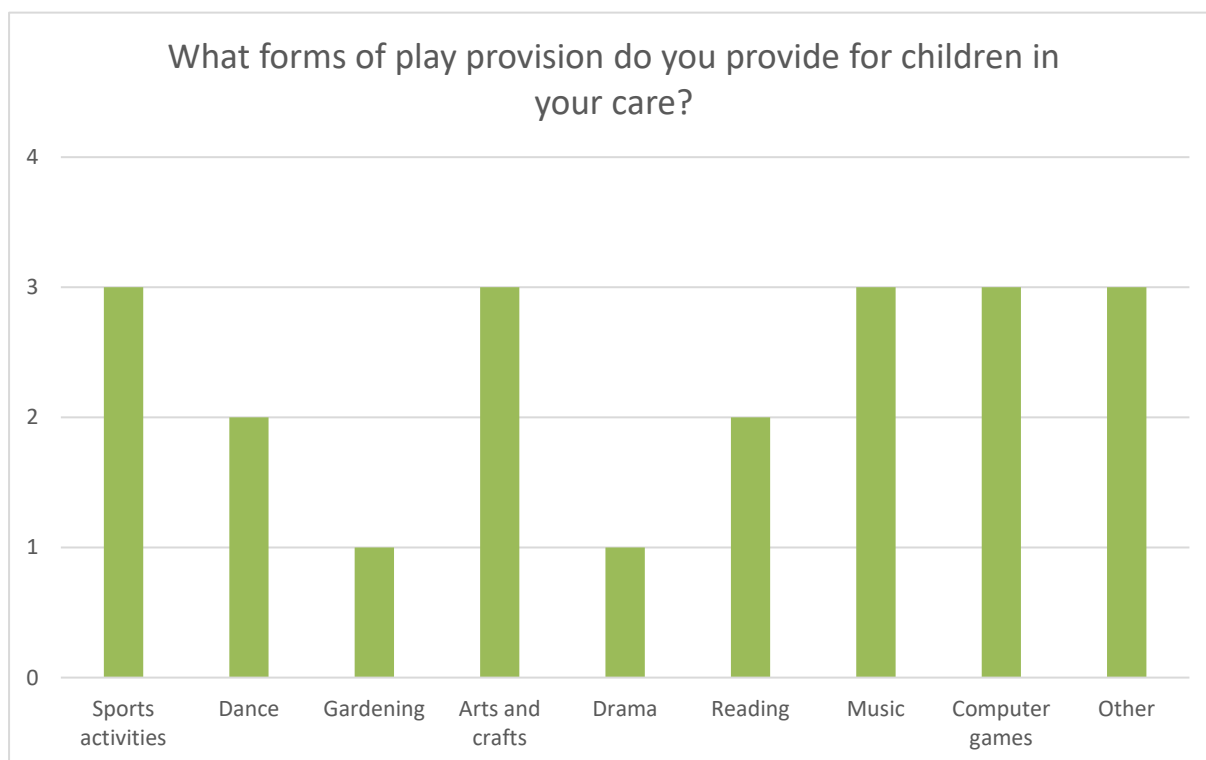
“Community Councils like to spend extortionate amounts of money on play equipment that isn't always what children want. A few town play sites are suffering from anti-social behaviour that needs to be clamped down on. Haverfordwest skate park is an excellent resource, though could do with one south of the county.”

Playworker Consultation

During spring 2022, 21 play workers from settings across Pembrokeshire were invited to complete a Computer Assisted Telephone Interview to share their views on how the play needs of children and young people are being met in Pembrokeshire. The Council received a response from 4 of the play workers (19%). The provider types responding to the survey are shown in the table below, with some play providers spanning multiple types.

Provision Type	Percentage	Number
Childcare	40.0%	2
Youth clubs	0.0%	0
Sports clubs	0.0%	0
Open access play	0.0%	0
Out of school clubs	60.0%	3
Other	0.0%	0

Providers were also asked what types of play they currently provide.



As well as the above, providers recording delivering yoga, outdoor activities, cooking and board games. The number of children accessing the play providers interviewed ranged from 15 to 134, between the ages of 0-11. Children aged 3 and aged 10-11 were most frequently accessing the provisions interviewed.

All providers said that children had access to outdoor play provision (e.g. field, sports pitch) at their setting.

Feedback on activities

The most popular activities for children and young people, according to the play providers interviewed, are:

- Board games, being inside playing with each other e.g. with dolls, colouring etc.
- Outdoor and physical activities e.g. football, basketball
- Arts and crafts
- Using technology e.g. Xbox, iPad, TV

- Drama

75% of providers interviewed noted that they either are intending to bring in new provision or activities, short-term or long term, including:

- Equipment for outdoor activities, such as a mud kitchen and other outdoor equipment
- Loose parts play¹ – the provider will also be extending this more following training
- Sensory play

One provider stated that they give children questionnaires to find out what they would like to play, but whether this is possible is dependent on funding.

75% of the providers surveyed felt that some children had difficulties engaging in some activities. Reasons given for this were:

- Fine when children have 1-1 support but struggle without this, some only have 10 hours of support but need more
- Some children may not have ALN or a disability, but need more support than others, have had funding for 1:1 support in the past
- Difficulties with social skills

Play providers were asked if they had received any questions or comments from parents about the quality or accessibility of provision. Play providers reported overall positive feedback from parents:

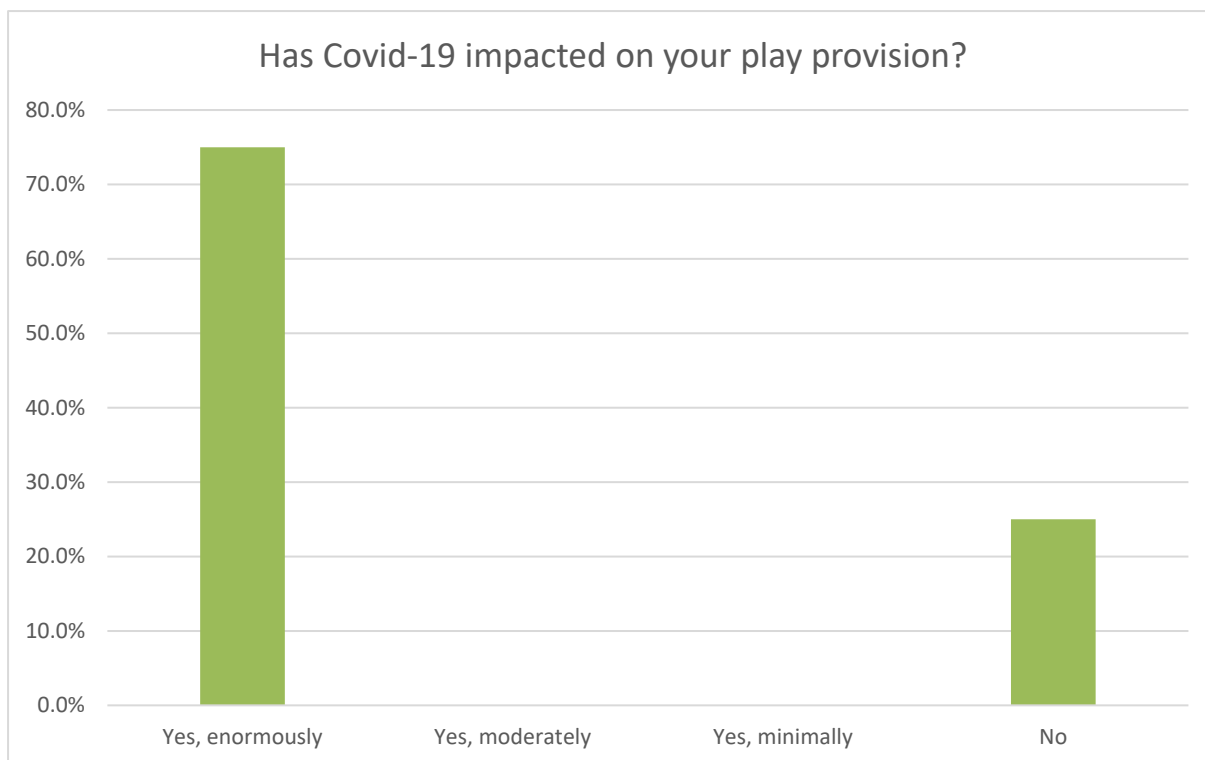
“Mostly positive, children are happy in our care.”

