

**REQUEST FOR FUNDS RELATING TO WOODBANK MEMORIAL PARK PLAY
PROVISION SCHEME**

Report of the Director of Place Management

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The report sets out a request for funds to facilitate the purchase of additional play equipment for the play area at Woodbank Memorial Park.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Woodbank Memorial Park is a destination park. There is need for improved and more inclusive play space. The community have requested additional and improved play equipment over several years. The Manor Ward Councillors met with council officers in June 2023 to discuss improving the play area. There is currently £33,296.40 of commuted sum allocated to Woodbank Memorial Park. A sketch design has been produced to provide inclusive play equipment that is suitable for a wide range of ages and abilities and has been utilised at other destination play spaces. A sketch design, which includes 4 pieces of play equipment and 3 picnic tables, is attached at appendix A. The total cost estimate for the scheme is £81,951.45 (estimate herewith). Manor Ward Councillors advised they wish to utilise their Ward Discretionary Fund budget of £10,000.00, so that it may be added to the commuted sum (providing a total of £43,296.40).

3. ADDITIONAL FUNDING BENEFIT

- 3.1 The cost of site preparations/ set up for the scheduled works are £2900.00, regardless of the number of play items provided. The additional £10,000 will provide a larger proportion of the intended, future play scheme therefore providing better value for money regarding set up costs, as well as providing more play equipment for use by children in the shorter term.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 The Area Committee is recommended to request that the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources approves the use of £10,000 from the Ward Discretionary Fund (Manor ward allocation) towards the cost of improved play at Woodbank Memorial Park and for the funds to be deposited in Capital Schemes for Parks as soon as practicable to support future play equipment procurement.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Kath.Hughes@stockport.gov.uk