

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Gwynedd Council

Name of responsible officer: Alun Jones

Job title: Sport for Life Team Manager

Date of Completion: March 2019

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 31 March 2019.



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.

A foreword from the Cabinet Member

Gwynedd Council's Cabinet acknowledges the importance of play in its entirety for the healthy physical, mental and social development of all of the county's children and young people. We fully support strategies which safeguard and develop play opportunities be they informal, structured or for the foundation phase and we are convinced of the additional value gained and encourage communities to take the reins and develop their own schemes.

There is a need to ensure that all Gwynedd Council services continue to be aware of, and continue to acknowledge the importance of play and consider it when making decisions on service provision.

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.

As noted in the 2016 Assessment, one of the main challenges of undertaking and completing the assessment is the fact that no play officer has been in post since the beginning of 2015.

There has not been a Play Working Group / Forum meeting since the Play Officer's post came to an end. There are no resources for arranging or administrating a forum.

This Assessment was completed under the Leadership of the Sport For Life Service Manager, with the support of the authority's Early Years, Education, Highways and Municipal and Research officers.

A public consultation was held to gather the opinions of children, parents / guardians to steer the assessment.

A consultation was held with partners (community councils, providers, agencies) to steer the assessment.

The Assessment will be submitted to the relevant Cabinet Member to ensure that messages are streamed through the authority, and to agree on the Action Plan on a corporate level. There is no medium (Play Forum) to take ownership of the Assessment / Action Plan with partners.

The Assessment will be circulated internally through Corporate Communication arrangements and it will be published on the Council Website / Gwynedd-NI (FIS) for public use.

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

To complete the assessment and the action plan it was important to ensure input from a wide range of departments, providers and individuals about the play situation in Gwynedd. A consultation was held in order to gather the input of partners, but also a useful contribution from various sectors. See below how different groups contributed / were consulted:

Questionnaires

Community / Town Councils

Play Providers and Associations (Public, private and third sectors)

Children / young people

Parents and guardians

The Private Sector - in terms of attractions that included a play infrastructure; and activity providers.

Assessment Packages/Toolkits

Gwynedd Council Departments

Third Sector Organisations - such as Mantell Gwynedd, National Trust, The Urdd, Housing Associations, etc.

The Public Sector - such as Snowdonia National Park, the Police, Health Board, Football Association, etc.

A large number of the partners did not respond. The main weakness of the assessment is a lack of information about play opportunities / provision outside the local authority services.

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

Getting Children, Young People and Families involved is at the root of the work of many of Gwynedd Council's services. The Council has an Engagement Strategy and a Corporate Engagement Panel for securing residents' opinions while shaping services, drawing up strategies and influencing policies.

To complete the sufficiency assessment and to ensure that children and young people's voices were included in the report, Gwynedd Council executed research work by distributing bilingual questionnaires to all of Gwynedd's primary and secondary schools. Links to the questionnaires were sent via the Gwynedd Council website and social networks.

As part of the consultation also, there was a separate questionnaire for parents / guardians, and another questionnaire for community councils and partners outside the local authority. .

A positive response was received from children / young people and adults with 75% of the children who responded stating that they went out to play at least twice a week.

Gwynedd Council also consulted with the area's Community Councils to seek opinion and to map local resources. A large number of responses were received, with 78% of the respondents stating that they offered/provided play opportunities for children, and 61% noted that they gathered the views/comments of children as they develop play opportunities/provision.

A small number of completed questionnaires were received from Play Providers in the private sector. Many noted that they were going to use the good practice of collecting specific information as a basis for providing opportunities as required.

The consultation also included engagement with third sector agencies. Information was received from a number of bodies such as Groundworks, Mantell Gwynedd, the Young Farmers Movement, etc. which offer play opportunities in Gwynedd.

The results of the consultation were analysed by the Research and Analytics Unit, Gwynedd Council, and the conclusions steer the responses below.

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 2019 Play Sufficiency Assessments and subsequent plans.

Please use this section to highlight what has changed since the 2016 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 2016 play sufficiency assessment:

Partners, as well as the local authority, have seen a reduction in the available Resources for the field. A number of the grants used by partners to give play opportunities to children have now ended or been substantially cut.

A large number of the partners did not respond. The main weakness of the assessment is a lack of information about play opportunities / provision outside the local authority services.

Generally, there has been a reduction in the provision since the previous Assessment / Plan in 2016. However, some providers have integrated play to their provision, e.g. as part of the childcare offer, as part of the sports offer, as part of the leisure offer, as part of the early years offer, as part of the statutory Youth provision.

Some of Welsh Government's programmes are used to provide play opportunities, e.g. Families First Grant, Flying Start, LAPA to address some of the priorities of the latest action plan, namely to provide opportunities for disabled children, target deprived areas, and target groups that are under-represented, and training packs for employees across care and play sectors / setting.

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 Gwynedd and Anglesey Local Service Board has completed a local needs assessment that will be used to respond to the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Assessment has identified that one of the nine most important things for Gwynedd and Anglesey residents is to promote the use of natural Resources to improve health and well-being in the long-term.

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Plan has therefore identified 'Use Natural Resources' to improve Well-being as one of its priorities for the period of the Plan (2018-2020), by ensuring that children get opportunities to be more active, especially outdoors, by promoting and improving access to natural green spaces in the area.

Both authorities have completed the Play Sufficiency Assessments during the period the Public Services Board is setting up sub-groups and work programmes for each priority field. During 2019-

20, the Governance arrangements for the field of children, young people and supporting families will be reviewed to reflect the priorities of the Local Public Services Board.

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.

Lead Member - Councillor Dilwyn Morgan

Lead Director - Morwena Edwards

Play Monitoring Group - there is no Play Monitoring Group. The Sufficiency Assessment and the Action Plan has been reporting to the Children, Young People and Family Support Partnership between 2016-2018. During 2019-20, the Governance arrangements for the field of children, young people and supporting families will be reviewed to reflect the priorities of the Local Public Services Board.

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.

RAG status

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

The 2019 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
- Children who speak Welsh as their first language
- 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 2016?

The Gwynedd population data is based on the Census and the mid-year estimates, which demonstrate the following:

- Ages of children
- Children who speak Welsh as their first language
- Cultural factors (including another language)
- Gypsy Traveller children
- Disabled Children

The data around the demographic has been analysed to a LSOA level and to the level of the well-being areas as defined in the Well-being Plan. It appears that the concentration of children and young people was at its highest in the Caernarfon and Ffestiniog well-being areas, and was at its lowest in the Tywyn-Machynlleth and Dolgellau well-being areas.