“Positive, some recommendations on waiting lists - pandemic related.”

Impact of Covid-19 on play provision

Play providers were also asked if their provision had been impacted by Covid-19 over the past 2 years. 75% reported that it had in some way.

¹ <https://www.playwales.org.uk/eng/publications/loosepartstoolkit>



Play providers noted that the bubbles system meant that during the pandemic, they had children coming to them from a wider range of schools. Some providers were unable to open their clubs over covid with changing school times and had lots of uncertainty during the period. One setting stated that their numbers were only just high enough to cover the cost of opening.

Another play provider also said that the pandemic affected their finances significantly, as well as children's development and staffing. The provider noted they were seeing a rise in the number of children with ALN since the pandemic and had to go back to basics of building routines and rules and developing social skills for many.

Higher turnover of staff was another issue raised by play providers, with older members of staff leaving during the pandemic and problems.

Feedback on support provided by the Council

Play providers were asked if there is anything, more the Council could do to improve the play opportunities for children and young people in Pembrokeshire. All play workers responded yes, and the following statements and suggestions were made:

“Staffing help, funding.”

“Think they do a good job but should continue reaching out a bit more to disadvantaged parents, more funded places, help with transport, need support and encouragement to get them to places.”

Play workers were then asked for any further comments regarding play.

“Some parenting lessons for new parents would be really useful, if it’s possible for the LA to provide this.” [NB: Parenting courses are currently offered via Team around the Family within Pembrokeshire]

“Think Pembrokeshire do a good job, more is always better, but think they do a good job encouraging children to play. Great how we’re supported with funding, would be great if this could continue.”

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 2022 Play Sufficiency Assessments and subsequent plans.

Please use this section to highlight what has changed since the 2019 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 2019 play sufficiency assessment:

Over the last two years we have been fortunate to receive Welsh Government funding for play; the Summer of Fun 2021, the Winter of Wellbeing 2022, Capital Play and also the Play Works Holiday Assistance Scheme. This has allowed Pembrokeshire County Council to provide a wide range of activities, which have supported children and young people with their mental health and wellbeing, whilst promoting social interaction and play.

The coronavirus pandemic and its restrictions have had an impact on children’s rights to play and we are aware that vulnerable children have been more heavily impacted. We utilised the Welsh Government funding to support our most vulnerable children and young people in the county, offering activities and opportunities, which would not in usual circumstances be affordable for our families.

Playing and staffed play work provision positively impacts on children and families and our opportunities have allowed families to benefit from early preventative systems.

Play is a vital element in children’s development and something that can provide a strong protective factor in children’s lives. Playing helps children to develop their inner resources and build resilience to difficulties and uncertainties in their home and other parts of their lives.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and local Well-being Plans

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 Well-being Plan and Public Service Board.

The Pembrokeshire Public Services Board undertook an updated Local Wellbeing Needs Assessment in 2021, which will be available on the Council's website from May 2022. At the time the Local Wellbeing Needs Assessment was undertaken, children and families were still facing disruptions to access to routine services and schooling as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to this, the impact over the long term on children's health and well-being is unknown at this time. It is also important to acknowledge that some indicators and research show disruptions, due to Covid-19 especially, which makes planning at a time of uncertainty particularly challenging.

From the research undertaken, there are a number of key findings, which may affect the childcare sector in the short- and long-term. These include:

- Pembrokeshire has an ageing population, which may impact the demand for play provision
- Welsh language use is increasing in the county; this should be reflected in the availability of Welsh language play provision
- Public transport in rural areas could be a barrier to accessing play
- Child poverty rates in Pembrokeshire are higher than other areas of Wales
- People who regularly attend arts and culture events report higher levels of wellbeing
- Pembrokeshire has the highest number of blue flag beaches and green coast awards in Wales.
- The presence of the National Park has a positive impact on the well-being of young people in the county, with many citing it as the best thing about Pembrokeshire.

The Pembrokeshire Public Services Board will monitor and review their analyses to ensure they reflect current and future trends as and when new or more reliable information becomes available. The findings from the Local Wellbeing Needs Assessment will inform the next Local Wellbeing Plan, to be completed by May 2023.

The Cabinet for the Local Authority monitors the progress of the delivery of the action plan through an annual report.

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 is the Director of Education, Steven Richard-Downes. The Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning is Mr Guy Woodham.

The PSA involved consultation with representatives from; Pembrokeshire Coast and National Parks Authority (PCNPA), Action for Children, Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordinator, Early Years, Flying Start, Families First, Public Health Wales/Healthy Schools & Pre-schools, Pembrokeshire Housing, Public Health, Town and Community Councils, NHS, Healthy and Safety, Parents, children and young people.

The Assessment and Action Plan will be shared with Cabinet in June 2022 and any requested amendments will be dealt with in the Play Partnership Team.

Insights from the Coronavirus

This section should discuss the impact the Coronavirus has had on the local authority's ability to progress Play Sufficiency Actions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtedly had an impact on the lives of CYP across Pembrokeshire and the effects of this will continue to be felt in the months and years to come. The focus in implementing the actions from the 2022 Action will be to interweave COVID-19 recovery into every play-related action taken for the benefit of CYP's mental and physical wellbeing and to continue to work towards the Council's priorities.

Unfortunately, some of the proposed actions from the previous PSA were negatively affected due to delays or disruption due to COVID-19, and this can be seen in the Matters table in the subsequent section. Since restrictions have started to ease, the local authority has again been able to host play events such as the Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing, the positive feedback from these events show the importance of such activities in support of COVID-19 recovery and providing children with rich opportunities for play again, especially in supporting children to overcome feelings of being unsafe or socially anxious due to the pandemic, which was reported by children during consultation.

In terms of training and workforce development, this has also seen delays due to COVID-19 and the inability to run face-to-face training for a number of months. Staff shortages were also a key issue during the pandemic. Some settings noted having to stop their indoor play provision during the pandemic and having to operate with reduced numbers of staff or volunteers. Higher turnover of staff was another issue raised by play providers, with older members of staff leaving during the pandemic and other problems with retention.

Some play providers noted that the pandemic affected their finances significantly, as well as children's development and staffing. Another point that was raised was around seeing a rise in the number of children with ALN since the pandemic, and having to go back to basics of building routines and rules and developing social skills for many.

Criteria

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. *(In the “RAG status column”, Double click on the word STATUS – this will bring up drop-down form fields options, use the arrow down key until the status required RED, AMBER or GREEN- is at the top then press ok)*

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

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

The 2022 column enables the local authority to indicate the direction of travel with the insertion of arrows.

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 Comments section: asks some specific questions for each matter that should enable you to 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. It also provides the opportunity to identify challenges and how they might be overcome.

Matter A: Population

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should provide an overview of population and demographic data used locally to plan for play provision. Information should also be included regarding:

- Ages of children
- First language Welsh speaking children
- Cultural factors (such as other language)
- Gypsy Traveller children
- Disabled children

What has changed in terms of population and demographic trends since Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019?

Ages of children:

- Children aged 0-4: 5,719
- Children aged 5-15: 15,644
- Children aged 16-24: 11,265

The age group with the highest number of children is children aged 12, with 1,543 12-year-olds resident in Pembrokeshire as of 2020 mid-year population estimates.

