District Councillor Report for East Challow Parish Council September 13th 2023

Community bus service

The small group of individuals chaired by Iain Cameron, Wantage Town Council Deputy Mayor, meets regularly to take this forward. A survey will go out to all houses sometime later this month or early next month to gauge opinion, likely use and destinations. This is a project part-funded by s106 money from Kingsgrove mainly supporting a service for the villages east of Wantage. The group is in a dialogue with OCC about how best to manage this and to look in detail at logistical issues. OCC are also now exploring a reinstatement of a limited service of the old 57 route covering our villages west of Wantage and this has been put out to tender. Fingers crossed.

Wantage Hospital

Meetings between a HOSC working group (including myself and Cllr Jane Hanna, HOSC chair) and representatives of Oxford Health (OH, Dr Ben Riley) and the Oxfordshire Lead at BOB ICS (Dr Dan Leveson) continue to enable HOSC to monitor the direction of travel for Wantage Hospital. It is a very complex issue since we wish to see Wantage Hospital used in a way other than simply a base for outreach activities. The Maternity Unit will continue to run as it does now. Many wish to see some form of same-day service, either as a minor injuries/ First Aid Unit and there remains interest in in-patient beds based there. Dialogue is also continuing between OH and local care homes where patients might conceivably be discharged from acute hospital beds and for rehabilitation and end-of-life care when necessary

Joint Local Plan Development

A number of briefings are taking place with councillors covering aspects of the Joint Local Plan being developed by The Vale and South Oxfordshire District Councils, the briefings being set up after some pressure by councillors as we did not know what was being done. A recent interactive briefing on the local Landscape Character took place. This is available for input at <u>https://south-and-vale-landscape-character-assessment-luc.hub.arcgis.com</u> until Sept 29th.

Farming

As a Food and Farming Champion for the Vale I have been trying to speak to a variety of local farmers and food producers to gauge their level of contact with the Vale and their views on the changes that are taking place in funding support. I attended a webinar this week hosted by Defra to brief farmers on these changes, moving away from the Basic Payments Scheme to ELMS (Environmental Land Management Scheme) and increasingly, the Sustainable Farming Initiative. The fact that Defra felt a need to do this suggested to me that many farmers are confused on what is happening and this is the feeling I get from farmers also. I have suggested a separate dashboard for farmers on the Vale website. More on this in due course.

Wilts and Berks Canal Trust

As a member of the WBCT I receive their magazine, Dragonfly. There is mention of the piece of land in West Challow adjacent to the canal purchased on their behalf which they will use for storage of equipment. They are keen on recruiting new members – the more members they have the more can be done.

Childrey Way

The Oxfordshire footpaths officer has told me that they are looking to repair the stretch of Childrey Way from Cornhill Farm to Silver Lane, possibly this month. I have told him that it is highly unlikely to encourage parents to send their children to King Alfred's School by foot along the path, since it is inherently unsafe as being too isolated and parents will still struggle to drive their children to school. Wrong solution to the problem in my opinion.

Hedge planting

The Challows and Childrey Hedgerow group will be planting a mixed species hedge along Silver Lane on November 26th and January 13th. We will be based in West Challow Village Hall and start with coffee, receiving on-site training and end the session with cake! We are still looking for volunteers – the more we have the quicker we can complete the work. We have recently been informed that we will be receiving a grant of £3,500 from TOE (Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment) for further planting which we see as a long-term activity.

Cllr Dr Paul Barrow Ridgeway Ward Vale of White Horse District Council September 7th 2023

Appendix C

In respect of East Challow Parish Council

1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/.

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2023; and

 confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors

2 External auditor report 2022/23

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

There is a trivial rounding error in this year's column when summed. When rounding the numbers for the Return care should be taken to ensure the Return sums correctly.

3 External auditor certificate 2022/23

We certify/ do not certify* that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

*We do not certify completion because:			
External Auditor Name			
	MOORE		
External Auditor Signature	MOORE	Date	02/09/2023

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 Part 3 Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities*

Appendix C

East Challow Parish Council

NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF ANNUAL AUDIT

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

The audit of accounts for East Challow Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2023 has been completed and the accounts have been published.

The Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector in the area of the Civil Parish of East Challow by application to:

Clerk to the Council

07774 405472 EastChallowClerk@gmail.com

Viewing by arrangement with the Clerk or RFO during October and November 2023.

Copies will be provided to any person on payment of £1 for each copy of the Annual Return

Announcement made by

Mrs L White

Responsible Financial Officer

Date of Announcement

07 September 2023

Title	Finance 2023/2024
Authors	Responsible Financial Officer
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

August and September Payments List

Accurate at time of issuing the Agenda

Total Staff Costs August: NIL

Total Staff Costs September: £497.17

All other August & September Payments:

Voucher No	Date	Supplier	Description	Payment Ref	Net	VAT	Total
53	13/09/2023	Safelincs Ltd (The Defib Pad)	Defib Pads		94.57	18.91	113.48
52	13/09/2023	The Sign Shed	Tennis Court Signs		24.99	5.00	29.99
51	13/09/2023	Greenfield Woodwork	Public Art		2000	0	2000
48	13/09/2023	Laura White	Expenses - Various	403063	139.20	0.00	139.20
47	13/09/2023	Starboard Systems Limited	Scribe Accounts	403062	288.00	57.60	345.60
46	13/09/2023	Playsafety Limited	RoSPA Inspection	403061	138.00	27.60	165.60
45	13/09/2023	Parish Online	Subscriptions	403059	45.00	9.00	54.00
44	13/09/2023	Moore	Audit Fees	403058	315.00	63.00	378.00
42	13/09/2023	Jeremy Hanham	Grass Cutting	403056	1185.00	0.00	1185.00
41	13/09/2023	Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas East Challow	Church Clock	403055	250.00	0.00	250.00
40	24/08/2023	Jeremy Hanham	Grounds Maintenance	402851	1274.00	0.00	1274.00
39	23/09/2023	lonos	Website	DirectDebit	15.00	3.00	18.00
38	23/08/2023	lonos	Website	DirectDebit	15.00	3.00	18.00
				TOTAL	5783.76	187.11	5970.87

NOTE: the RFO has advised there is no legislation to pay for the maintenance of the clock at the church and this should not be paid. The clock is part of the fabric of the church. Legislation in 1895 created civil parishes and separated church and state. There is no legislation for giving monies to the church. This is why this parish council should also *not* contribute to the costs of the church newsletter, known as the Challow News. Whilst Councillors have confirmed there is some sort of plaque explaining that the clock "belongs to the parish" it is essentially the Church clock. The RFO will seek further clarification on this point from OALC on this matter, to be brought to the meeting. It has been suggested that the invoice could come in the name of the PC in future and the PC could pay for the Clock maintenance directly, but further clarification on the ownership of the clock and who insures the clock / maintains it on their asset register likely needs to be completed before next year's maintenance bill is due.