The data shows that there has been no change in the data since 2016 as the percentages are very similar in the areas noted above.

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

The Authority uses the data to target and divert activities to reach deprived areas; low income families.

Have you faced any challenges?

There are gaps in our data, particularly in information regarding the needs of gypsy traveller children; and children from ethnic minority backgrounds.

How can these be overcome?

Hold a further consultation with the Traveller Site Support Assistant.

Comments

RAG Status for Matter A:

Criteria fully met.	Green
Criteria partially met.	Orange
Criteria not met.	Red

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.	Green
Criteria partially met.	Orange
Criteria not met.	Red

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>Gwynedd is a rural county throughout, therefore any provision ensures that rural areas are satisfied.</p> <p>The Consultation results show that children can gain access to play provision from home.</p>	Transport can be a barrier in some geographical areas, but the consultation has not identified that it is a barrier to access.		
	The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for			The Council's language policy ensures Welsh language provision, and procurement of a Welsh language provision.			Discuss with the Equality Officer to research into identifying needs better
	The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for			The Council's Equality Policy ensures equal opportunity for children of all cultural backgrounds.	There is insufficient data on children from ethnic minority backgrounds.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			<p>Weekly groups are offered to disabled children during the school term and additional groups during the school holidays.</p> <p>These groups are provided by the Youth Service jointly with the Integrated Service for Disabled Children. This ensures that obstacles are reduced for children and young people who attend and that they receive the same opportunities as any other child or young person.</p>	There are some examples where no specialist equipment (such as a hoist) is available in some organisations that provide play opportunities.	
	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion			<p>A number of the workforce have received inclusion training by the Disability Sport Development Officer.</p> <p>Specific play Resources are available through the Integrated Service to</p>	Upgrade specialist play Resources, and ensure access to them in a dispersed rural county.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Support Disabled Children (sensory play).		
	There is a well known and agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children			<p>Specific play provision has been commissioned for disabled children through the Integrated Service for Disabled Children (Derwen). It is funded by the Council and with the Families First grant.</p> <p>Some partners provide opportunities for disabled children.</p>		
	Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			<p>Audits of access to play provision are held on the provision that is under Gwynedd Council's management.</p> <p>The consultation shows that only some partners investigate their provision access.</p>	There is no means to ensure that all provision by partners investigate access to their provision.	If resources were available including staffing - then structures would be established to investigate access to play areas across the county, including resources outside the Municipal Unit's stock

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites			.	No suitable play area due to Japanese Knotweed in the Llandygai area - saying that, the residents of the site have noted that they do not need a designated play area	
	The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for			<p>Action for Children supports young carers in Anglesey and Gwynedd and provides practical and emotional support for them, which includes play opportunities and activities and trips to release them from their caring responsibilities.</p> <p>The Young Carers Charter notes that "playing and having fun" is one of the expected rights for every young carer.</p>		
	The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for			The Council's Equality Policy does not allow us to ask children aged under 16 about their sexual orientation, therefore it is not possible to conclude		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>from the responses what their opinion is in terms of meeting their needs.</p>		
				<p>Derwen uses the Barbara Bus, which is a vehicle that transports Derwen children, assisting individuals who cannot get out of a wheelchair to get into a regular vehicle.</p> <p>In addition, the Transportation and Countryside Service contributes to the O Ddrws i Ddrws service which enables individuals with a disability or illness to travel to health appointments, to go shopping and to attend social activities, etc.</p> <p>The Service has also provided a handbook for drivers who operate vehicles to transport pupils to specialist</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>schools on behalf of the Council. The document provides guidelines for learners in order to ensure that travellers have a safe and comfortable journey. These journeys are monitored regularly in order to ensure that the drivers comply with the guidelines.</p>		

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?

79% of children noted that they had enough or a lot of time to play; and 83% noted that the play opportunities available to them were good or great.

On the whole, therefore, the children of Gwynedd are satisfied with the play time, resources and opportunities that are available in the county.

Of the respondents, the majority of them were 8, 9 or 10 years old, 71% were First Language Welsh children, 10% of them were disabled, and 54% were girls.

Did you face any challenges?

There is no official data about the needs of Gypsy Traveller children.

How can these be overcome?

The authority's Gypsies Officer to continue to engage with the gypsy traveller families on the site at Llandygai to identify needs.

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 other places where they go.

RAG Status

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

Open spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			An Open Spaces Assessment has been held as an evidence base for the Joint Development Plan. The Assessment has been updated for the Open Spaces in New Housing Developments Supplementary Planning Guidance	The Assessment only assesses the largest settlements in the County	
	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study			The Local Development Plan		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	that maps areas that are used for playing			and the Open Spaces Assessment identifies open spaces (including playing fields) and safeguards open spaces.		
	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety			The Municipal Unit's audits of the sites under its management addresses the public's right to unimpeded access.		
	The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			The Local Development Plan and the Open Spaces Assessment uses the guidelines in TAN16: Sports, Leisure and Open Spaces (2009)		
	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play value assessments in public open space			Regular audits are conducted by the Municipal Unit on some of the site under its management in relation to the condition of assets and managing risk to protect the public.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play			When a planning application is submitted, the Council's planning policy framework enables brownfield land to be converted into play spaces.		

Designated Outdoor Play Areas Where There Is No Staff

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing	New		An Open Spaces Assessment has been held as an evidence base for the Joint Development Plan. The Assessment has been updated for the Open Spaces in New Housing Developments Supplementary Planning Guidance	The Assessment only assesses the largest settlements in the County	