Falling population trends: The live birth rate has remained flat in Pembrokeshire from 1,040 in 2018 to 1,052 in 2019, and 1,025 in 2020. In addition, the number of children aged 0-18 is expected to decline between 2023-2026 from 25,263 to 24,832. These indicators could suggest that demand for play provision may decline slightly in Pembrokeshire in the coming years.

Uneven population distribution: Some Upper Layer Super Output Areas (USOAs), composed of Pembrokeshire's 60 wards, are larger than others in terms of the child population; i.e. Pembrokeshire U002 is larger than Pembrokeshire U001

Economic disparity between areas: some areas have a far higher level of unemployment and children in all out-of-work claimant households than others do. For example, in 2017 Pembrokeshire U002 recorded as many as 1,780 0-18 year olds in its region who were living in all out-of-work claimant households, whereas Pembrokeshire U001 recorded only 660

Migration trends: both the inflow and outflow level of international migration has remained steady in Pembrokeshire between 2013-2020, whilst the same is evident in the inflow level of internal migration during the same period. The only migration trend that has decreased is the outflow of internal migration, which has fallen from 3,629 to 2,859 between 2013-2020. Overall, these trends could suggest that demand for play provision for CYP may increase in the short-term as a result of migration

Number of Additional Learning Needs (ALN) pupils: Pembrokeshire was found to have a higher number of pupils with a statement of Special Educational Needs, than the neighboring county of Ceredigion, but lower than Carmarthenshire. Overall, 2.24% of Pembrokeshire pupils have statement of ALN.

Welsh language: Approximately 32% of people aged 3 years and over in Pembrokeshire describe themselves as being able to speak Welsh. The majority of children are taught Welsh as a second language.

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

The local authority will use the data above, as well as the updated 2021 Census data when available, to ensure that there are processes in place so that the play needs of all demographics are being met sufficiently. As Pembrokeshire has several isolated, rural communities, the local authority will need to ensure it is reaching all areas.

Have there been challenges?

Up-to-date population data is not always available and therefore the local authority cannot always plan as effectively as possible. Due to the pandemic, much of the data used has not been updated since 2019 or 2020. Data sources including (but not limited to) the census and subsequent mid-year population estimates, PLASC database, Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, Open Space Assessments and information on services held by FIS could be combined to create community profiles, which could then help to guide interventions in support of children's play. However, this is not currently the case. Furthermore, none of these existing datasets provides an indication of the sufficiency of children's opportunities for play beyond the accessibility of designated public open spaces and the availability of childcare services.

How can these be overcome?

Data produced from the CYP and parent surveys could be added to other existing demographic, public open space and service provision data to create community profiles that provide an indication of the sufficiency of children's opportunities for play, which would require full ward coverage in completion of the surveys. Postcode data was collected during consultation and can be used by the play team to identify areas where engagement in the satisfaction survey is lowest, and these areas targeted.

Action: Use 2021 Census data once available to identify areas where play opportunities need to be increased or improved.

Action: Conduct a follow up CYP survey in 2025, which ensures coverage of schools and children across the full county, to establish any change in reported levels of sufficiency and to identify areas for further research. To ensure high response rates, schools should be further incentivised to participate.

Action: Review the findings of the PSA, including ward-level data, alongside other existing demographic, public open space and service provision data to create community profiles that provide an indication of the sufficiency of children's opportunities for play.

RAG Status for Matter A

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

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			Findings from consultation show that children in rural areas reported being largely happy with play in Pembrokeshire. A large proportion of the parks in rural areas are community parks and they have started to access the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant to upgrade equipment in their parks.	Data from the 2021 Census, once available, will support the LA to prioritise future play opportunities.	Play Strategy Group will use the 2021 Census data when released to plan future play opportunities.
	The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for			Welsh language play provision was provided via the Urdd during the Winter of Wellbeing 2022. Volunteers who support our play provisions speak Welsh offering a bi-lingual provision.	Funding to continue with these initiatives and programmes.	SOPo to seek alternative funding if WG play grants cease.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for			<p>Funding has been granted for schools to provide culturally inclusive toys. The EAL service also provides culturally appropriate stories, books, dual language signs and items in the role-play area. A meeting has been arranged with EAL service to support implementation.</p> <p>X3 ALN specific youth clubs are in place to support children/YP aged 5-18 across the county. Including an ALN holiday play scheme.</p>	Funding to provide culturally inclusive toys.	SOPO to seek alternative funding if WG play grants cease.
	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			We operate X3 specialist ALN youth clubs and a specialist ALN Holiday Play Scheme for YP aged 5-18 within the county to provide play opportunity specifically for children and young people with ALN and/or disabilities.		
	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion			Referral system to support inclusion – access to play during holidays. All play provided is open access with 1-1 opportunities also available. Play_Inc Plus funding available to assist ASC/holiday		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>schemes who need specific help for children with ALN.</p> <p>Childcare development officers also available to support – provide policies and procedures to support inclusion</p>		
	There is a well-known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children			<p>Tots 2 Teens, Play_Inc and Play_Inc Plus play provisions are on offer for Children/YP with ALN.</p> <p>Tots 2 Teens has been in place since 2005 and is well established, well-advertised across Pembrokeshire. Working professionals are aware of the provision and know how to refer families.</p>		
	Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			Access audits are undertaken by the LA on a regular basis.		
	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites			Consultation is due to be arranged with Monkton Priory.	Relationships need building within this community.	
	The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for			A young carer has now been appointed to the young people's forum to feed into discussions on behalf of young carers.	Further consultation could take place as the pandemic impacted the way in	

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				A Young Carers ID card has been developed in partnership with Action for Children and launched providing discount to leisure activities run by the council, including free car parking to one of the largest play parks in the county.	which we consulted with our YP.	SOPO to organise consultation to take place SOPO to build trust within this community.
	The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for			A dedicated website has been set up for LGB children, with the site going live earlier this year.	Partnership working needs to be improved with the youth department on supporting LGB further.	Ascertain the play needs of LGBT+ youth and GT children through further consultation to ensure these are being met. SOPO to develop working relationship with youth to support LBG to ensure their needs are understood and catered for.

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 and accessible opportunities for playing?

Children from a variety of cultural backgrounds and with ALN were consulted as part of the PSA. Data from surveys showed that a significant number of both parents and providers felt that some children were not accessing play because of an Additional Learning Need or disability. Any barriers that include disability, cultural values, language ethnicity and sexuality will be prioritised.

Since the last PSA, a website has been established as a place for LGBT+ youth to access to find out about play opportunities and meet with other similar young people.

Have there been challenges?

There have been challenges in capacity to consult with children in certain groups; the coronavirus pandemic has influenced this.

Funding is an ongoing issue in ensuring that inclusive play equipment is provided, there is no specific budget for Play.

There is a perceived lack of suitable fixed play equipment for children with ALN.

During the time of the PSA consultation there were a large number of surveys circulating for various different studies and purposes, this left people feeling confused about which surveys were important to complete.

How can these be overcome?

Further consultation will take place with Gypsy Traveller children and consultation should take place with LGBT+ youth to ascertain their play needs. Funding is being directed towards making some parks more inclusive, such as Pembroke Dock Memorial Park and Scolton Manor to meet the need for specialist equipment.

The local authority is also working with the EAL service to ensure these children's needs are met. Welsh-language play provision should be promoted and encouraged.

Strategic & Operational Play Officer to develop working relationships with relevant departments and organisations to ensure the groups mentioned above are catered for and their thoughts and opinions are taken into consideration. More collaboration between relevant departments is proposed to ensure that all children and young people have access to opportunities within Pembrokeshire. Any barriers that include disability, cultural values, language, ethnicity and sexuality will be prioritised.