Receipts July & August

17th July 2023: £90 – Interment Costs – Dignity Funerals 07th Aug 2023: £25 – Memorial Permit – Dignity Funerals 22nd Aug 2023: £19.92 – Community Event – The Village

Appendix D

Reconciled Bank Accounts

July

	Bank Reconciliation at 24/07/20	023		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023			77,462.85
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 24/07/2023			23,336.22
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 24/07/2023			100,799.07 20,662.08
A	Cash in Hand 24/07/2023 (per Cash Book)			80,136.99
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Cooperative	24/07/2023 24/07/2023 24/07/2023	0.00 55,685.55 25,765.77	
				81,451.32
	Less unpresented payments			1,314.33
				80,136.99
	Plus unpresented receipts			
в	Adjusted Bank Balance			80,136.99
	A = B Checks out OK			

August

	Bank Reconciliation at 23/08/2	2023		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023			77,462.85
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 23/08/2023			23,374.14
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 23/08/2023			100,836.99 20,680.08
А	Cash in Hand 23/08/2023 (per Cash Book)			80,156.91
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash Cooperative Barclays	23/08/2023 23/08/2023 23/08/2023	0.00 54,353.22 25,803.69	
	Less unpresented payments			80,156.91
	Less unpresented payments			80,156.91
	Plus unpresented receipts			
В	Adjusted Bank Balance			80,156.91
	A = B Checks out OK			

Appendix E

Title	Allotments
Authors	Responsible Financial Officer
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

To consider list of allotments, note vacancies, approve any notices to be served on unkempt plots

• Map

				5A1	
				5A2	
1A	2A	3A	4A		
		3B1	-		
1B	2B	3B2	4B	5B	
r		PATH	T	I	
			9A2		
6A	7A	8A	9A1	10A	11A
				10B1	
6B	7B	8B	9B	10B2	11B

Note: 2A & 2B both with the same plot holder.

• Vacancies

9A1 – Vacant 11B – Vacant

• Unkempt Plots – to approve to give notice

To discuss at the meeting which ones apply.

• Waiting List

Currently Contains 2 people, propose offering 9A1, 11B, plus any unkempt plot notice is given on, to the applicant with the longest wait, then re-offer the remaining plots to the remaining person on the list.

Appendix F

Title	Training
Authors	Responsible Financial Officer
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

Courses for New Clerk, should they wish to attend.

ACCURATE AGENDAS AND EFFECTIVE MINUTES – online – Friday 20th October 22023 £60 (OALC)

DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE ACTION PLANS – online – Tuesday 23rd January £50 (OALC)

PREPARING FOR YEAR END AND AUDIT- online – Tuesday 6th February £30 (OALC)

INTRODUCTION TO LOCAL COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION (ILCA) - online - Various £120 (SLCC)

Courses for Councillors:

MANAGING EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE – online – Monday 18th September £30 (OALC)

COUNCILLOR FUNDAMENTALS – online – Monday 20th November £55 (OALC)

FINANCE FOR COUNCILLORS – online – Tuesday 6th February £30 (OALC)

Suitable For Both Clerk and Councillors:

PLANNING - HOW LOCAL COUNCILS FIT INTO THE PLANNING SYSTEM, EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS – in person WITNEY – Monday 13th November £55 (OALC)

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES – in person DIDCOT – Thursday 18th January £110 (OALC)

Appendix H



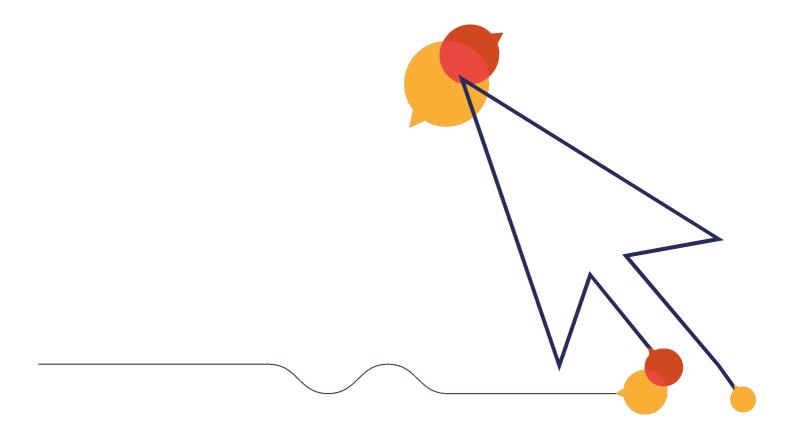
Safety Inspection Report

Annual Inspection

Recreation Ground

East Challow Parish Council

11 August 2023



Playsafety Ltd is licensed by RoSPA to trade as RoSPA Play Safety



Safety Inspection Report

Annual Inspection

Site name:	Recreation Ground
Date of inspection:	11 August 2023
Inspector:	Mila Yearley

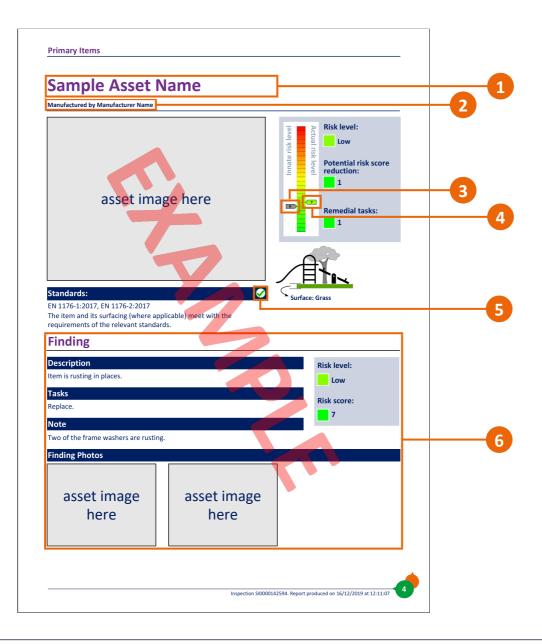




The assets on site are categorised as **Ancillary Items** or **Play Items**, and listed under those headings.