	<p>The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all designated play space as described in the Statutory Guidance</p>			<p>The Municipal Unit maintains a comprehensive register of the details of individual areas under its management.</p>	<p>Only consider areas that are the property of Gwynedd Council.</p>	<p>Need to ensure that Resources are in place to have an up-to-date record of all of the play areas across the county including resources outside of the Municipal Unit's stock</p> <p>DEWIS should be promoted as an information point for play providers to record their provision.</p>
	<p>The Local Authority assesses play spaces for play value and potential to increase in play use as set out in the Statutory Guidance</p>			<p>The Municipal Unit conducts regular assessments. Officer visits play areas regularly (in relation to the unit's stock only)</p>	<p>Only consider areas that are the property of Gwynedd Council.</p> <p>The authority has no audit tool as is included in the Play Support Package</p>	
	<p>The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all designated play spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety</p>			<p>The Municipal Unit conducts regular audits of the condition of the individual areas under its management, including entrances. One purpose of the audits is programming</p>	<p>Only consider areas that are the property of Gwynedd Council.</p>	

				maintenance work and improvements.		
	The Local Authority has developed and agreed a new fixed play provision standard			The Council has been using national standards (LAP, LEAP, NEAP) 6 acre standards (Fields in Trust)	There is no specific officer who is responsible for implementing and monitoring standards in the Local Authority	
	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			The Municipal Unit conducts regular audits of the condition of the individual areas under its management to identify maintenance work, feeding into an improvement and risk management plan.	Only consider areas that are the property of Gwynedd Council	
	The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds			The Healthy Living plan promotes smoke-free Play for Play Areas, Leisure Centre and Schools	The plan is not mandatory. There is not capacity to promote this outside the Council's assets. 53% of responses from partners note that their play areas are smoke-free.	
	The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community			Signs are used in areas that are close to highways as a result of the Highways Act.	10% of responses from partners note that they use signs; but many report that there is no need for a sign	
	The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to			The Consultation shows that children,		

	encourage more children playing in the community			<p>parents and providers are supportive of children playing.</p> <p>95% of children note that adults / society feel satisfied, happy or great about allowing children to play.</p>		
	The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance of playing fields to children's play when any disposal decisions are made			<p>A Property and Land Disposal Policy is in place.</p> <p>Protecting existing use is part of any disposal.</p>		
	The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields			<p>A Property and Land Disposal Policy is in place.</p> <p>Consulting prior to making a decision to dispose is part of the Policy arrangements.</p>	The Council is currently consulting on its financial Strategy for 2019-2023 and transferring playing fields is one of the proposals.	
	The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when refurbishing or developing new playgrounds	New		With every planning application the Local Planning Authority places a notice on the site, and community notices and public notices in the local media		

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?

See below (Comments)

Did you face any challenges?

How can these be overcome?

Comments:

The type of sites vary and they are in both built-up and rural locations. There are goal posts on some of them for informal games. The features of the sites (as is it open land) offer informal play opportunities. Some of our sites are hilly, rocky or in a forest.

As part of the Local Development Plan process, the joint Planning Unit conducts Open Spaces Assessments to assess the need to protect, and in some cases, develop areas further for facilities/play

Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

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

See below (Comments)

Did you face any challenges?

How can these be overcome?

Comments:

Outdoor Designated Unstaffed Play Spaces (under the Municipal Unit's management) Play equipment is provided for children in every designated play space except two sites which are for multi-purpose and ball games and one skate park. The play equipment offers a range of experiences and activities and they are suitable for younger children up to children in their early teens.

Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aims to offer a variety of opportunities for supervised play.

RAG Status

Criteria fully met	
Criteria partially met	
Criteria not met	

Play work provision

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>Individual Services keep a record of the play provision known to them.</p> <p>The Family Information Service keeps a lists of clubs and events e.g. play schemes, play opportunities, and the information is available on their website or Facebook page.</p>	<p>The record is not retained centrally.</p> <p>It cannot be said with certainty that the record is complete.</p> <p>Not aware of every play opportunity in Gwynedd. Only the number of providers coming forward to promote new projects regularly</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Plas Pawb, Noddfa and Wildelements Play Schemes receive annual grants, and monitoring reports are received.		
	The Local Authority offers play provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>Play provision is available for the early years, primary age and teenage years through the Early Years Service, Schools, Active Children and Young People Schemes, the Youth Service.</p> <p>Plas Pawb is registered with CIW, an appropriate play area. Foundation Phase settings are encouraged to apply for funding/grant resources to develop areas outside to create a good playing environment</p>		
	The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in			Urdd, YFC, 5X60, Leisure Centres, DofE, etc.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	the Statutory Guidance			<p>Childcare settings are encouraged to apply for funding/grant resources to develop areas outside to create a good playing environment</p> <p>Small resources grants are offered to all provisions that are registered with CIW.</p>		
	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			Plas Pawb provision is registered with CIW.		
	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			<p>Play Schemes that are funded by the LA and registered with CIW.</p> <p>Provision schemes, e.g. Plas Pawb, Noddfa and Wildelements Play Schemes registered with CIW.</p>		
	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and			Plas Pawb, Noddfa and Wildelements		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	National Minimum Standards			Play Schemes registered with CIW		
	Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme				<p>There is no recognised quality assurance programme for play opportunities.</p> <p>There is a quality assurance programme for play linked to a quality assurance programme if the play opportunity is provided in a childcare setting or not.</p>	
	The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.			<p>The Authority's Procurement Framework ensures that work commissioned meets the requirements of safeguarding, DBS, insurances, Health and Safety, etc.</p> <p>The Service / Grant that does the commissioning work is responsible for defining the expected provision and quality as part of the contract.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) play provision for children	New		<p>Providing free property and spaces depends upon the type of property, land, space that is sought for use.</p> <p>Some property are subject to hire; and some property can be used for free.</p> <p>Plas Pawb/Tŷ Cegin supports any provision on the site for free.</p>		

Structured recreational activities for children						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			<p>The Authority's plans include arranging and holding free sports and leisure activities (Youth Service / Sport for Life Team).</p> <p>The number who attend the Play Sports</p>	<p>Some of the existing provision is reliant upon a grant.</p> <p>Not all of the available provision is available free of charge.</p>	Continue to identify opportunities to provide play and leisure schemes and activities free of charge.

Structured recreational activities for children

				(funded by the Play Grant) is substantially higher than the Play Sports held for a fee.		
	The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			The schemes run within the Leisure Centres and by the Sport for Life Team offers an extensive provision of opportunities for the children and young people of Gwynedd to participate	A Sports in Schools Survey has demonstrated that children and young people want more opportunities outside school. More extensive/targeted plans to provide leisure activities for local children, depending upon the developments of 'North Wales Sports' (resources/funding).	Continue to identify opportunities to provide play and leisure schemes and activities free of charge.
	The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			Gwynedd Libraries the nine catchment area libraries offer play opportunities for young children in their Children's Library Departments, e.g. Lego tables, train set, farm set, jig-saws, etc. Story Sacks and Small Baby Sacks could be borrowed	After-school activities and summer activities are offered on an ad-hoc basis, depending upon planning within the existing core budgets of the service and the staff capacity to hold them. Family Learning Sessions area held which give children and families an	Continue to identify opportunities to provide play and leisure schemes and activities free of charge.