Comments:

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

Open Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			<p>The Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance was adopted by PCC and the National Park Authority in September 2016.</p> <p>Recreational and Amenity open space is included as a facility that the Authorities will seek contributions on.</p> <p>An OSA is carried out by the infrastructure department on an annual basis.</p>	Local Development Plan needs to be re-drafted and made more interactive, with a specific focus on play.	Local Development Plan to be redrafted.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA) has completed an Open Space Assessment as part of the Local Development Plan process</p> <p>https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/local-development-plan-review/ldp2-evidence-base</p>		
	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing			<p>The updated Open Space Assessment has been mapped to GIS and mapped for inclusion within the Local Development Plan review. A host of outdoor interactive play spaces are available within the county (see here: https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/map-data/play-area-map).</p> <p>The Planning Team is in the process of redrafting the Local Development Plan (LDP).</p> <p>We also collect data in the Annual Monitoring Report for the LDP. Information is collected on any additional open space provided through planning</p>		Review the State of Play report and the LDP when ready and align with the priorities of the PSA

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>applications each year. The AMRs are also published on the Council's website:</p> <p>https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/adopted-local-development-plan/implementation-and-monitoring</p>		
	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			<p>The Environmental Services department regularly conducts safety checks at all council owned play parks/spaces and also through Service Level Agreements at some of the Town and Community Council owned play parks, to ensure all equipment meets the health and safety requirements.</p> <p>Local Authority undertakes access audits to areas with fixed play equipment. Access to each of the open spaces has been surveyed.</p> <p>Funding was accessed in 2021/22 from the Welsh Government Capital Play grant to provide further training for our safety inspectors.</p>	If equipment does not adhere to the safety standards, there is no budget for play equipment and therefore if it has to be removed/condemned, it cannot be replaced.	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Unfortunately, for many years there has not been an equipment replacement budget, therefore we are just maintaining current equipment until it becomes uneconomical to repair – this is not a sustainable way to operate, this restricts further development of our play parks in Pembrokeshire.		Brownfield sites should also be assessed for their
	The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			Pembrokeshire have developed an Open Space Standards document. https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/objview.asp?object_id=7697&language=		
	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play value assessments in public open space			Pembrokeshire County Council undertakes daily, quarterly and annual inspections of fixed play areas. The annual inspection is carried out independently and uses Play Safe assessment criteria. Funding was accessed from the WG Capital Play grant to train more safety inspectors.		
	Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential			The Planning Department are not required to assess Brownfield sites in terms of assessing their	Most Brownfield sites are around the ports on the Milford Haven	

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play			<p>suitability for open space provision and they have no requirement to undertake this. The focus is on assessing new proposals (on either Brownfield or Greenfield land) and identifying whether or not they generate a requirement for on-site open space or (in some cases) for an off-site payment to support other open space in the vicinity.</p> <p>There are a significantly lower number of Brownfield sites in Pembrokeshire compared to other Local Authority areas.</p>	Waterway and are being used for industry or are ex MOD land such as airfields and are not suitable for either housing or play provision.	appropriateness for play provision

Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			Local Authority has three types of play areas in the County:	If equipment does not adhere to the safety standards there is no budget for play equipment and therefore if it has	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Those on land owned and managed by PCC Those on land owned by a third party and managed by PCC Those managed in partnership with community groups /town and community councils <p>Through independent annual inspections, quarterly inspections and daily visual inspections an up-to-date record is maintained of all play areas.</p> <p>The Local Authority compiled a 'State of Play' document in 2005 (reviewed 2011-2012) detailing all information on all play areas known to the Authority which ascertained a snapshot of each area at that time. A</p>	to be removed/condemned it cannot be replaced.	

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				review of the State of Play document is at this time being carried out and currently awaiting the independent annual inspection which will provide information on the condition of parks equipment.		Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county
	The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance			A state of play review has been carried out by the park inspectors; however, there is currently no budget for Play.	Unfortunately, for many years there has not been an equipment replacement budget, therefore we are just maintaining current equipment until it becomes uneconomical to repair – this is not a sustainable way to operate, this restricts further development of our play parks in Pembrokeshire.	
	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to			Pembrokeshire County Council undertakes daily, quarterly and annual	Funding is not available to ensure all play parks are DDA compliant once	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	improve access and safety			inspections of fixed play areas. The annual inspection is carried out independently and uses Play Safe assessment criteria as well as DDA.	equipment is not economical to repair or it is condemned, it has to be removed and not replaced due to lack funding.	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county
	The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard			A review of the State of Play document is at this time being carried out and currently awaiting the independent annual inspection, which will provide information on the condition of parks equipment. (inspected by officers) The Planning Team is in the process of redrafting the Local Development Plan.	No budget for play, therefore items which need replacing cannot be funded or replaced.	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county
	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			A review of the State of Play document is at this time being carried out and currently awaiting the independent annual inspection which will provide information on the	No budget for play, therefore items which need replacing cannot be funded or replaced.	

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>condition of parks equipment.</p> <p>The Planning Team is in the process of redrafting the Local Development Plan.</p>		
	<p>The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds</p> <p>The local authority complies with The Smoke-free Premises and Vehicles (Wales) Regulations 2020 that requires playgrounds in Wales to be smoke-free.</p>			<p>Signs have been erected at parks within Pembrokeshire and also all school sites and an audit has been completed by our safety officers.</p>		
	<p>The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community</p>			<p>A full audit has been carried out by Park Officers from the Council for removal of 'no ball game signs'; in addition PECS signs and symbols have been introduced in a number of play spaces across the local authority. See here: https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2020/10/new-</p>		

				playground-signs-help-students-communicate-and-play-freely-and-build-inclusive-community/ .		
	The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community	NEW		Community meetings have taken place around this.	Whilst work on this has begun, it has not yet been implemented. Further awareness raising within the community is needed.	Complete play priority sign audit. Raise further awareness of street play opportunities. Allocate funding to purchase signage
	The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made			To date this has not been necessary, as there have been no plans to dispose of any play areas. From time to time, some equipment may have to be removed for health and safety reasons. As previously mentioned any equipment removed would not be replaced, as there is no budget for play.		
	The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields.			To date this has not been necessary as there are no plans to dispose of any play areas within the authority.		
	The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when refurbishing or developing			WG funding has been awarded to several community owned play parks to carry out refurbishments.		

	new playgrounds			Town and community councils led their own consultation around the improvements, which have been made including accessible play spaces.		
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Open Spaces

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments / Green Infrastructure Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play?

Open Space Assessments and Play Sufficiency Assessments assist in providing baseline information about the level of open space provision within a local area. This information is then used to inform planning obligation requirements from developments to improve provision.

Have there been challenges?

The review of the Local Development Plan and audits have been delayed.

There is no budget for play, especially play equipment and therefore we are maintaining existing play parks only, not making improvements for play opportunities. Once the equipment becomes uneconomical to repair or it is condemned we do not have funds to replace it.

How can these be overcome?

Review the LDP once complete to ensure that play is prioritised. The local authority should ensure the Play Priority signs are erected within the communities.

The County Council is looking at Community Asset Transfer as a way of sustaining many community play parks, where a community (Town/Community Council or other constituted group) would take responsibility for maintaining a play park, perhaps through a long-term lease or full asset transfer.

Where this is not possible, fixed play equipment may be removed once it is 'end of life', but support would be made available to communities to develop open-access play should they wish."

The Local Authority need to ensure that there is a budget line assigned to play and this needs to be prioritised.

Comments:

Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

How has the local authority considered all issues of accessibility in play space development?

The local authority works with partners to ensure that outdoor play spaces are accessible.

Have there been challenges?

There has been a lack of funding and capacity to ensure accessibility of play parks. The Local Development Plan is currently being redrafted.

How can these be overcome?

WG funding has been allocated to develop a number of play parks in the county utilising the Capital Play grant 2021/22. Further funding needs to be secured to ensure all the play parks are kept to a high standard and are useable.