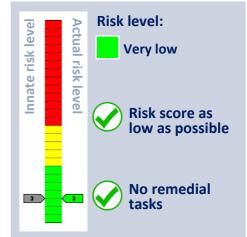
Each item is listed in the style shown in the image below, which contains labels to aid interpretation as follows:

- 1) The name of the asset
- 2) The manufacturer of the asset, if known,
- 3) The innate or default risk score of the asset, assuming it has no faults and complies with standards,
- 4) The actual risk score of the asset at the time of inspection, being the highest of the finding risks or the innate risk,
- 5) A statement about whether the item complies with the appropriate standards, including the names of those standards,
- 6) Details about findings, if any, including what is wrong (Description), what to do about it (Tasks), notes to aid understanding (Notes), and photograph(s) of the issue.



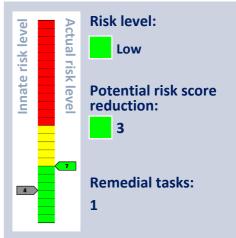
Fencing





Gates





Maintenance Finding

Description

There is a crushing or shearing point on the side of the gate. Where the gaps reduce to less than 12 mm these have been known to cause serious, permanent injury to children, especially on the hinge side where the leverage forces are significant.

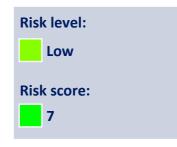
Tasks

Adjust gate / posts / fit new rubber buffer to ensure a spacing of at least 12 mm throughout the range of the gate to remove the entrapment. The 12 mm gap also should apply on the hinge side of the gate.

Note

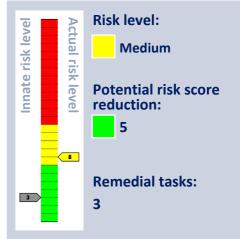
On the opening side. Consider fitting a buffer which prevents the gate from closing fully so the minimum gap is 12 mm.





General Surface





Maintenance Finding

Description

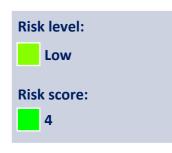
Shrinkage / separation of the surface. This may give a trip hazard.

Tasks

Allow grass to establish in the gap, as this may prevent the wet pour from shrinking further., Read the notes for further action.

Note

Tiles: As discussed on site, gaps can be filled with topsoil (no need to fill to the top tile level), as this may prevent further shrinkage. Low plants in the gaps are also acceptable.



Finding Photos



A3

Maintenance Finding

Description

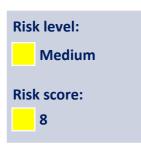
Timber is not in good condition.

Tasks

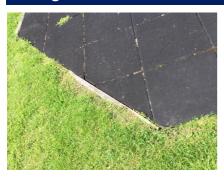
Read the notes for further action.

Note

Timber edging is rotten in places with potential for large shards to become loose and misused. Trip hazards are formed where the timber edging is missing. Remove rotten timbers and fill the gaps with topsoil to level the ground. Intact timber edging does not need to be removed.

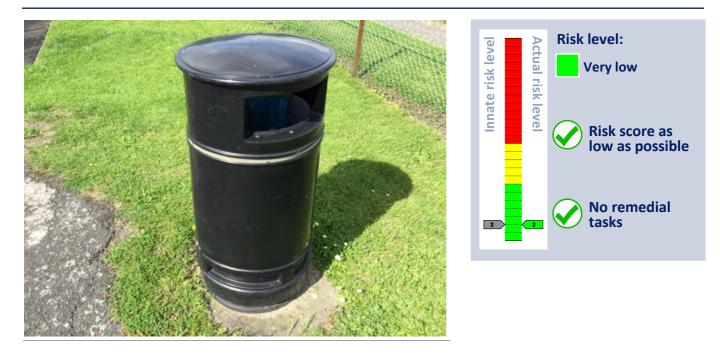


Finding Photos



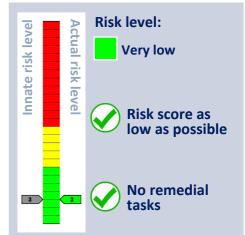
A4

Litter Bin



Seating







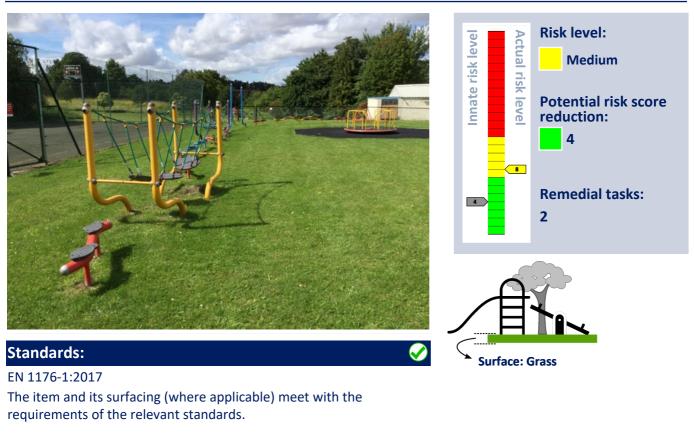
Signage





Agility Trail

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



Maintenance Finding









Maintenance Finding

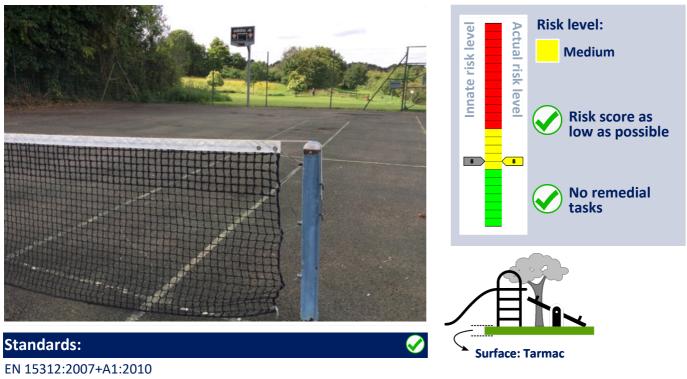






Ball Games Area

Manufactured by (Unknown)