Structured recreational activities for children

				<p>from Gwynedd Libraries that offer story books, toys and games that coincide with the story.</p> <p>A Books Bag could be borrowed from Gwynedd Libraries that offers a story resource and multi-sensory play for children and young people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Ji Babi Bach sessions are held in Caernarfon Library on a weekly basis for parents and babies, and it offers very early play opportunities.</p> <p>After-school sessions such as Coding Club and Lego Club are held in some libraries.</p> <p>Gwynedd Libraries participate in the Gwynedd Fusion Gwynedd scheme.</p>	<p>opportunity together to enjoy stories, actively learn and play and this is being funded for the time being by the Gwynedd Fusion Network / Family Learning Signature.</p>	
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Structured recreational activities for children						
				Summer activities for children are held at some libraries which offer creative play opportunities through leisure, dance, arts, music activities, etc.		
	The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association			The Youth Service provides a wide variety of activities, projects, training and information. The provision is available throughout the country, and is based on a mobile service that takes activities from village to village in order to ensure fair access.		Continue to identify opportunities to provide play and leisure schemes and activities free of charge.

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?
 An assessment of the quality of the opportunities was not part of this assessment. If registered with CIW, they would check the quality.

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

Did you face any challenges?

The main feedback was the need to continue to identify opportunities / budgets to sustain the existing provision and expand it if possible. Dependency on grants is very high here.

How can these be overcome?

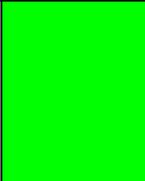
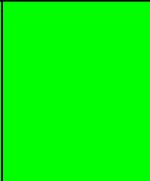
Comments:

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.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			Data collected when required via 'Child Poverty Statistics' www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/child-poverty-stats.html		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation	Green	Green	Can use Stats Wales to find data https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Community-Safety-and-Social-Inclusion/Welsh-Index-of-Multiple-Deprivation/WIMD-2011/Local-Authority-Maps	Estimating only using data about areas.	
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas	Green	Green	Can collect data/information by area by using the 2011 Census. Possible to do this annually		
	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.	Red	Green	The DERWEN Integrated Service for Disabled Children keeps a record of children and young people who are disabled. But it is dependent on whether or not they have been identified by the service. It is possible to find information about 'Long-term illness' by taking data from the 2011 Census (4th Release).		
	The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision	Orange	Orange	The Family Information Service (Gwynedd-Ni) will attempt to find free or low-cost activities by following social media pages and promoting them by sharing them.		Hopefully, promoting the use of the Dewis database directory will store this information for the future. So that providers update it themselves in future.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision			<p>The Family Information Service will attempt to find free or low-cost activities by following social media pages and promoting the content that is being shared.</p> <p>Plas Pawb and Tŷ Cegin arrange free play sessions</p>		Hopefully, promoting the use of the Dewis database directory will store this information for the future. So that providers update it themselves in future.
	The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			Plas Pawb and Tŷ Cegin arrange free play sessions in the deprived areas of Maesgeirchen and Caernarfon		
	The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			No resource has been allocated to this end; however, the authority provides transportation for some of the play activities it provides itself (Early Years and their families, and the Youth Service)		

Charges for play provision

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

Promote the opportunities via the Gwynedd-Ni Website, social media, Family centres.

Provide transportation to transport children and young people to attend some of the opportunities, especially from deprived areas.

Did you face any challenges?

The schemes outside Local Government, that are not funded by Local Government, do not send out information about their play scheme provision to the authority as there is no structured arrangement in place to collect it. There is no current information across the authority and its partners regarding numbers / targets / cost / access etc.

How can these be overcome?

Depends on Resources / capacity to set up arrangements.

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 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>Information, together with copies of all of the orders, are stored by the Transport and Countryside Service.</p> <p>By now, the Transportation and Countryside Service has a formal register for them</p>		
	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			<p>Formal arrangements are in place to follow national guidelines and good practice when assessing the need to reduce speed and monitor speed.</p> <p>In 2016, it was highlighted that there was a need to formalise the arrangements in one simple leaflet so that communities can understand the steps that a local authority must follow when assessing the need for, or the</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>effectiveness of speed restrictions.</p> <p>This information already exists in the documents: 'Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales (Circular No: 24/2009 - Welsh Government) and Local Transport Traffic Calming Note (LTN1/07)</p>		
	<p>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</p>			<p>A work programme together with background data is stored by the Transportation and Countryside Service. This programme is part of the plans for safe routes in the community.</p>		
	<p>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</p>			<p>A work programme together with background data is stored by the Transportation and Countryside Service. This programme is part of the plans for safe routes in the</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				community as well as the Service's Active Travel Plan.		
	There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities			This is not a criterion. There is potential for every authority to take further steps if the resources are available.		
	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards			The Transportation and Road Safety Service has set clear priorities and put a work programme in place to provide training		
	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children			The Transportation and Road Safety Service has set clear priorities and put a work programme in place to provide training		
	The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more children to play outside their homes			There is a clear arrangement in place to provide information to enable communities and statutory contractors to close roads temporarily.	The Service is uncertain of the legal viewpoint with regard to doing this, and of how practical it is to organise/provide.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				However, the Transportation and Countryside Service is convinced that they are appropriate for public road closures to enable children to play outside their homes.		
	The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm			<p>Clear arrangements are in place to provide advice on planning applications based on the manual for streets.</p> <p>This is reflected in the Service Level Agreement between Transportation Service and the Planning Service</p>		
	The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities			The development details of individual plans confirm this, e.g. active travel plans that have to comply with the Welsh Government document: Active Travel: Design Guidelines:		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities			The data is collected and analysed by North Wales Police and steers the work programme's priorities.		
	The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure			Access to both formal and informal leisure facilities is a factor in the matrix the Council uses to assess the need for public transport provision		
	The requirements of disabled children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives			<p>The Derwen Integrated Team uses the Barbara Bus, which is a vehicle that transports children with disabilities.</p> <p>The Transportation and Countryside Service contributes to the O Ddrws i Ddrws service which enables individuals with a disability or illness to travel to health appointments,</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>to go shopping and to attend social activities, etc.</p> <p>The Service has also provided a handbook for drivers who operate vehicles to transport pupils to specialist schools on behalf of the Council. The document provides guidelines for drivers in order to ensure that travellers have a safe and comfortable journey. These journeys are monitored regularly in order to ensure that the drivers comply with the guidelines.</p>		