Comments

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

Playwork provision

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play work provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			Regular audits are carried out by the Child Care Development Officers, tri-annually, to gather the information required.		Childcare Development Officers & Family Information Officer to work in partnership with settings to gather information and store findings to address the changes in sufficiency.
	The Local Authority offers play work provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			A designated FIS officer provides weekly updates to the DEWIS website, ensuring all registered play provisions are logged. X3 Specialist ALN youth clubs as well as x17 designated youth club provisions promoting play.		
	The Local Authority ensures that partners offering play work			CDO supports with policies and procedures –		Childcare Development Officers will carry out

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	provision are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance			applications can also be made to improve provisions		improvement SACERS to raise rich play environments. Childcare Development Officers will carry out SACERS audits will all OOSC settings Childcare Officers to review process of NMS checklist and to identify if any gaps in provision.
	Staffed play work provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Childcare Development Officers have this in place within the Early Years Sector to ensure a consistent approach. All LA registered settings are visited termly.		
	Staffed play work provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			When procuring places from the PVI play sector. Only registered provision is used. Within the panel system of awarding spaces one CDO has representation for the registered provision.		
	Staffed play work provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Childcare Officers have developed and delivered National Minimum Standards Checklists that are a used as a toolkit to audit against the NMS and to be used as a quality improvement checklist.		
	Staffed play work provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme			Childcare Development Officers have this in place within the Early Years Sector		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				to ensure a consistent approach.		
	The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.			The LA has procurement regulations and a contracting system in place and works with private nurseries who provide play opportunities. These are carried out annually.		
	The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) playwork provision for children			Some of the play provision venues are free of charge i.e. within school premises. Although leisure centres and community halls charge rental costs due to funding cuts placed upon their departments. We have x3 play provisions run by the LA which have use of the facilities free of charge.	Funding is an issue to facilitate this.	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

Structured recreational activities for children

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans			Work in close partnership with Sport Pembrokeshire to provide this through	Heavily reliant on funding to	Continue to promote free initiatives to

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			various programmes of activities i.e. Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing initiatives.	provide all these activities though.	ensure families are taking advantage of sport and recreational activities available to them Raise awareness of the importance of keeping active not just to CYP but to parents too.
	The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			The Active Young People team in Sport Pembrokeshire works closely with schools to improve physical literacy, increase targeted participation, create leadership opportunities for older children and link schools to community clubs. Opportunities are provided for disability sport sessions, in collaboration with Leisure.		
	The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			Through our Scolton Manor facility and site-based resources we are able to provide access to play projects and events which support inclusion. Outdoor play is a key feature of this site and WG Capital funding has allowed us to include specialist disability friendly equipment within the park area.		Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				https://www.culture4pembrokeshire.co.uk/content.asp?nav=61		
	The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association			<p>Youth club provision is delivered across Pembrokeshire, ranging from 1-3 evenings a week dependent on the areas. CYP are consulted with on which leisure and recreational activities they want to do; activities often include sports, arts and crafts, outdoor water-based activities etc.</p> <p>The youth service also provides clubs, trips, school holiday activities and day trips for children with ALN, as well as partnering with leisure to provide opportunities on Saturday nights. The youth services works with schools and social services to promote these activities, as well as through social media.</p>	Many of the recent activities delivered by the youth service have been made possible because of the recent increase Welsh Government grants. As the youth service is not statutory, is has not previously been well-funded and needs this regular funding in order to continue providing	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
					these opportunities for CYP.	

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 Early Years team ensure that play provision meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards. As part of the CSA, CYP were asked about after school clubs and play activities that they enjoy and would like to do at their after school clubs. This was targeted at primary and secondary aged pupils and did not include play outside of school. The CSA also assessed the supply and demand of childcare, but play assessment was not largely incorporated into the CSA. Consultation with parents asked about the overall quality of childcare provision, but this was not directly related to play.

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

Although it is play providers' choice whether to complete quality assurance programmes, there are grant opportunities for childcare providers to apply to support this initiative. During the consultation carried out as part of the PSA, children, parents and play providers were consulted on the quality of play provision. Play providers reported positive feedback from parents on the quality of provision and children were largely happy with the places they were able to play.

Have there been challenges?

Majority of play settings currently pay for their premises. Sport and recreational activities are heavily reliant on grant funding.

How can these be overcome?

Disseminate messages as to the importance of leisure and cultural opportunities and chance to access free activities through key partners. Raise awareness of keeping active through continuing to promote activities to families. Continue to reach out to community groups to promote leisure and consider subsidising or funding premises for play work, particularly in disadvantaged areas

Comments:

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			This information is held as part of the CSA.		Use further information once available from the 2021 Census to plan the delivery of recreational activities for children in low-income families.
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation			This information is held as part of the CSA and for the purposes of confirming eligibility for Flying Start.		Establish mechanisms for record no cost/low cost provision and premises for play
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of			This information is held as part of the CSA and for the		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children living in rural areas			purposes of confirming eligibility for Flying Start.		<p>Look into how subsidised transport may be able to be provided to increase the range of play available to children, particularly those in rural areas.</p> <p>Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county</p> <p>Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county</p>
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.			<p>This information is recorded as part of the CSA and for the purposes of confirming eligibility for Flying Start provision.</p> <p>This information is also held by schools and social services.</p>		
	The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision			Currently there are no low cost premises being used due to increased costs for utilities.	Lack of funding	
	The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision			Currently there are no low cost premises being used due to increased costs for utilities.	Lack of funding	
	The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			<p>Audit and records of spend are kept on an annual basis. Impact reports are requested and a generic report is written.</p> <p>The SOPO also keeps records of the WG funding pertaining to play.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Sustainability Grant available to all registered play providers within the County and an annual award can be requested.		Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county
	The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			Transport is funded through Play Works Holiday Assistance Scheme to support children's access to play. The Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing initiatives supported with transport costs in the short term.	Funding is limited.	

Charge for play provision

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

The LA holds records of low-cost and no cost provision, as well as supporting families to access funded entitlements for Early Years settings and Flying Start provision. The LA also keep records of all play providers who have been issued grant and records of what funding is available to them, what has been awarded and what has been utilised.

Have there been challenges?

Funding for transport is limited and public transport can be an issue in some areas as we are an extremely rural county. No dedicated play team in place within Pembrokeshire, we rely heavily on volunteer support.

How can these be overcome?




The LA should consider how it can provide long-term funding for subsidised transport to settings, especially those in rural areas or for groups of children with protected characteristics.

Comments:

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.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			There are currently 52 x 20 MPH zones within Pembrokeshire, 36 of which are situated where a school is located.	Continue to apply for road safety grants	
	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			LA work within current council policies and statutory guidelines as set out by WG. Assessment take into consideration environmental factors. Working on safer routes in communities document which is carried out on a community by community basis. This takes into account safer routes, crossings and community access to facilities.		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Meetings take place with Police to monitor accident trends on the roads and public spaces.		
	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			There are currently 30 crossing patrol staff working prior to and at the end of the school day during term time. Road Safety interventions implemented include Small Steps, Kerbcraft and National Standards Cycle Training.		
	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			Pembrokeshire County Council consistently receives high allocation in Wales from WG to promote access in the community including some areas with access to open play areas through the Safe Routes in Communities (SRiC) bid in Pembroke Dock, Milford Haven and St Davids Delivery of WG Road Safety Grant schemes including new 20mph zones/limits at Llandissilio/Maenclochog/Tenby. SRiC schemes in St Davids		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Communities across Pembrokeshire have benefitted.</p> <p>Walking and cycling have been improved by school warning signs, dropped pedestrian crossing points and dropped kerbs, introduction of open and covered cycle stands in schools, shared use paths, introduction of speed cushion in leisure centre car parks, street lighting in schools.</p> <p>The Active Travel Act 2013 puts a duty on local authority to map walking and cycling routes and apply for funding to introduce routes in towns within the County.</p>		
	There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities			The Authority considers all requests for speed reduction/calming measures.	Claire Williams Traffic	