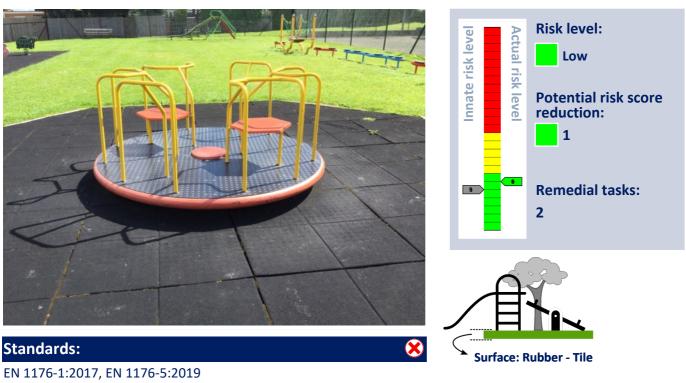


The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.



Carousel

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



The item is not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards. The surfacing meets with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding



Unevenness in surface. Infill the dip under the tiles to make level.

Finding Photos



P4

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Clearance between the underside of the roundabout and the surface is incorrect.

Tasks

Re-install roundabout or adjust surfacing. Recommended height 60-110 mm for 300 mm from edge.

Note

Clearance is up to 120 mm. It should be no more than 110 mm.





Multiplay

Manufactured by HAGS SMP

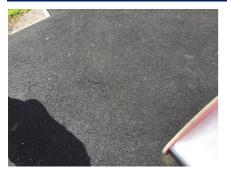


Maintenance Finding

DescriptionRisk level:The wet pour surface is cracking.I Very lowTasks
No reasonably practicable action is identified.Risk score:Note2

Monitor.

Finding Photos



P6

Maintenance Finding

Description

Shrinkage / separation of the surface. This may give a trip hazard.

Tasks

Allow grass to establish in the gap, as this may prevent the wet pour from shrinking further.

Finding Photos



Maintenance Finding

Description	Risk level:
There is graffiti on the unit.	Very low
Tasks	
Remove.	Risk score:

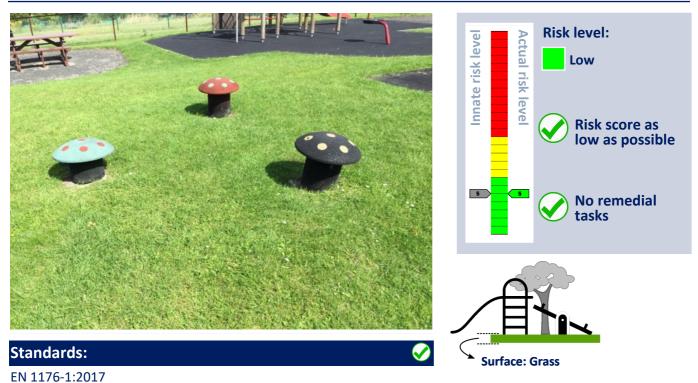






Mushrooms

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd

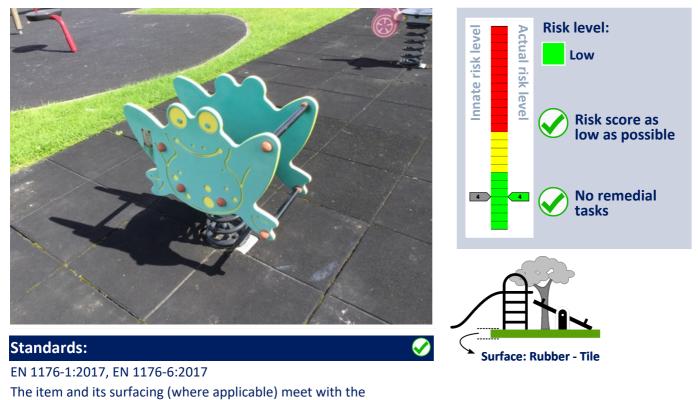


The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.



Rocker - Frog

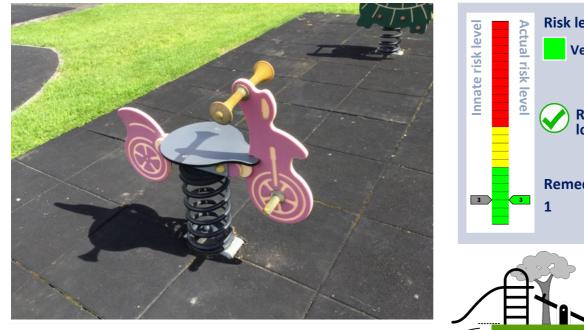
Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd

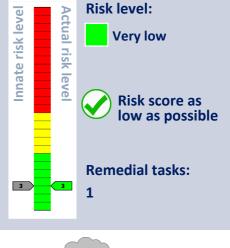


requirements of the relevant standards.

Rocker - Motorbike

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd







 (\mathbf{X})

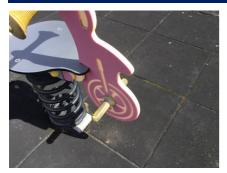
Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item is not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards. The surfacing meets with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Standard Compliance Finding

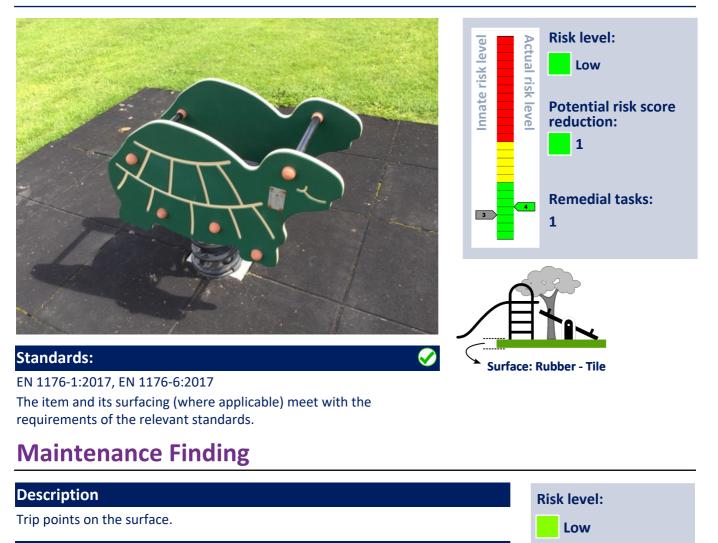
Description	Risk level:
Protruding handles / foot rests.	Very low
Tasks	D'al anna
The unit was installed prior to the publication of the current standards. There is no requirement to make retrospective changes.	Risk score:





Rocker - Tortoise

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



Tasks

Build up surface level to remove trip points.