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.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	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)			<p>Play Areas - Come and Play Booklet is available on the Gwynedd Ni website: Information for Families Service</p> <p>Facebook Site - Information for Families Service Gwynedd Ni <https://www.facebook.com/GwyneddNi/></p> <p>Promote regular play opportunities that are offered in the Gwynedd area via social media.</p> <p>Encourage every inquirer to follow our Facebook page, referring to it in every letter / e-mail when responding to an inquirer. As well as including the Come and Play Gwynedd leaflet.</p> <p>Attempt to follow as many event providers and organisers in order to receive the most recent accurate information to share on our Facebook and Twitter pages.</p> <p>Information packs tailored to the family's needs, including information about play providers if required.</p>	<p>Due to cuts within the service, this means that there is no capacity or budget to update the directory.</p> <p>Currently no FIS and Dewis presence on Gwynedd Council's Corporate Website - but discussions have been held</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>The Tribal/Dewis directory that stored information about play events and activities is used.</p> <p>The Information for Families Service is part of an appropriate database/directory development for FIS. This database will be able to store information on play activities and events. FIS will encourage sports providers and organisers to forward their information and update it themselves regularly. This will ensure quality and accuracy. The public and FIS will be able to use it in due course.</p>		
	<p>The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required</p>			<p>Information for Families Service Facebook Site - Gwynedd Ni</p> <p>Promote regular play opportunities that are offered in the Gwynedd area.</p> <p>Encourage every inquirer to follow our Facebook page, referring to it in every letter / e-mail when responding to an inquiry.</p> <p>Attempt to follow as many event providers and organisers in order to receive the most recent accurate information to share on our Facebook and Twitter pages.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Parents, children and young people can contact FIS to get information packs according to their needs.</p> <p>The public can contact FIS by visiting the office, calling, post, texting or social media such as Facebook and Messenger.</p>		
	<p>The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families</p>			<p>Information for Families Service Facebook Site - Gwynedd Ni</p> <p>Promote regular play opportunities that are offered in the Gwynedd area.</p> <p>Encourage every inquirer to follow our Facebook page, referring to it in every letter / e-mail when responding to an inquiry.</p> <p>Attempt to follow as many event providers and organisers in order to receive the most recent accurate information to share on our Facebook and Twitter pages.</p>		
	<p>The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play</p>			<p>Promote information about the importance of play, e.g. Play Wales, support Public Health Wales campaigns: Let's Get Moving North Wales, promote the Road Safety Week campaign. Road Safety campaigns: Carys Ofalus.</p> <p>Promote play opportunities as a family.</p> <p>Play sessions and events are offered by a variety of people and organisations, e.g.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>National Trust, Healthy Living Gwynedd (Play Sports), Flying Start Play Sessions, Dawns i Bawb, Urdd, Outdoors Clubs, Wild Elements, Noddfa Centre, Outdoor Partnership, Derwen, to name but a few.</p> <p>The Council has a Corporate Communications and Engagement Unit that individual services can commission to produce and implement communication plans and specific engagement on their behalf.</p> <p>In response to requests from services and department, the Communications Unit can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - work with journalists to secure media attention for schemes providing play opportunities for children, activities and clubs for children, family fun days, etc. - promote play opportunities and play schemes via the Council's public newsletter, the Council's social media account and any other appropriate platforms. 		
	The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play			Follow and share the FIS Facebook and Twitter pages and give suggestions for families to encourage children to play. As well as respond to specific enquiries about play in the area.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Collaborate with Cymru Kids' Clubs, promote Holiday Clubs in the area during school holidays.		
	The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			The Authority uses signs as required to promote play.		
	The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			The Council's Communications and Engagement Unit supports the Council Services to promote any key messages they have with regards to activities and children matters.		

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?

Regarding traffic matters, it appears from the responses of the responsible department (Environment, Gwynedd Council) that a number of traffic interventions already exist. When comparing with questionnaires, meetings and discussions held with members of the community, it is obvious that there are concerns regarding traffic in some areas.

It will have to be ensured that communities / services / providers are familiar with the requirements of the law regarding using public roads, but also what the structures / procedures in place are for temporary changes, or even developing road safety ideas in specific areas.

Did you face any challenges?

How can these be overcome?

Comments:

Information, publicity, events

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

An Information Officer validates and shares information through various mediums - the Gwynedd-Ni website, Gwynedd Council website, Facebook account etc. An electronic play Directorate is available, and copies are available at libraries and leisure centres.

The Authority is currently transferring the Information for Families Service information to Dewis Cymru and Gwynedd Council's website.

Did you face any challenges?

The willingness of external organisations to provide and update information on their opportunities on the Dewis Cymru website was a challenge

How can these be overcome?

Continue to promote the website and continue to communicate with the external organisations regularly.

Comments:

Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

The Local Authority should provide information about the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

RAG Status

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

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p><i>Note - the criteria involves the Play workforce. This includes anyone who is employed in a role that has an impact on children playing - this could include a role that is directly responsible for facilitating their play, for planning the play opportunities or someone who has the power to give children permission to play or not.</i></p>						
	<p>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)</p>			<p>Staff file Plas Pawb - the after-school club staff are working towards the Level 3 transition.</p> <p>Flying Start workforce has the relevant qualifications.</p> <p>Job descriptions denote the required qualification level</p>	<p>Need more Play training.</p> <p>Not enough Level 3 Play training</p>	<p>CIW's new requirements mean that staff in after-school play settings will need more play qualifications.</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>Work with CWLWM members and local Colleges to ensure that there are sufficient level 2 and 3 courses available.</p> <p>Offer level 2/3 apprenticeships at Plas Pawb, with the hope of expanding this to the entire sector.</p>		
	The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive			<p>Offer a grant to Cymru Kids' Clubs to provide Level 3 'transition' training</p> <p>28 staff members attended the 2016-18 training</p>		
	The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork			<p>Relevant grants - Flying Start/OOSG support training for staff.</p> <p>Foundation Phase and childcare training is offered annually</p>	All depending on Grant funding.	Identify opportunities to continue to fund training through the Children and Communities Grant, or identify other budgets.