Play Sufficiency Assessment

	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards.			The bid has been submitted to WG and has been authorised; awaiting funding.		Apply to CCG strategic group for assistance with funding for a trainee PSO.
	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children			The bid for Kerb Craft was submitted and authorised. For pupils 5-7 year olds within the county.		
	The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes			The Local Authority is currently researching street play policies with a Trainee Play Sufficiency Officer to identify road closure opportunities – ongoing subject to funding.		
	The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm			Confirmation received from Highways that the Manual for Streets is used in line with guidance.		
	The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities.			Local Authority follows National Standards namely Welsh Government Active travel Design Guidelines		
	The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children			Kerb Craft data is utilised. Road Safety Grant is funding to put in measures where a		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

	get around independently in their communities			cluster of accidents has taken place.		
	The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure			"Let's Talk Transport " Community Transport Forum established to consider the transport needs of the community as a whole		
	The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives			Inclusive within Kerb Craft, sign post for hiring mobility bikes Blind children supported by EAL department. Access for the disabled is always considered in initiatives.		

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.

	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)			The Local Authority has a dedicated Play Pembrokeshire website detailing ideas for play and the Local Authority's understanding of play.		Ensure this is kept up to date with any new play initiatives and that parents are easily signposted to information on play and the importance of play, as well as the services available Consider how to promote opportunities to families
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Play Sufficiency Assessment

						who may not have regular access to the internet, e.g. through posters, flyers in the local community
	The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required			This can be provided by the LA if required.		Ensure this is kept up to date with any new play initiatives and that parents are easily signposted to information on play and the importance of play, as well as the services available
	The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families			The LA has a communications officer and a social media site in place.		
	The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play			The LA has successfully promoted events such as the Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing.		
	The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play			The LA advertises ongoing play events.	Limited advertising in place, more could be done to advertise and promote the importance of play to parents and families.	
	The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			The Local Authority has a dedicated Play Pembrokeshire website detailing ideas for play and the Local Authority's understanding of play.	Limited advertising in place, more could be done to advertise and promote the importance of play	

					to parents and families.	importance of play, as well as the services available
	The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			The Local Authority has a dedicated Play Pembrokeshire website detailing ideas for play and the Local Authority's understanding of play.	Limited advertising in place, more could be done to advertise and promote the importance of play to parents and families.	The Local Authority has a dedicated Play Pembrokeshire website detailing ideas for play and the Local Authority's understanding of play.

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 Council is required to produce the following reports on an annual basis:

Annual Report detailing the actions taken in the previous financial year to promote active travel, and the costs incurred for developing new or improved active travel routes and facilities.

Monitoring Report detailing the level of use of active travel routes in the 10 designated 'active travel' settlements together with information on new routes that have been improved or constructed.

Have there been challenges?

The on-going pandemic has brought challenges for children to move freely around their communities and to access play opportunities.

How can these be overcome?

Lifting of restrictions relating to coronavirus pandemic.

Comments

The reports above should take into account all areas of play, not just leisure facilities or parks.

Information, publicity, events

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

The Council advertises the importance of play and ongoing play events, which are published through the corporate website and social media pages, as well as by the FIS.

Have there been challenges?

High reliance on grants in order to hold and promote the above activities. The Play Team is small and therefore lacks capacity to run extensive advertising/marketing campaigns. The LA's success in publicising and holding events which contribute to positive community attitudes to play has been due to additional resources and grants to make this possible. Whilst the Holiday Playwork grant is now annual, this will not cover the cost of marketing and advertising.

How can these be overcome?

Continue to use free channels of advertising and undertake community outreach to ensure families are kept informed. Work closely with schools to deliver messaging around play.

Comments:

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

Note – These criteria are specifically about Playwork: Playwork is a highly skilled profession that enriches and enhances play. It takes place where adults support children’s play but it is not driven by prescribed education or care outcomes. This includes both open access and out of school childcare settings.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the playwork workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, playwork management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers)			A full audit of all qualifications is in place. The Local Authority has seen that sufficient training is in place to ensure all sites have a relevantly qualified play worker.	Difficulties with recruitment and retention	Deploy additional capacity into creating bespoke packages of training that fill needs gaps Work with stakeholders to identify how the importance of play and raising the profile of playwork can be undertaken through training Identify long term funding streams to ensure

Play Sufficiency Assessment

						playworkers and parents can continue to be incentivised to undertake training Childcare Development Officers, wider colleagues and partners to plan, develop and implement a recruitment process to assist in the promotion of careers in childcare and to reduce vacancies across the sector.
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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government's National Minimum Standards			A full audit of all qualifications is in place. The Local Authority has seen that sufficient training is in place to ensure all sites have a relevantly qualified play worker.	Difficulty in the sector with recruitment and retention	Link in with recruitment strategy carried out by the Early Years Team.
	The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork			Core budget assigned for training of the workforce	Delayed due to the pandemic.	Source new training package for providers.
	There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD)			An annual training package is offered to all registered providers within the local authority.		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

	opportunities available for playworkers in the area			An out of school network is also offered via the Child Care Development Officers.		
	Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in playwork			Training package for volunteers is provided by the LA.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies			Playwork is included within the workforce development strategies and as part of the Early Years training.		
	The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			Strategic Play and Operational Play Officer offers training to community groups and volunteers.	This was stopped throughout the pandemic.	To reinstate and schedule dates through annum.

Note – these criteria are about the Play workforce: This encompasses anyone employed whose role has an impact on children playing – those who may either directly facilitate their play, design for playing, or those with the power to give permission for children to play, or not.

	The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined			A full audit of all qualifications is in place. The Local Authority has seen that sufficient training is in place to ensure all sites have a relevantly qualified play worker.		Source new training package for providers.
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Play Sufficiency Assessment

	in the toolkit glossary and above					
	The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff			<p>An annual training package is offered to all registered providers within the local authority.</p> <p>An out of school network is also offered via the Child Care Development Officers.</p>		Source new training package for providers.
	There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children			<p>An annual training package is offered to all registered providers within the local authority.</p> <p>An out of school network is also offered via the Child Care Development Officers.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children's opportunities to play			Strategic Play and Operational Play Officer offers training to professionals on Play work	Delayed due to the restrictions of the pandemic.	Offer regular training sessions on the benefits of play.

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?

Since the last PSA, the play team has increased its capacity somewhat, which has allowed the profile of play to be raised and partnerships to be strengthened.

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 and above*)?

A full audit of all qualifications is in place. The Local Authority has seen that sufficient training is in place to ensure all sites have a relevantly qualified play worker.

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

All playworkers were invited to undertake consultation as part of this PSA.

Have there been challenges?

COVID-19 posed significant challenges in terms of staff retention and recruitment. All play workers were invited to undertake consultation as part of this PSA, but take-up was very low with less than 20% (4 playworkers) completing this.

How can these be overcome?

The LA should consider ways to encourage workforce development that are not reliant on incentive grants e.g. by raising the profile of playworker as a profession. Parents should also be engaged and encouraged to take up voluntary playwork.

Comments

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.			The LA promotes its community events such as Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing.		Create an agenda to push the value of play regularly.
	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. 			Strategic & Operational Play Officer offers training to community groups and volunteers. A number of play events have been on offer over the last 2 years, all free of charge, thanks to WG who have provided	This was stopped throughout the pandemic due to restrictions. National Play Day will be reinstated in 2022.	Reinstate and schedule dates through annual to link in with partners such as FIS. SOPO to update Play web pages. SOPO to use social media as a regular communication vehicle.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				funding for the Summer of Fun and Winter of Winter of Wellbeing programmes.		