Finding Photos





Risk score:

4

Slide

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



The item is not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards. The surfacing meets with the requirements of the relevant standards.



Maintenance Finding

Description Risk level: Item has corrosion. Medium Tasks Risk score: Treat and repair. 8

The framework has corrosion, particularly advanced in the last-but-one step which can collapse under load.

Finding Photos



Standard Compliance Finding

Description

There is a head entrapment.

Tasks

The unit was installed prior to the publication of the current standards. There is no requirement to make retrospective changes.







Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Guard rail height is below the minimum permitted of not less than 600 mm above the surface of the platform, step or ramp.

Tasks

The unit was installed prior to the publication of the current standards. There is no requirement to make retrospective changes.

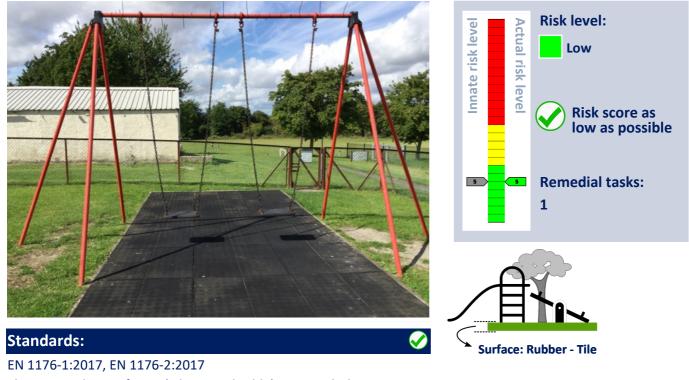
Risk level: Low Risk score:





Swing - Junior - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017 The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.



Maintenance Finding

Description

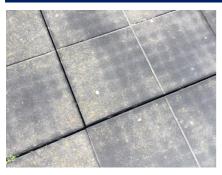
Gaps have opened up between tiles causing trip hazard.

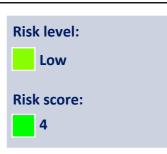
Tasks

Refit the tiles.

Note

As discussed on site, gaps can be filled with topsoil (no need to fill to the top tile level), as this may prevent further shrinkage. Low plants in the gaps are also acceptable.

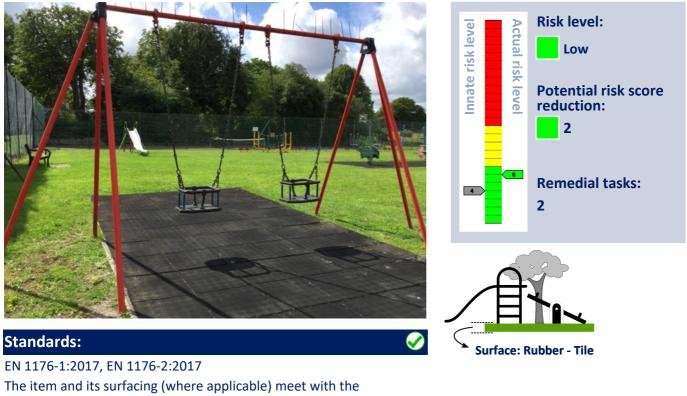






Swing - Toddler - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

DescriptionRisk level:Timber is rotting.LowTasksRisk score:Read the notes for further action.6Note

Rot in timber surround with potential for sharp slivers. Remove slivers when they appear and make the ground level to eliminate trip potential.





Maintenance Finding







General Notes

The risk scores are calculated by plotting the likelihood of harm against the severity of the injury sustained. The likelihood is given a score of 1 to 5, and the severity is given a score of 1 to 5. In doing this a matrix is produced which gives a numerical assessment of the risk on a score of 1 to 25, and a judgement is made as to which risks are low, which are medium and which are high. Risk scores may be adjusted in the light of experience and therefore may not be exactly as per the table. For example, a score of 7 may be noted.

Risks are calculated in this way:

- 1. An assessment of the likelihood of harm taking place is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
 - a. 1 = Rare
 - b. 2 = Unlikely
 - c. 3 = Moderate
 - d. 4 = Likely
 - e. 5 = Certain
- 2. An assessment of the severity of the injury sustained is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
 - a. 1 = Insignificant
 - b. 2 = Minor
 - c. 3 = Moderate
 - d. 4 = Major
 - e. 5 = Catastrophic
- 3. The two numbers are multiplied to give a risk score on a scale of 1 to 25.
- 4. Scores of 1 to 7 inclusive are considered to be low risk and are considered to be tolerable where this is the innate risk of the item, but where remedial works are identified these should be undertaken,
- 5. Scores of 8 to 12 are considered to be medium risk and some control measures may be identified to reduce the risks to low, tolerable levels,
- 6. Score of 13 and above are considered to be high risk and urgent action is considered to be necessary to reduce the risks to tolerable levels.

General Notes

It is important to note that where an outcome is catastrophic, but for which the likelihood is rare this will present a score of $1 \times 5 = 5 = 1$ ow risk. Similarly, a certain event for which the consequence is insignificant will present a score of $5 \times 1 = 5 = 1$ ow risk. It is important to consider likelihood and consequence, and not just one of the factors in isolation.

The multiplication of the factors into a risk matrix is given here in Table 1, with a judgement made as to risk scoring indicated by colour.

Green = LOW risk, Amber = MEDIUM risk, Red = HIGH risk.