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area			Flying Start offers specialist sessions. Any staff development needs are identified through the Council's corporate evaluation system.	Availability has decreased over the previous period, but only in some areas	Sessions/workshops/courses are offered when grants are available
	Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in playwork			Flying Start officers offer support and training for parents.		
	The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies				Play is not part of the corporate workforce development strategy.	
	The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			SKIP sessions are offered to parents	Availability has decreased over the previous period, but only in some areas	
	The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary and above			A training needs assessment for after-school clubs and holiday clubs is held. A CPD training package is offered by the Childcare Unit.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff			<p>Training is provided / offered to a range of organisations jointly with training providers.</p> <p>E.g. Flying Start Workforce Development</p> <p>Foundation Phase Training,</p>	Organisations would need to contribute towards the training as there is no core funding available for it	If resources were available, especially a budget, the provision could be extended
	There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children			<p>Training provision is available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flying Start Scheme - Foundation Phase Staff <p>CPD opportunities are offered to staff annually in childcare/after-school club settings. CWLWM organisations offer training.</p>		
	Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and			Training provision is available for:		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	decision makers whose work impacts on children's opportunities to play			- Flying Start Scheme - Foundation Phase Staff		

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?

There is no Designated Play Officer in the Authority to lead the policy field, who has qualifications in the field. The authority has a play delivery workforce across numerous services, e.g. Early Years, Education, Children's Services, Youth Service, and Leisure Services. The relevant Managers in the services ensure that the workforce is sufficient to provide play opportunities and are appropriately qualified, but this does not necessarily mean that every member of the workforce who provide opportunities have a play qualification. The relevant managers in the services are responsible for ensuring that play is part of the policy.

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*)?

The relevant Managers in the services ensure that the workforce is sufficient to provide play opportunities and are appropriately qualified, but this does not necessarily mean that every member of the workforce who provide opportunities have a play qualification. The Authority's resources (through a grant) prioritise play qualifications and skills amongst the early years workforce for its own workforce and its partners' workforce.

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

Every Council staff member goes through the evaluation process, and during the process and during a 1:1 meeting with the line manager, there will be an opportunity to identify the training/qualification requirements of the officer and, wherever possible, when funding allows, the officer will receive the opportunity to attend courses/workshops in order to develop them in order to be able to offer the best possible service.

Through the Childcare Networks, the Early Years Unit ensures a development plan for care settings that include training in the play field.

Did you face any challenges?

How can these be overcome?

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 not met.	
Criteria partially met.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Local Authority keeps an updated record of all of the number			Information, together with copies of all of		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	of 20mph zones / school safety zones in residential areas			the orders, are stored by the Transport and Countryside Service. By now, the Transportation and Countryside Service has a formal register for them		
	The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.			<p>Promoting plans by improving play opportunities include: Consult on building plans that include a play provision, e.g. new schools.</p> <p>Campaigns that include the community to tackle anti-social behaviour in communities that could impact playing fields and play provision, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don't Touch Tell -- Needle + Syringe Exchange (National Scheme). <p>Cats Paw (plans, prevents, and raises awareness of sex offences)</p>	Schemes are funded by the Community Safety Partnership, as part of improving communities. <i>(Not directly associated with Play)</i>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Campaigns that include the community to look after the environment that could influence the improvement of playing fields, e.g. Dog Fouling Campaign, Keep Wales Tidy.		
	<p>The Local Authority promotes community engagement in:</p> <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. 			Flying Start officers hold questionnaires at every event that is held. These are used to steer the provision / opportunities and activities for the future.		

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 Authority has used its structures, e.g. school Councils; the Family Information Service; Young People Panel and engagement plans for specific Services to encourage children and their families to participate in consultations. The Authority's Communications Unit also advises on holding specific consultations on a corporate level; along with co-ordinating internal and external responses by partners.

Did you face any challenges?

The levels of responses to consultations were low.

Competing with the timing of other consultations on a national and local level, e.g. the school sport survey in summer 2018 at the same time as the consultation on the play assessment was confusing for children, parents and carers.

How can these be overcome?

Ensure that the consultation does not happen at the same time as other consultations - if a timetable can be kept similarly to what has happened in the past - i.e. - a School Sport survey every two years - a play assessment consultation every three years, then the same problem should not arise until 2025!

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.	
Criteria not met.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board has committed to delivering changes to the communities of Gwynedd and Anglesey through the Well-being Plan https://www.llesiantgwyneddamon.org/en/Cynllun-Llesiant/. The Well-being Plan responds to the analysis of the 2016/17 Well-being Assessments. The 2016 Play Sufficiency Assessment contributed to the Well-being Assessments.</p> <p>Appropriate governance arrangements have been established - the Integrated Health and Care Sub-group will monitor progress in relation to improving the health of children and young people and their families, and assure the Public Services Board that the changes are leading to a better Service/outcome for the population</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW		The Well-being Plan has two well-being objectives and six priority fields that would contribute to the promotion of well-being and quality of life. Opportunities to hold outdoors activities, local facilities and community spirit are all factors that have been identified within the Well-being Plan which could contribute towards promoting well-being. One priority that has been identified within the Well-being Plan is that the PSB, through the Health and Care Integrated Sub-group, encourages children and young families and their families to improve their health so that they can live a healthy and independent life within their communities.		

Education and schools						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>Site Suitability Reports.</p> <p>Schools' self-evaluations.</p> <p>Where there is a challenge at individual schools where there is no suitable space in rainy or severe weather, they make use of halls, classrooms and, in some circumstances, leisure centres.</p>	In a small number of schools, there is no suitable indoors space during wet weather.	Arrangements to allow children to play when the weather is rainy or severe should be ensured.
	Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			<p>Sports Wales Report.</p> <p>Schools' self-evaluations.</p>	A range of experiences to the taste of every child.	
	Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			Schools' self-evaluations.	The situation is not practically possible at all schools due to the costs of opening and closing	Ensure that access to the play resources of every school in Gwynedd can be ensured, be it for free or

					<p>the resource outside the cartaker's working hours.</p>	<p>for a fee which would cover the costs of opening and closing.</p> <p>Identify funding or investigate alternative methods of ensuring access, such as use a smart lock on an all-weather pitch.</p>
	<p>Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school</p>			<p>Schools' self-evaluations.</p> <p>Safe cycling training is provided by the Transportation Department.</p>	<p>No suitable space to keep bicycles at every school.</p>	<p>Ensure a suitable space to park bicycles at the school. Ensure a supply of repair equipment such as tubes and general repair equipment so that young people can repair their defective bicycles.</p>

	The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			Individual Estyn school reports.	The Authority does not offer any guidance of this type.	Ensure a resource in order to hold an annual audit at every school to measure and ensure that every school offers regular play opportunities.
Town and Country Planning						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan

	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities			<p>Protected Playing Spaces in the Local Development Plan (Policy ISA4)</p> <p>A Policy in the Local Development Plan and the Supplementary Planning Guidance, asking for new playing space provision in new housing developments with 10 or more houses</p> <p>An Open Spaces Assessment has been created to assess the need for play spaces</p>			
Traffic and Transportation							
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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 development details of individual plans confirm this, e.g. active travel plans that have to comply with the Welsh Government document: Active			

				Travel: Design Guidelines			
	The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.			<p>The TAITH and TraCC Regional Transportation schemes identify the importance of access networks to offer play and leisure opportunities</p> <p>When preparing the Regional Transportation Plan, the transportation and travel needs of various groups were considered, and this is reflected in the work programme.</p>			

Early Years/Childcare						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan

	<p>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</p>			<p>A multi-agency group is established to look at the high levels of obesity in the early years.</p> <p>The Group will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emphasising the messages of 10 steps to a healthy weight in the Early Years. • developing the expertise of play staff to train other staff • stream the messages of the importance of play to the families of young children • Support FS and Childcare settings towards the Healthy and Sustainable School Plan accreditation. 	<p>A lack of staff understanding of physical literacy and making sufficient use of outside space</p> <p>Need to train more on the principles of SKIP</p> <p>The obesity rates of 5 year old children are high in some areas of Gwynedd</p>	<p>More training on Brave Boys, Traed Bach Sionc, Physical Literacy and effective use of the outdoors for childcare staff</p> <p>Need to buy packages to be in-keeping with the SKIP principles and Physical Literacy</p> <p>Allocate grants to childcare settings to improve the required resources</p>
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Family policy and initiatives						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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			<p>Physical Literacy Training has been held for nursery education and Flying Start settings jointly with GwE</p> <p>Many childcare settings are working towards the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school Plan quality accreditation.</p> <p>Flying Start and Families First sessions promote Play opportunities</p> <p>Language and Play Development Officers promote play in group sessions and on a 1:1 level in the Flying Start areas</p> <p>Buy packages for parents to be in-keeping with the SKIP principles and Physical Literacy and hold further training for childcare settings to</p>	<p>A lack of parents' understanding of the 10 steps to a healthy weight and the benefit of play on health and welfare</p> <p>Gwynedd has high levels of obesity in 5 year old children in specific areas of Gwynedd - Public Health Report</p>	<p>Need to promote the messages of 10 steps to a healthy weight. Need to collaborate with professionals and officers to continue with the provision of information and discover new sources by mapping how their work impact play opportunities for children</p>

				promote the work with parents		
	The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW		<p>Access to a Language and Play Worker to develop language skills through various play activities.</p> <p>Promote the importance of play when delivering the recognised parenting programmes of Incredible Years and Nurturing Programme.</p> <p>Provide the flexible Family Support Service that could offer activities based on play to increase parents' confidence when playing</p> <p>Commission youth mentors</p> <p>Offer parent interventions and programmes based on evidence on the basis of outreach to parents / families with children and young people between 5 and 25.</p>	<p>Get parents to understand the importance of play in their child's development and the development of their relationship with their child.</p> <p>A grant cut and lack of staff have led to the loss of designated play workers who were part of the 2012-2017 FF Action Plan. A clear deficiency in the service in the next period</p>	

	<p>Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities</p>	<p>NEW</p>		<p>Commission youth mentors who will offer youth and substance misuse support.</p> <p>A Family Support service that will promote play as part of a parenting programme</p> <p>Provide youth activities through supporting them to gain access to leisure activities and community engagement.</p> <p>Provide bespoke services to promote the mental health and emotional well-being of parents and to promote and maintain effective relationships with the family.</p> <p>Work with families where their children could be affected by experiences through the Family Support Service</p>		
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Inter-generational policy and initiatives						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			<p>Inter-generational Flying Start Family Fun sessions</p> <p>The first Inter-generational Project Report outlines the play opportunities promoted through Inter-generational activities</p>		

	<p>There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages</p>			<p>Inter-generational Flying Start Family Fun Sessions include activities for the whole family</p> <p>The Inter-generational scheme works closely with primary and secondary schools, and Further Education colleges to incorporate the Inter-generational activities into its activities</p>		<p>Continue with the Inter-generational Scheme that is funded through the ICF until March 2020. In the year to come, the Inter-generational Co-ordinator will attend catchment area meetings of School Headteachers (May 2019) to give a presentation on the successes of the Project and promote more Bridging activities (by using play as a medium) in Gwynedd Schools</p>
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Health and Safety						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	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				It is not included in the Local Authority's corporate Health and Safety policies.	
	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)			The Educational Visits Policy that Schools (Education Department) and the Children Department (Youth Service) has promotes adventurous activities for children and young people and they are held in a safe environment in accordance with the relevant risk assessment.		
	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils			There will be Service Level Agreements for funded play schemes by a Play Officer which will emphasise that a copy of insurance for the activity / project will be required.	Gwynedd Council insurance is unavailable for third sector providers and community councils	

Play within relevant policy and implementation agendas

Please use this section to highlight successes of collaboration across policy areas to improve play opportunities. Some successes seen have been limited to some policy fields only, e.g. Early Years and Youth Work. The collaboration particularly with the Health Board, Public Health Wales, the Police, in these two fields has seen more play opportunities being jointly developed, maximising use of new Resources (e.g. PACT, SBLASH) and has allowed us to prioritise and target specific areas and age groups.

Did you face any challenges?

Maximising the importance / role of play in some policy fields is more difficult due to the lack of awareness / recognition of its contribution to these fields.

There is no Structure (Play Monitoring Group) for bringing the partners together.

How can these be overcome?

Consider setting up a Play Group, depending on Resources to sustain it.

Comments:

Conclusion

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

The responses of the public consultation held with children, young people and their parents / carers should not be disregarded when steering this Assessment.

On the whole, parents / guardians responded that their children played often, and had enough opportunities to play, in various locations. On the whole, the parents / guardians are of the opinion that the children were safe when playing and that the community, on the whole, welcomed children who play.

In the opinion of the children / young people, the main weakness of the play opportunities is road safety surrounding play areas and the need to improve / upgrade the play equipment in playing fields.

80% of the children noted that they played more than 2-3 times per week and that they had enough time to play. 80% noted that they could play where they wanted, with many various places being noted. Over 90% noted that the play opportunities were good or very good.