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?

The Pembrokeshire Play social media page is widely used to promote all play activities on offer throughout the county, including activities which are offered by partnership agencies, encouraging people to get involved in play within their local areas. The WG Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing initiatives have allowed Pembrokeshire to provide a vast range of play and sporting activities for all age groups. These projects have been hugely successful allowing children and young people to access a variety of opportunities free of charge which would not usually be on offer for them. These initiatives have allowed children, young people and families reconnect and socialise, which was extremely beneficial after the previous lockdowns we have seen across the UK which have heavily impacted children and young people's rights to play.

We utilise the Family Information Service to communicate play opportunities, as well as weekly school newsletters, DEWIS, social media platforms and relevant department and professionals to assist us in promoting what we have on offer.

Have there been challenges?

The coronavirus pandemic impacted children's play and the ability to effectively use existing mechanisms for children's participation and face to face consultation for play.

How can these be overcome?

Comments

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.	x
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	There is a named person on the Local Public Service Board who champions children's play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Well-being Plan			A cabinet member has been identified as our play champion – Cllr Jon Harvey		Implement new play strategy and ensure it is embedded within wider policies.
	The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities.			No detailed actions within the Wellbeing plan currently relating to play. Wellbeing Plan is currently in development due to be published in May 2023.	Departments need to work more cohesively to ensure play is featured in the Wellbeing plan.	Individual departments to work collaboratively to include play within the wellbeing plan.

Education and schools

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			This is provided and schools are being supported to develop standardised play policies.		Formulate audit findings into a report to share with Head Teachers and governing bodies.
	Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			<p>The importance of this message was partly delivered through a Play Conference held in February 2020, focusing on the difference between freely chosen play and structured play. However, the second part of the conference was delayed due to COVID-19.</p> <p>An audit has been undertaken with all schools within the Local Authority to ensure that play opportunities are provided outside of teaching hours.</p>	<p>Continue to push the importance of play within schools</p> <p>Review audit to assess gaps and further areas where schools can promote play</p> <p>Work with schools to develop and deliver programmes of play therapy</p>	
	Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			The importance of this message was partly delivered through a Play Conference held in February 2020, focusing on the difference between freely chosen play	Continue to push the importance of play within schools Review audit to assess gaps and further areas where	Formulate audit findings into a report to share with Head Teachers and governing bodies.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				and structured play. However, the second part of the conference was delayed due to COVID-19.	schools can promote play Work with schools to develop and deliver programmes of play therapy	Share the play policy with all Head Teachers and Governing Bodies.
	Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school			Kerb Craft is undertaken in all schools by the Road Safety Officer.		
	The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			The SOPO regularly inputs into weekly schools newsletter with articles/guidance on the importance of play and for it not to be used as a punishment. School play policies will also replicate this message; policy is near completion once complete will shared with relevant parties.		

Town and Country Planning

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the			The Local Development Plan is currently being redrafted		Ensure that the LDP include reference to play explicitly

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities					and review aligned with PSA actions

Traffic and Transport

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			The Active Travel Act 2013 puts a duty on local authority to map walking and cycling routes and apply for funding to introduce routes in towns within the County. Walking and cycling have been improved by school warning signs, dropped pedestrian crossing points and dropped kerbs, introduction of open and covered cycle stands in schools, shared use paths, introduction of speed cushion in leisure centre car parks, street lighting in schools		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.			Walking and cycling have been improved by school warning signs, dropped pedestrian crossing points and dropped kerbs, introduction of open and covered cycle stands in schools, shared use paths, introduction of speed cushion in leisure centre car parks, street lighting in schools.		

Early Years Plans

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			Integration of the Early Years and Childcare Team has taken place in 2020/21. This has provided all settings a consistent support network following the same guidance of rich play opportunities. The Flying Start Childcare Guidance is used as a baseline for all childcare whether funded or not.		Early Years and Childcare Lead and Flying Start and Families First Manager to work in partnership with Health colleagues to plan, identify and implement the expansion of Flying Start to all 2-year-olds,

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Walking groups</p> <p>Play, Engagement and Connection activities via Team Around the Family.</p> <p>1:1 Work with families promoting the importance of play, supporting the environment within the home and community, access to community resources.</p> <p>Rhyme time and story time in the local parks, equipping parents with the skills to enhance play opportunities.</p> <p>Forest School activities also on offer in partnership with the National Parks.</p> <p>EY & FS also feed into the Winter of Wellbeing and Summer of Fun initiatives.</p>	Funding can be an issue to provide these activities.	Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county

Family policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			TAF provides 1:1 support on duty and as part of case management processes. Flying Start Health Visitors continually promote play; they are able to refer to community nursery nurses if needed to provide further support to families.		
	The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			<p>Within Families First, TAF is funded as well as a disabilities play officer who is attached to Sport Pembrokeshire. Working within the schools to break down barriers and enable children to access both play and sport opportunities.</p> <p>TAF work alongside Sport Pembrokeshire with the Real Play initiative AKA the Rainbow Project, which is currently being piloted within 5 junior schools.</p>		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Engage with families and encourage active play at home via a family engagement club. Support the development of the whole child including personal, social and physical skills.		
	Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities			TAF take a trauma informed approach to both acknowledge and work with the ACES agenda to inform practice with families in all casework, to promote developmental, social care support.		

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			Memories of Play Project – all process and plans are in place to implement when time permits.	Limited staffing within the play team to carry out this piece of work due to the pressures from the WG funded projects; i.e. Sumer	Apply to CCG strategic group for assistance with funding for a trainee PSO.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
					of Fun & Winter of Wellbeing	
	There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages			Memories of Play Project – all process and plans are in place to implement when time permits.	Limited staffing within the play team to carry out this piece of work due to the pressures from the WG funded projects; i.e. Sumer of Fun & Winter of Wellbeing	Apply to CCG strategic group for assistance with funding for a trainee PSO.

Health and Safety

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	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			<p>Healthy Pre School Scheme criteria advocates this area and is part of the criteria under physical Activity and Play.</p> <p>PCC has a School Playground Equipment Arrangements document.</p> <p>Two of the objectives in this document make reference to</p>		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring that the benefits of play are experienced to the full and that play equipment comply with industry standards such as BSEN 1176 That schools comply with the general requirements of the Welsh Government Play Policy <p>There is further mention to schools and other services increasingly providing play equipment as a means of providing additional stimulus for children and opportunities to explore and develop their skills, physical abilities and approach to risk taking.</p>		
	The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)			Yes, this is Statutory. Health and safety linked to play directly is included in corporate health and safety policies.		

Play Sufficiency Assessment

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2019	RAG Status 2022	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils			If provision is sited within the play area then Pembrokeshire County Council would insure. Inspections and Insurance are offered to PCC play parks as well as those owned and managed by the Community.		

Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

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

The local authority is working with schools to implement a play policy which will ensure that play is high on schools' agendas and that time for play is not taken away from children as a sanction.

Have there been challenges?

Limited staffing within the play team to carry out this piece of work due to the pressures from the WG funded projects; i.e. Sumer of Fun & Winter of Wellbeing

How can these be overcome?

The LA should consider how it can provide long-term funding for subsidised transport to settings, especially those in rural areas or for groups of children with protected characteristics.

Comments:

Conclusion

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

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

The Pembrokeshire Action Plan has identified the priority themes for the next three years. This has been informed using feedback from services and partners who have contributed to the PSA. We have used the shortfalls highlighted to identify specific areas for development and further work.

Whilst completing the assessment, there were a number of recurring themes, including:

- A reduction in the amount of after school club provision and holiday provision available
- Lack of sufficient public or subsidised transport to support CYP to reach play destinations
- Engaging with communities to value and invest in our CYP, including greater engagement with parents/carers around the importance of play
- Need for continued incentives for playwork training and to encourage voluntary training
- The need for COVID-19 recovery support for staff as well as families
- The need for continued, regular funding in order to implement successful play events

The actions outlined in the tables above take into account these emerging gaps.