	Severity					
		1	2	3	4	5
L		Insignifi- cant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastro- phic
k	1 = Rare	1	2	3	4	5
е		LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
I	2 = Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
i		LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
h	3 = Moderate	3	6	9	12	15
0		LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH
0	4 = Likely	4	8	12	16	20
d		LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
	5 = Certain	5	10	15	20	25
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH

Table 1 – Risk Score Matrix

Inspection Scope

The inspections are undertaken using the RPII's inspection scope.

Compliance with Standards

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the appropriate standards, which are listed next to each item. Compliance with these standards is not mandatory in law, but it is useful to know whether items comply or not. If we think a change is needed, then this is noted in our report. Non-compliance does not necessarily mean that a change is needed. Where a standard is undated the current version is applied, unless overlap periods are allowed by the standards committee at the time of update. The information provided herein is to assist the owner/operator to fulfil its responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standards. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of this inspection, unless they are also explicitly listed here.

The listed standards are relevant to all installations of equipment which are publicly accessible, including public parks, pay to play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks and the like. All equipment used in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant listed standard.

Additionally, EN 1176-7 provides guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation to owners/operators of equipment and ancillary items. In the United Kingdom the National Foreword forms an important part to the understanding and implementation of the recommendations set out in EN 1176-7. It clarifies the application of the document within the UK as best practice guidance, as the document has been used since its initial publication. Therefore the EN 1176-7 contains no requirement in the UK and needs to be read and implemented as guidance, with the use of the terms 'shall' therefore becoming a recommendation, as in the term 'should'.

Domestic equipment falls outside the scope of standards for publicly accessible spaces. Domestic play equipment has its own standard (BS EN 71 - Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report, but compliance may be assessed to the applicable standard relating to publicly accessible equipment.

When water play items, including spray parks, are inspected any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will refer to EN 1176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of EN 17232 (Water play equipment and features).

Compliance with standards is not always a clear-cut thing. Some interpretation can be needed, and our interpretation may differ from the interpretation of others. In some cases, we may decide not to note non-compliance in cases where we think it may mislead or be unhelpful so to do.

General Notes

What We Inspect

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area (that area which is obviously part of the playground), nominally up to 3.0 metres around, the fence line if closer, or other areas as agreed.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts), structural integrity, wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

What We Don't Inspect

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground or beneath the playing surface. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

We have inspected without dismantling or destruction and so some aspects of the relevant standards may not be testable on site.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

Exposure to Risk

Exposure to acceptable levels of risk and challenge is essential to children's development and allows them to exercise their right to play. Therefore, it can be judged that levels of risk above low risk can be acceptable. The risk scores shown allow the operator to make a judgement after first considering the benefit of the activity to which the risk score relates.

Ownership

There may be cases where we report issues that are not the site owner's responsibility. It is not necessarily possible for us to determine who owns what, and in any case we need to bring all risks to your attention if they can affect the safety of the site's users.

Contemporaneous Findings

Our report shows the findings at the time of inspection. Subsequent events may affect the condition of the site. Suggested remedial actions are based upon our knowledge and experience. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Timber

Where timbers are set into the ground it is not always possible to determine levels of decay. The owner/operator should ensure it conducts appropriate inspections to identify decay before it becomes a problem.

We can undertake more in-depth testing of your playground timbers using resistance penetration.

Timber is known to decay from the inside out. This makes it very important that you ensure proper testing and inspection is undertaken of your playground timbers, especially where defects may be hidden inside the structures. Testing using resistance penetration can help to identify defects before they become outwardly apparent, but can also confirm the condition of good timbers to prevent premature replacement with its associated costs. The testing is undertaken using a specialist machine, which uses electronically controlled drill resistance measurement. The drill is fine enough that it does not cause permanent damage to reduce the lifespan of the equipment.

Please contact us for pricing and further information.

Planting and Trees

Where planting or trees are mentioned in our report, please be advised that we do not undertake any arboricultural, horticultural or toxicological assessment of suitability or condition. You must ensure you undertake suitable inspections from an appropriate expert.

How This Inspection Contributes to Your Annual Main Inspection

The owner/operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facility. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in your RoSPA inspection [the items in the first column are the items which comprise an "Annual Main Inspection", the second column shows which elements form part of a RoSPA inspection, items with a cross are not included, some items may have limitations as shown in the notes to the Table 1). The standards also contain additional parts which the owner/operator should follow.

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards These form the Annual Main Inspection		
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	√ [1]	
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	√ [1]	
6.2 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	√ [2]	
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	√ [3]	
6.1 d) Effects of weather	✓	
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	√ [1]	
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	✓ [4]	
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	×	
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	√ [5]	
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	✓ [1]	
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	 ✓ 	
6.2 c) Presence of rot or corrosion (see note 2)	√ [2]	
6.2 c) Assessment of repairs made/added or replaced components (see note 5)	×	
N.B. The clause numbers above are taken from BS EN 1176-7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards. Playgrounds contains a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as details in the relevant standard.		
Notes [1] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested for with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment. We therefore cannot be held responsible for the presence of such decay. [2] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on annual inspections. We can conduct impact testing for additional fees. [3] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment [4] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance [5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs orreplacement.		

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PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FREE SPACE

* No obstacles in the minimum space (other than structures to assist or safeguard the user)

* Traffic flows should not go through the minimum space

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FALLING SPACE

* Free height of fall should not exceed 3m * No obstacles in the falling space * Platforms with fall heights of more than 1m between them require surfacing

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES DUE TO OTHER TYPES OF MOVEMENT

* No unexpected obstacles

SURFACING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Surfacing should have no sharp edges or protrusions * Loose fills should be 100mm more than the depth required to meet the HIC reading (usually 200mm) * Hard surfaces should only be used outside where children fall * Testable Impact absorbing surfaces if falls over 600mm are possible. Topsoil or turf may be used up to 1m

DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE

* The equipment must be suitable for the user and risks should be identifiable by the child * Accessibility: adults must be able to gain access to help children * Grip requirements: permitted diameter 16 - 45mm (i.e. overhead bars) * Grasp requirements: maximum diameter 60mm (e.g. handrails on steps)

* Requirements for easily accessible equipment

FINISHING

* Timber species and synthetics should be splinter resistant * No protrusions or sharp-edged components * Bolts should not protrude by more than 8mm * Corners, edges or projecting parts over 8mm should have a 3mm radius. * No hard and sharp-edged parts (e.g. razor blade effect caused by sheet steel) * No crushing or shearing points

* Connections should not come loose by themselves and should resist removal. * Timber connections should not rely solely on screws or nails. * Leaking lubricants should not stain or impair the safety of the equipment

FIBRE ROPES

* Conform to EN 701 or 919 or have a material and load certificate

* Ropes used by hands shall have a soft, non-slip covering

WIRE ROPES

* Non-rotating and corrosion resistant with no splayed wires outside the ferrule * Wire connector clip threads should protrude less than 8mm * Turnbuckles should be enclosed, have a loop at each end and be secured

CHAINS

* Maximum opening of individual links: 8.6mm in any one direction.

