



## PLAYGROUND CONSULTATION 22 MARCH TO 10 APRIL

### BACKGROUND

The Saughton Park Restoration Project Team has been working with landscape architects Ironside Farrar Ltd to develop concept proposals for the Saughton Park Playground.

During the restoration project public consultation last year, many of you gave us your views on the playground. Just over half (58.2%) of you who took part believed the playground was good or very good meaning that just under half of you felt the playground was below par. Three quarters of respondents (76.7%) felt that the playground should be enlarged. Some of your suggestions included facilities for children with disabilities, greater provision for under 5's and more adventurous play and natural play.

Taking your feedback into account we have developed outline proposals which aim to provide enhanced play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities, with a strong focus on making the playground more inclusive and accessible for all to enjoy.

### WHAT'S PLANNED

- The playground has been doubled in size, with the entrance and central path now aligned with the Royal Promenade in the Walled Garden. A new entrance has been added to the north of the playground to improve access for those entering the park from Stevenson Drive.
- The proposals include an accessible path system to make it easier for pushing baby buggies and for those in wheelchairs or who experience mobility difficulties. Certain wheelchair accessible equipment, such as see-saws, trampolines, roundabouts and sand tables, and equipment which can be used by children who require a bit more help, such as basket swings, boat swings and spinning discs, have been included to ensure that children of differing abilities and needs can play and have fun together.
- Musical and other sensory equipment will delight everyone while mounding, bridges and tunnels will provide a sense of adventure and exploration for children. Sand and water play will add to the sensory experience and equipment such as trampolines, spinning bowls and jumping springs will add extra fun and laughter.
- Toddlers will have 'mini' units and bigger kids will be able to climb, swing and spin higher and faster ... and scare themselves silly!! Benches, flowers, trees, picnic areas and a planted windbreak will benefit everyone and we're sure will be much appreciated by the adults!!



- The proposals also include an outdoor gym. We currently have HLF funding for around 4 pieces of equipment but we would like to raise additional funding to allow for 8 to 10 pieces of equipment.
- There have also been requests for space for an informal multi-use ball court which could be used for roller hockey, basket ball, toddler cycle training, outdoor fitness classes, wheelchair based sports and other games. We have allowed space for this to be added at a later date if desirable. You therefore need to let us know if you would like us to consider this.

## DRAWINGS

The concept proposal drawings show the proposed layout and give an indication of what might be included. It is intended to keep existing play equipment except where they have reached the end of their life. The exact selection of new equipment will be determined once we receive your feedback, develop the proposals further and determine overall costs. Certain aspects such as the water play equipment in particular could be costly as we will need to pipe water to the playground area and construct appropriate drainage.

## FUNDING

Funding needs to be secured for making these improvements and bid applications will be prepared once the designs have been finalised and costed. But first, we need your feedback to allow us to complete the proposals.

## FEEDBACK

Please therefore take a few minutes to complete a survey. Paper copies are available in the Saughton Park Winter Garden or go to [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark) to complete an on-line survey. We also have a number of staffed events in the Saughton Park Winter Garden where you can speak to someone about the proposals on the dates/times noted below.

Thursday	24 March	2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Saturday	26 March	10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (part of the Great Saughton Easter Bear Hunt)
Tuesday	29 March	2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Friday	1 April	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday	6 April	1 p.m. to 3 p.m.