97% of the children felt safe when playing and over 95% noted that the community / adults welcomed them when they were playing. Over 83% noted that the play opportunities were great or very good.

In the opinion of the children / young people, the main weakness of the play opportunities was the need to improve / upgrade the play equipment and improve road safety surrounding play areas (mainly car parking).

The principal Priorities that have been identified from the assessment:

That children, young people, parents / guardians are happy with the play opportunities and provision in the county overall.

That Providers of play opportunities are facing the challenge of maintaining and protecting the existing provision as it is

It is not possible to ensure audits of access to play areas outside the Authority's stock

There is a dependency on grants in order to ensure Continuous Professional Development for workers involved with play.

There is a lack of knowledge / understanding of the needs of some groups of children from ethnic minority backgrounds.

The need to continue developing and promoting information about play settings / provision / opportunities across the county in co-operation with the Family Information Service, and ensure that this information is also transferred to Dewis Cymru.

Further work is to be done in some specific policy fields - Improve children's opportunities to play at some schools when the weather is unfavourable; look at traffic management policies surrounding play areas.

A lack of capital funding to support / upgrade play provision by the Authority and partners (Community Councils) was a challenge. Maintenance programmes safeguards the existing stock, but many Community Councils have stated that they are eager to develop their playing fields with capital investments.

The 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.

See the table below.

Signed:

Date:

Play Sufficiency Action Plan



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Gwynedd

Name of responsible officer: Alun Jones

Job title: Sport for Life Team Manager

Completion Date: 5 March 2019

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

Proposed actions for the period of 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020

(Funding source: funding from the Local Authority own budgets and to be included in the Single Integrated Plan).

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Links to other Matters	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
Statutory Guidance – policy framework					
Matter A: Population	<p>Understand the playing needs of children from various cultural backgrounds.</p> <p>Understand the needs of LGBT children</p>	<p>Gather sufficient data on children from ethnic minority backgrounds.</p> <p>Identify a way of collecting data on LGBT children.</p>		The Council's Equality Officer's time	
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs	<p>Discover a way of ensuring that all provision by partners investigate access to their provision (specifically in the context of children</p>	<p>Identify groups of children from various cultural backgrounds / LGBT that could be consulted on their experiences of play</p>		Equality Officer's time	

	from various cultural backgrounds)	Discuss with the Equality Officer to research into identifying needs better			
Matter C: Space available for children to play	Keep an updated record of all of the designated play areas, as described in the Statutory Guidance, including those outside the Municipal Unit's stock	Promote DEWIS as an information point for play providers to record their provision.		The Information Service staff's time	
Matter D: Supervised provision	Continue to identify opportunities to provide play and leisure schemes and activities free of charge.	Identify grants and budgets / plan sessions / commissioning etc.		Managers' time - Early Years, Youth Service, Active Children and Young People Team, Libraries, Arts Unit	Children and Communities Grant. Youth Support Grant LAPA Grant Community Safety Grant
Matter E: Charges for play provision	Promote the availability and locations of free provision across the County	Promote the use of the DEWIS database directory which can store this information. Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matter C 	The Information Service staff's time	

		<p>will be able to update it themselves in future.</p> <p>The Family Information Service (Gwynedd-Ni) to promote any provision through social media pages.</p>			
Matter F: Access to space/provision	No specific criterion - the consultation has identified that parking around the playing areas is a concern for parents / children and is a barrier from safeguarding the sites	<p>A more detailed analysis of the responses to identify the communities affected.</p> <p>Raise the matter with the Traffic / Parking Enforcement Unit.</p> <p>Identify joint mitigation measures.</p>		An officer's time in the Transportation Unit.	
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	<p>Develop the workforce to the required standard</p> <p>Wherever possible, continue to expand</p>	<p>Ensure that staff in childcare and after-school settings receive the required qualifications as noted in the new CIW requirements by 2020. (internal and external workforce)</p> <p>Research/discover budgets that will be able to extend what the</p>		<p>The cost of courses</p> <p>The cost of courses</p>	Children and Communities Grant (OOSG)

	<p>the variety of learning and development opportunities offered to staff</p> <p>Qualify staff to provide good play opportunities for younger children</p>	<p>Authority already offers its staff</p> <p>Ask organisations to pay for the opportunities because no core funding is available</p> <p>More training on Brave Boys, Traed Bach Sionc, Physical Literacy and effective use of the outdoors for childcare staff</p> <p>Buy packages to be in-keeping with the SKIP principles and Physical Literacy</p>		<p>The cost of courses</p> <p>The cost of packages</p>	<p>(Play Grant if it becomes available)</p> <p>(Play Grant if it becomes available)</p> <p>(Play Grant if it becomes available)</p>
Matter H: Community engagement and participation	See Matter A above				
Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas	Education and Schools				

	<p>Schools to ensure that a good play environment is provided for children during break times in the school day</p> <p>Schools to provide access to school grounds to play outside school hours</p> <p>Ensure that children can cycle to school where possible</p>	<p>Need to ensure arrangements to allow children to be able to play when the weather is rainy or severe.</p> <p>Ensure that access to the play resources of every school in Gwynedd can be ensured, be it for free or for a fee which would cover the costs of opening and closing.</p> <p>Identify funding or investigate alternative methods of ensuring access, such as use a smart lock on an all-weather pitch.</p> <p>Ensure a suitable space to park bicycles at the school.</p> <p>Ensure a supply of repair equipment such as tubes and general repair equipment so that young</p>		<p>Education officers' time</p>	
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	<p>The Local Authority to seek more information about the regular outdoors play opportunities that schools offer</p> <p>Parents are educated and receive the latest information and support to enable them to encourage their children to play</p> <p>Inter-generational work which encourages better interaction between children of various ages</p>	<p>people can repair their defective bicycles.</p> <p>Ensure a resource in order to hold an annual audit at every school to measure and ensure that every school offers regular play opportunities.</p> <p>Need to promote the messages of 10 steps to a healthy weight via Gwynedd-Ni.</p> <p>Continue with the Inter-generational Scheme.</p> <p>The Inter-generational Co-ordinator will attend catchment area meetings of School Headteachers (May 2019) to give a presentation on the successes of the Project</p>		<p>Education officers' time</p> <p>Gwynedd-Ni Information Service</p> <p>Inter-generational Co-ordinator</p>	<p>ICF</p>
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		and promote more Briding activities (by using play as a medium) in Gwynedd Schools			
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