* Connecting links between chains must be less than 8.6mm or over 12mm

SWINGING SUSPENDED ROPES

* Not combined with swings in the same bay * Less than 2m long: over 600mm from static parts; over 900mm from swinging parts * 2m - 4m long: over 1000mm from anything * Diameter: 25 - 45mm

CLIMBING ROPES

* Anchored at both ends and movement less than 20% of rope length

* Single climbing rope diameter: 18 - 45mm (nets comply with Grip requirements)

ENTRAPMENTS

* Entrapment: a place from which children cannot extricate themselves unaided There are six probes: the Torso Probe, the Large Head Probe, The Small Head probe, the Wedge Probe and the two Finger Rods. There is a toggle test to reduce the dangers of clothing toggles being caught on slides, fireman's poles and roofs, and a ring gauge to test for rocker hand/foot rest protrusions.

BRIDGES

* The space between the flexible bridge and rigid sides should be not less than 230mm

ENTRAPMENT OF FEET AND LEGS

* Inclined planes (not suspension bridges) less than 38° should have no gaps over 30mm

* There are no requirements for suspension bridge gaps other than the main entrapment requirements

FINGER ENTRAPMENTS

These occur in: 1. gaps where child's movement may cause a finger to become stuck; 2. open-ended tubes; 3. moving gaps

* Tube ends should be securely enclosed and removable only with tools

* Moving gaps should not close to less than 12mm

BARRIERS AND GUARD-RAILS

* Hand-rail: a rail to help the child balance * Guard-rail: a rail to prevent children falling * Barrier: a guard-rail with non-climbable in-fill HAND-RAILS

* Where required they should be between 600 and 850mm above the standing surface

EQUIPMENT FOR UNDER 3'S

* Platforms over 600mm require a barrier with a minimum height of 700mm high + impact absorbing surfacing

EQUIPMENT FOR OVER 3'S

* Platforms up to 1000mm: No barriers or guard-rails required + impact absorbing surface over * Platforms 1000-2000mm: 600 - 850mm high guard-rail + impact absorbing surfacing * Platforms 2000-3000mm: 700mm high barrier + impact absorbing surfacing * No bars, infills or steps which can be used as steps. Tops should discourage standing or sitting

MEANS OF ACCESS

The main change in this area is that the probes should now be applied to accesses. All means of access should have no entrapments; be securely fixed; be level to $\pm 3^{\circ}$ (ramps across width) and have a constant angle. It does not refer to agility equipment used as an access i.e. arched climbers, scramble nets. There are specific measurements for ladders, stairs and ramps.

SWINGS

The main changes relate to requirements for new types of swings, dimensions and surfacing areas.

REQUIREMENTS

* No all rigid suspension members (i.e. solid bar top to bottom) * Design should be principally for use by seated children (RoSPA interpretation) * Two seats per bay maximum. Do not mix cradle and flats seats in same bay * Some types of swings have slightly different requirements. Information should be obtained from the supplier * Single points swing chains should not twist round each other * Single point swings require a secondary bearing support mechanism

DIMENSIONS

* Minimum ground clearance at rest: 350mm (400mm for single point swings and tyres) * No maximum seat surface height but RoSPA recommends a max. height of 635mm for cradles and flat seats * Distance between seat and frame: 20% of swing suspension + 200mm * Distance between seats: 20% of the swing suspension + 300mm * Pivot splay (separation distance) at crossbar: width between seat fixings plus 5% of swing suspension length

SITING

* Swing sets for young children should be separated from those for older children and sited to avoid cross traffic

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

Forward and Back

* Different areas for synthetic and loose-fill surfaces in a box or pit. Measurements each way are: 1. synthetic: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 1.75m 2. loose-fill: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 2.25m

Side width

* Seat width no greater than 500mm: 1.75m minimum (i.e. .875mm each way from seat centre)

* Areas for two seats in one bay may overlap providing the distance between seats is correct Single point swings

* Circular area with a radius a

* Circular area with a radius equal to the Forward and Backward figure for other swings

SLIDES

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Free-standing slides: the max. vertical height which a stairway can reach without a change of direction is 2.5m. * Starting section at the top of each chute: length 350mm minimum, zero to 5° downwards at the centre line.

N.B. This can be the platform if the slide is attached to it * If the starting section is over 400mm long, platform requirements apply * From a platform, the gap to the slide is the same width as the slide * Attachment slides over 1m free fall height should have starting section barriers 500mm min. high at one point * Attachment slides over 1m FFH should have a guard-rail across the entrance at a ht. of between 700-900mm

Sliding sections

* Maximum angle: 60° at any one point and an average of 40° * The width of open and straight slides over 1500mm long should be less than 700mm or greater than 950mm * Spiral or curved slides should have a width less than 700mm RUN -OUTS

* Run-outs of at least 300mm are required if the sliding section is under 1.5m long.
* Additional requirements are required for different types of slides
* Average angle of run-outs: DIN type 10° (BS type) 5° (both downwards)
* Height of run-out: Less than 1.5m sliding length: max. 350mm
* Users should come to a stop on the run-out section (BS type only)
* Chutes should have a side height related to the fall height: 1.2m: 100mm minimum: 1.2m - 2.5m: 150mm minimum: Over 2.5m: 500mm minimum

* Maximum side angle from slide bed: 30° * Tops of sides should be rounded or radiused to at least 3mm * Tunnel slides should be a minimum 750mm high and 750mm wide * Tunnels should start on or at the end of the starting section and be continuous over the sliding section only

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

Normal distances except for the run-out which should be: * DIN type: 1m each side and 2m beyond (or just 1.5m beyond for short slides) * BS type: 1m each side and 1m beyond

