



Democratic Services

Location: Phase II
Ext: 0185
DDI: 01895 250185
CMD No: 695

**To: COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS' SERVICES**

c.c. All Members of the Residents' Services Select Committee
c.c. Jamie Bell – Place Directorate
c.c. Perry Scott – Corporate Director of Place
c.c. Ward Councillors for Heathrow Villages

Date: 13 February 2023

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Place

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement
Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Construction of a Children's Playground at Cranford Park.

RELEASE NO: 1

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Tuesday 21 February 2023** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Liz Penny
Democratic Services Officer

Title of Report: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Construction of a Children's Playground at Cranford Park – Release No: 1

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed Date.....

Cabinet Member for Finance / Cabinet Member for Residents' Services

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Place

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme
2022/23 – 2026/27 – Construction of a Children’s Playground at Cranford Park.

RELEASE NO: Release No 1

Cabinet Members	Councillor Martin Goddard Councillor Eddie Lavery
Cabinet Portfolios	Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Residents Services
Officer Contact	Jamie Bell, Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval Appendix B with details of playground equipment

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds for the construction of Cranford Park Playground.
Putting our Residents First Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026	This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of: Enjoy access to green spaces, leisure activities, culture and arts This report supports our commitments to residents of: A Green and Sustainable Borough
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £85k from the Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 capital budget for the construction of a children’s playground at Cranford Park. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by 31 March 2023
Relevant Select Committee	Residents’ Services Select Committee
Ward(s) affected	Heathrow Villages

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Residents' Services agree to the following capital release requests of £85k from the Playground Replacement Programme capital budget for the construction of a children's playground at Cranford Park (Appendix A).

Reasons for recommendation

The old playground within Cranford Park has now been demolished as part of the wider project works at this location. The previous playground had been condemned and was beyond economical repair. The new playground will now be sited in front of the café that is currently under construction, this will enable a better visitor experience and allow parents/guardians to visit the café and watch their children at play.

Alternative options considered

The Cabinet Members could decide not to accept the recommendations. This would mean that the replacement of this playground would not be undertaken, risking a decline in visitor numbers to this soon to be destination park.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The report is seeking the release of funds to construct a new children's playground. This piece of work will be carried out by the Council's approved term contractor as part of the wider Cranford Park Project.

Table 1: Cost Plan Construction of Cranford Park Playground

<i>Project / Programme Cost plan</i>	<i>Amount £</i>
<i>Construction Works</i>	<i>85,000</i>
<i>Internal fees 10%</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>85,000</i>

Financial Implications

2023/24 to 2026/27 Budget £1,000k, Previously Released £Nil, Capital Release Requested £85k (Appendix A)

The 2022/23 – 2026/27 Capital Programme approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2022 includes a capital budget for the Playground Replacement Programme of £1,000k.

This report is seeking the release of £85k for the construction of a children's playground at Cranford Park. The release request is based on the estimated costs contained within the Council's approved term contractor for the provision of the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment for the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The remaining £915k for the Playground Replacement Programme will be subject to the capital release procedure.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities

The Council and its partners are committed to making the Borough a cleaner, greener and safer environment. The recommendation within this report will ensure that the construction of this playground can progress to create a safer and fun play experience for local children as well as a meeting/social space for parents and carers of young children to enjoy.

Consultation carried out or required

None.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and concurs with the financial implication set out above, noting that the recommended action to agree a release of £85k for the construction of the children's playground at Cranford Park will be funded from the approved 2022/23 to 2026/27 Playground Replacement Programme capital budget.

Legal

Legal Services confirms that that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, thus there are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised.

Infrastructure / Asset Management

There are no Infrastructure / Asset Management implications arising from this report.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects

only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

APPENDIX A

Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27: Construction of a Children's Playground at Cranford Park - Release No 1

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Cranford Park	Children's Playground – Cranford Park	Construction of a new children's playground at Cranford Park.	85			
Total seeking release			85			
Previously released			0			
Budget			1,000			
Remaining budget			915			