

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Samuel Lubrano

request-512016-3cfb99c5@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Contact Officer:

Direct Line:

Email

Date:

FOI054918

Garry Melding

01462 474216

FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk

22nd August 2018

Dear Mr Lubrano,

Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
FOI054918 – Public Play Facilities

Thank you for your request for information received on 21st August 2018.

Your request has now been processed and the information that we hold is attached at the bottom of this letter.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any information that is refused will clearly indicate the exemption that applies to the refusal.

Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests is available in our reception or on our website. If you have any queries regarding the process or your request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If after receiving our full response, you feel dissatisfied with the information provided, or you disagree with a refusal decision, you have the right to ask for a review of the decision with the Council. We will accept review requests up to 60 days after our response. After that date we consider the case closed.

Review requests should be addressed to the Information & Asset Team Manager at North Hertfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3JF or emailed to FOI2@north-herts.gov.uk

It is important that you include the above FOI reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

If following a review by NHDC you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response, you can contact the Information Commissioners Office for guidance or to make an appeal at:- Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire. SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113 (or 01625 545745 if you would prefer not to call an '03' number, or +44 1625 545745 if calling from overseas) www.ico.org.uk

Thank you for your request.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Garry Melding', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Garry Melding
Information & Asset Officer

Public Play Facilities.

Request:

2 years ago, we were hearing from our members that installations of new playground equipment were falling in England and that this was due directly to a lack of funding within local authorities. This worried us and our members at a time when Childhood obesity is increasing and there are more instances of divided communities. In order to quantify what was happening we commissioned a report which resulted in our #nowheretoplay campaign highlighting the extent of the problem. We believe it is now time to refresh our information and to once again highlight to government the problems resulting from a reduction in children's play facilities. We would therefore urge you to support us in the FOI request.

1.How many public play facilities (including playgrounds, adventure playgrounds, skate parks, etc.) do you currently have available to the public in your LA area? **NHDC maintains 42 play areas currently, 6 of these are on behalf of Settle our local housing association – this does not include parishes or private facilities in pub gardens etc.**

2.What was your total budget for public play facilities (including playgrounds, adventure playgrounds, skate parks, etc.) in each of the following years?

- 2016-17 **104,100.00**
- 2017-18 **£104,100.00**

3.What is your expected total budget for public play facilities (including playgrounds, adventure playgrounds, skate parks, etc.) in each of the following years?

- 2018-19 **£81,000**
- 2019-20 **£81,000**
- 2020-21 **£81,000**

4.How many public playgrounds and play facilities were closed in your LA area and what proportion of your total play facilities did this represent, in each of the following years?

- 2016-17 **Nil**
- 2017-18 **Nil**

5.How many public playgrounds and play facilities do you expect will close and what proportion of your total play facilities will this represent, in each of the following years?

- 2018-19 **6**
- 2019-20 **Nil**
- 2020-21 **Nil**