

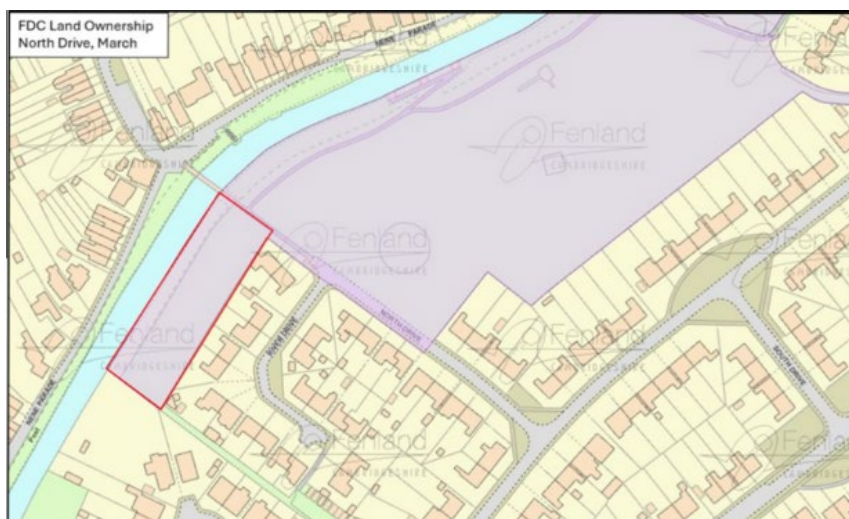
Agenda Item No:	7	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	21 July 2025	
Report Title:	Fenland Inspire! Project regarding North Drive Recreation Ground – options for new play equipment	

1 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 This report highlights potential options for adding more equipment for young people into the North Drive Recreation Ground in March, following the Cabinet Paper in November 2024 that instructed officers to investigate potential options.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 The November 2024 Cabinet report regarding the options for North Drive Rec in March resulted in a decision for Officers to investigate a skate park for the open space.
- 2.2 Following Cabinet's decision, the open spaces team has reviewed the site. The best place to locate a facility will be away from residential housing. The best spot at North Drive rec will be adjacent to the pathway, north of the play area (play area is the circle in the bottom left large purple section below). The red-lined rectangle of land, previously identified in the November Cabinet report, is far too close to residential housing for a skate park or BMX pump track. Instead, this space is recommended for use for the necessary biodiversity net gain space required to offset a Skate Park or BMX pump track's use of green space.



3 Public Consultation

- 3.1 The Council will carry out a public consultation regarding the options of either a skate park or a BMX Pump track in this space and a further report to Cabinet will follow this work

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 Cabinet to instruct officers to proceed with a community consultation regarding the option of either a skate park or a BMX Pump track in the location described above on the open space at North Drive Recreation Ground in March.
- 4.2 Cabinet to note the original space discussed by Cabinet in November 2024 to be designated as space required for biodiversity net gain following the development of either a skate park or BMX pump track.

Wards Affected	All March wards	
Forward Plan References	KEY/21MAR25/01 North Drive Recreation Area, March. Potential development of skate park KEY/14MAR25/01 Fenland Inspire! Project regarding play equipment	
Portfolio Holders	Cllr Chris Seaton	Portfolio Holder for Fenland Inspire! projects
	Cllr Jan French	Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Open Spaces
	Cllr Chris Boden	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance
Report Originator	Phil Hughes	Head of Leisure Services
Contact Officers	Carol Pilson Phil Hughes	Corporate Director Head of Leisure Services
Background Papers	November 2024 Cabinet Report regarding North Drive Recreation Ground in March	

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This report is informing Cabinet about consultation on options for the open space.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 Cabinet considered alternative options in the Cabinet paper of November 2024.

7 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Legal Implications

- 7.2 None

7.3 Financial Implications

- 7.4 There are no financial implications in completing a public consultation, however, any project to improve equipment in this area will require significant spend and the options associated with that will be highlighted to Members in a future report.

7.5 Equality Implications

- 7.6 None