CABLE RUNWAYS

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Stop at end should progressively slow down the traveller * Traveller should not be removable except with tools * No access to internal mechanism * Suspension mechanism: flexible, exclude risk of strangulation or be at least 2m above the ground in the middle * Where children hang by the hands, the grip should not be enclosed (i.e. a loop)

* Climbing should be discouraged onto the grip * Children should be able to get off the seat at any time (i.e. no loops or straps) * Maximum loaded (69.5kg) speed is 7m per second * If two cables are placed parallel the min. distance between them is 2m

IMPACT AREAS

* 2m either side of main cable

ROTATING ITEMS

The main changes are in clearer separation into different types. A change in the clearance between the underside and the ground will affect older items. The change should provide greater safety. NOTE: Rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded from these requirements

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Maximum free height of fall: 1000mm (For overhead items: 1500 - 3000mm) * Max. speed at periphery under reasonable use: 5m per s econd. As no method is given, this cannot be tested * Hand grips should be between 16 - 45mm

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

There are specific requirements for different types of roundabout. The two most common ones are: Platform roundabouts:

* Platforms should be circular and enclosed * All parts should revolve in the same direction * No super-structure over the edge of the platform * Mechanism should be enclosed * Height between underside and ground 60 – 110mm for 300mm in * Protective skirts should be of rigid material and have no burrs or other defects * The bottom edge should be flared towards the inside or protected Giant revolving discs

* Clearance of underside at lowest point: 300mm * Max. platform height: 1m * Free space: 3m * Upper surface should be continuous, smooth and with no handles or grips * Underside should be continuous, smooth and without any radial variations (i.e. spokes) or indentations

MINIMUM SPACE

* Free space: Horizontal: 2m all round * Vertical head clearance from platform: sitting 1.5m ; standing 1.8m * Small rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded but RoSPA suggests as for rocking items

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

* There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas * Surfaces should be continuous underneath and level

ROCKING ITEMS

DEFINITIONS

* Rocking equipment which can be moved by the user and is supported from below

* Damping: any movement restricting device. (N.B. Springs are treated as self-damping)

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Throughout the range of movement gaps in all accessible joints should be under 12mm * Progressive restraint at extremity of movement is required * Foot rests should be provided where the ground clearance is less than 230mm * Hand grips should be provided for each seat or standing position

* Foot rests and hand grips should be firmly fixed and non-rotating * Hand grip diameter: 16 - 45mm (for toddler items: 30mm maximum) * Right -angled corners on moving equipment should be 20mm radius min. (e.g. a bird's beak)

MINIMUM SPACE

* 1000mm between items at maximum movement.

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas

INSTALLATION, INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

SAFETY

* Appropriate safety systems must be established by the operator * No access should be allowed to unsafe equipment or areas * Records should be kept by the playground operator * Effectiveness of safety measures should be assessed annually * Signs should be provided giving owner details and emergency service contact points * Entrances for emergency services should be freely accessible

* Information on accidents should be kept (RoSPA has a suitable form)
 * Staff and users should be safe during maintenance operations

INSPECTION

* Manufacturers will recommend the inspection frequency although some sites may need a daily check

Frequency

Routine visual inspections: identification of hazards from vandalism, use or weather conditions (RoSPA recommends a recorded daily or weekly inspection) Operational inspection: every 1 -3 months or as recommended. Checks operation, stability, wear etc. Annual main inspection: checks long-term levels of safety

* An inspection schedule should be prepared for each playground, listing components and methods

* Appropriate action should be taken if defects are noted

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

* Basic routine maintenance details should be supplied by the manufacturer

CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE

* This covers remedial work and repairs as required * Alterations should only be carried out after consultation & agreement with the supplier or a competent person



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Correspondence 1

Title	Unpaid Work Consultation
Authors	South Central Probation Service
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

Questions:

- 1. Organisation Name
- 2. Before the survey were you aware of Unpaid Work in your area?
 - a. No
 - b. Aware but not used
 - c. Aware and previously used
- 3. If you have previously used UPW, was your experience
 - a. Positive
 - b. Negative
 - c. No View
- 4. Please provide more detail below to support your answer
- 5. What strategic priorities does your organisation/local area have that UPW might support?
- 6. What specific projects in your organisation/local area might UPW support?
- 7. Are there any barriers and/or concerns about using UPW in these activities?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 8. If yes, please give details below
- 9. Would you be interested in exploring more formal arrangements with UPW, such as commissioning delivery from us, or supervising your own placements?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe in Future
- 10. If you would like a member of UPW staff to contact you to discuss UPW in more detail, please provide your contact details below.

Correspondence 2

Title Community Tree and Woodland Project Opportunities	
Authors	Oxfordshire County Council
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

Dear all,

At Oxfordshire County Council we are scoping for community tree and woodland project opportunities that will benefit people and nature. Oxfordshire needs more trees, and we are looking to find the best places for them.

The CTWO team is looking for community planting projects that support the expansion of the county's tree cover and promote the social & environmental benefits they provide. We're especially looking for projects where they're most needed and can provide the biggest benefit to people and the environment.

We are launching our Project Submission portal, where community groups, residents, individuals, anyone (!) can put forward their project idea and we can look to support it in a number of ways, such as through funding assistance, facilitating community engagement and consultation, planting and logistical support, and much more.

If you have a planting project idea, please submit a project form through our portal at <u>Start a community</u> tree or woodland project | Climate Action Oxfordshire.

Title	Repairs to Childrey Way
Authors	District Councillor
Meeting	East Challow Parish Council Meeting – 13 th September 2023

I have been in contact with [] about Childrey Way since OCC have decided that they intend to repair the worst stretch between Silver Lane and Cornhill Farm. My feeling is that this will be wasted money since parents will still drive the children to school rather than let them walk along this isolated path. Any repair of course would be welcomed for walkers and riders. [] has asked me whether the relevant parishes – West Challow, East Challow and Childrey would be interested in contributing to the repairs. I have asked West Challow and the answer was negative so am also now asking you for your thoughts. I know that he has also been in contact with [] who owns the fields either side of this stretch of this path. I don't know if [they] has asked [them] for a contribution.

I would welcome your thoughts to feed back to [them].