

Barnet Fair Play Park

Parish Vision Compliance:

Priorities: Provide a high standard of services and facilities, protect and improve our environment

1.0 Recommendation

1.1 To NOTE the report.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 To provide Members with information following a site visit to Barnet 'Fair Play' play area on 19th June 2024.

3.0 Detail

3.1 In 2024 Barnet Council opened their 'Fair Play' play area.

3.2 Fair Play Barnet is the first-of-its-kind playground with maximum accessibility and inclusivity. It is designed so people of all ages and abilities can play together. The equipment in the playground is extensive and includes a wheelchair seesaw, a wheelchair swing, a ramped multi-play unit, a netted swing, a raised roundabout, a 360-degree swing, a climbing net and musical instruments.

3.3 The park cost circa £500k to design and install, and was paid for through independent funding and donations, including £100,000 coming directly from Barnet Council.

3.4 Concept design:



Barnet Fair Play Park**3.5 Drone Image:**

- 3.6 In May 2024 the play area working group discussed arranging a visit to the play area to understand more about how Barnet delivered their project.
- 3.7 In June 2024, CSNPC was invited by the contractor 'Kompan' to attend an open day along with other Councils.
- 3.8 Kompan were the awarded play contractor who delivered the design and build.
- 3.9 Cllrs John Ballman & James Yeowell attend with Andrew Briggs and Andy Reeves.
- 3.10 Whilst attending the site, It was discovered that the project was delivered via ESPO and direct award.

ESPO (Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation) is a public sector buying consortium in the United Kingdom. It provides a wide range of procurement services to the public sector, including local authorities.

1. **Framework Agreements:** ESPO offers framework agreements, which are pre-negotiated contracts with suppliers that public sector organizations can use to purchase goods and services without having to go through a full procurement process.
2. **Catalogues:** ESPO provides catalogues of products and services that have been vetted for quality and value for money.

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3. **Procurement Consultancy:** ESPO offers expert advice and support in the procurement process to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and to achieve the best value.

Direct Award Process

A Direct Award is a procurement process where a contract is awarded directly to a supplier without a competitive tendering process. In the context of ESPO and public sector procurement, the Direct Award process under a framework agreement works as follows:

1. **Framework Selection:** The purchasing organisation selects an appropriate ESPO framework agreement that covers the goods or services they need.
2. **Check Supplier Capability:** Within the chosen framework, the organisation identifies a supplier that can meet their specific requirements. ESPO frameworks typically list multiple suppliers, each pre-approved to provide certain goods or services.
3. **Evaluate Value for Money:** The organisation must ensure that the direct award offers value for money and meets their needs. This might involve reviewing the supplier's prices, terms, and previous performance.
4. **Compliance Check:** The purchasing organisation must ensure that the direct award is compliant with public sector procurement regulations and the terms of the framework agreement.
5. **Award Contract:** Once satisfied, the organisation can award the contract directly to the chosen supplier. This process is quicker and less resource-intensive than running a full tender process.

Benefits of Direct Award via ESPO Frameworks

- **Efficiency:** Saves time as the procurement process is streamlined.
- **Cost-Effective:** Reduces the administrative burden and associated costs of running a full procurement process.
- **Compliance:** Ensures compliance with procurement regulations as the frameworks are pre-approved.
- **Reliability:** Provides access to a vetted list of suppliers with a proven track record.

3.11 Key learning points:

- 3.11.1 Community consultation & engagement
- 3.11.2 Solid / accessible surfacing.
- 3.11.3 Fully accessible equipment (flush, high backs, footrests)
- 3.11.4 Access to other facilities (parking, toilets, café).
- 3.11.5 Adequate space to move freely between equipment.
- 3.11.6 Range of equipment for all ages and abilities.
- 3.11.7 Inclusive seating / benches.
- 3.11.8 Single point access for security.

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3.12 Photos:



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