Policy 2.2 – A guide to dedicated play space categories

The Council will provide three categories of dedicated play space (playground) spread throughout the city, as illustrated on Map 7. Appendix 2 lists the playgrounds by category. The following table provides a guide to the considerations for each type that will inform development of the play space.

Neighbourhood play space

Handy place for a quick play

Play equipment

Play opportunities for at least one age group (ideally junior children as a minimum). Size of site may constrain the amount of equipment

Nature play and kick-about space will be considered to broaden play experience alongside swings/ slides for example

Types of informal play opportunities

- Natural landscape features and opportunities for nature play
- Amenity planting and/or semi-natural areas that are designed and/or managed for play
- Spaces to play in groups, as individuals or for a common purpose. May have kick-about area

Types of visitor and caregiver amenities

- May have shade provided by trees
- Seats
- Paths to play equipment where possible

Catchment areas

Service local neighbourhood within approx. 600-metre walking distance

Likely to be located in neighbourhood parks

Community play space

Enough activities to keep children and/or youth aged people entertained for at least an hour

Play equipment

Play opportunities for a range of age groups

Unique or with a point of difference to other community playgrounds around the city

Types of informal play opportunities

- Kick-about area
- May have informal court space (eg basketball half court)
- Spaces to gather and meet and to engage in different types of play (eg both active play and relaxation/quiet contemplative play)
- Natural landscape features
- Where possible, designed to encourage exploration of the natural environment such as steps to a stream or a path to the bush or the beach
- Amenity planting and planted areas that are designed and located to be played in or on
- Include opportunities for nature play

Types of visitor and caregiver amenities

- Picnic tables and seats
- May have a barbecue
- Drinking water at park or nearby
- Security lighting where appropriate
- Rubbish bins
- Shade/shelter over some of the play equipment and other areas of the play space provided by structures and/or trees
- Car parking
- Toilets at park or nearby (may have limited open hours)
- Paths to connect to the wider neighbourhood and provide access to the play equipment area

Catchment areas

Service the immediate neighbourhood and local community within approximately 800-metre walking distance

Ideally located in community parks or near neighbourhood centres.