Changes and reorganisation within the LA in terms of structures, services and personnel, such as the appointment of a Children's Champion, as well as increased funding from Welsh Government over the past couple of years has invoked an increased awareness and acknowledgement of the play agenda. Provided that careful monitoring and sufficient funding continues, this will allow the profile of play to be raised throughout Pembrokeshire in order to deliver sufficient play opportunities for future generations and the health and well-being of

communities. The LA should ensure that priorities are realigned to help families recover from the pandemic through accessing community-based play, out of school care, recreational and leisure opportunities and youth services as appropriate.

Signed:

Date:

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



Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Links to other Matters	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
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Play Sufficiency Assessment

Statutory Guidance-policy framework					
Matter A: Population	Review findings of the PSA, including ward-level data, alongside other existing demographic, public open space and service provision data to create community profiles that provide an indication of the sufficiency of the children's opportunities for play.	Further consultation will take place with Gypsy Traveller children and consultation should take place with LGBT+ youth to ascertain their play needs.		Officer time	No current funding streams in place to support SOPO
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs	<p>Play Strategy Group will use the 2021 Census data when released to plan future play opportunities.</p> <p>SOPO to organise consultation to take place with travelling community.</p> <p>Ascertain the play needs of LGBT+ youth and GT children through further consultation to ensure these are being met.</p>	<p>Utilise the Census data to plan future play opportunities within the Local Authority.</p> <p>Consultation to take place within the travelling community to assess their needs in terms of play. SOPO to build trust within this community group.</p> <p>SOPO to seek alternative funding if WG play grants cease.</p> <p>SOPO to carry out further consultation to assess this communities needs in terms of play.</p> <p>SOPO to develop working relationship with youth to support</p>	A	<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	<p>No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire other than Welsh Government Grants.</p> <p>No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire.</p>

Play Sufficiency Assessment

		LBG to ensure their needs are understood and catered for.			
Matter C: Space available for children to play	<p>Funding has been allocated to develop a number of play parks within the county utilising WG funding.</p> <p>Local Development Plan to be redrafted.</p> <p>Review the State of Play report and the LDP when ready and align with the priorities of the PSA</p> <p>Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county</p> <p>Brownfield sites should also be assessed for their appropriateness for play provision Complete play priority sign audit.</p> <p>Raise further awareness of street play opportunities.</p>	<p>Further funding is needed to ensure all play parks are kept up to standard and are useable.</p> <p>Shared with relevant parties once complete.</p> <p>Ensure SoP report & LDP is aligned with the priorities of the PSA.</p> <p>The importance of play needs to be promoted by all PCC staff members – Play is Everybody's business.</p> <p>Survey to be conducted to assess brownfield sites.</p>		Officer time	<p>No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire or to maintain what we already have in terms of play parks.</p> <p>No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire.</p> <p>No current funding streams in place within Pembrokeshire to purchase signage.</p>

Play Sufficiency Assessment

	Allocate funding to purchase signage				
Matter D: Supervised provision	<p>Disseminate messages as to the importance of leisure and cultural opportunities, to access free activities through key partners.</p> <p>Childcare Development Officers & Family Information Officer to work in partnership with settings to gather information and store findings to address the changes in sufficiency.</p> <p>Ensure Pembrokeshire has high quality play providers and practitioners.</p>	<p>Raise awareness of keeping active through continuing to promote activities to families.</p> <p>Continue to reach out to community groups to promote leisure and consider subsidising or funding premises for playwork, particularly in disadvantaged areas.</p> <p>Conduct surveys/audit to address any changes/needs in terms of sufficiency.</p> <p>Childcare Development Officers will carry out improvement SACERS to raise rich play environments. Childcare Development Officers will carry out SACERS audits will all OOSC settings</p>		<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

	<p>Childcare Officers to review process of NMS checklist and to identify if any gaps in provision.</p> <p>Continue to promote free initiatives to ensure families are taking advantage of sport and recreational activities available to them</p> <p>Raise awareness of the importance of keeping active not just to CYP but to parents too.</p>	<p>Childcare Development Officers will carry out SACERS audits will all OOSC settings</p> <p>Allocate funding to enhance play provision across the county</p> <p>Continue to promote play with partnership agencies such as Sport Pembrokeshire.</p>		Officer time	
Matter E: Charges for play provision	<p>The LA should consider how it can provide long-term funding for subsidised transport to settings, especially those in rural areas or for groups of children with protected characteristics.</p> <p>Use further information once available from the 2021 Census to plan the delivery of recreational activities for children in low-income families.</p>	<p>SOPD to seek alternative funding if WG play grants cease.</p> <p>Utilise the Census data once available to plan a way forward to support low-income families to attend play initiatives.</p> <p>Look into how subsidised transport may be able to be provided to increase the range of play available</p>		<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	No current funding streams in place to enhance play opportunities within Pembrokeshire.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

[illegible]

Play Sufficiency Assessment

				(plus on costs)	
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	The LA should consider ways to encourage workforce development that are not reliant on incentive grants e.g. by raising the profile of play worker as a profession. Parents should also be engaged and encouraged to take up voluntary play work.	<p>Deploy additional capacity into creating bespoke packages of training that fill needs gaps.</p> <p>Work with stakeholders to identify how the importance of play and raising the profile of play work can be undertaken through training Identify long term funding streams to ensure play workers and parents can continue to be incentivised to undertake training.</p> <p>Childcare Development Officers, wider colleagues and partners to plan, develop and implement a recruitment process to assist in the promotion of careers in childcare and to reduce vacancies across the sector.</p>		Officer time	No current funding streams in place to enhance play work opportunities within Pembrokeshire.
	Link in with recruitment strategy carried out by the Early Years Team in relation to the National Minimum Standards	Source new training package for providers to carry out Play Work training.		Officer time	
		To reinstate and schedule dates through annum for play work training.		Officer time	No current funding streams in place to enhance play work opportunities within Pembrokeshire and to

		Offer regular training sessions on the benefits of play.		Officer time	increase qualification base.
Matter H: Community engagement and participation	<p>Create an agenda to push the value of play regularly.</p> <p>SOPo to offer further training on the benefits of play to community groups and volunteers.</p> <p>SOPo to use social media as a regular communication vehicle for play.</p>	<p>Play Strategy Group is in place who will look to work with the wider community and other partners to ensure Play is at the forefront.</p> <p>Reinstate and schedule dates through annual to link in with partners such as FIS.</p> <p>SOPo to update Play web pages.</p>		<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	
Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas	<p>Implement new play strategy and ensure it is embedded within wider policies.</p> <p>Formulate audit of findings of play opportunities within schools into a report.</p>	<p>Share the play policy with all Head Teachers and Governing Bodies.</p> <p>Share this report with Head Teachers and governing bodies.</p>		<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	

	<p>The Local Development Plan is currently being redrafted.</p> <p>Integration of the Early Years and Childcare Team has taken place in 2020/21.</p> <p>Apply to CCG strategic group for assistance with funding for a trainee PSO.</p> <p>No detailed actions within the Wellbeing plan currently relating to play. Wellbeing Plan is currently in development due to be published in May 2023.</p>	<p>Ensure that the LDP include reference to play explicitly and review aligned with PSA actions.</p> <p>Early Years and Childcare Lead and Flying Start and Families First Manager to work in partnership with Health colleagues to plan, identify and implement the expansion of Flying Start to all 2-year-olds,</p> <p>Application submitted to CCG panel – awaiting outcome.</p> <p>Departments need to work more cohesively to ensure play is featured in the Wellbeing plan.</p>	F	<p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Officer time</p>	<p>No current funding streams in place to enhance play work opportunities within Pembrokeshire.</p>
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