

Petition: Officers' Response

Title: Bring Forward Improvement of Cheyne Walk Play Area

Primary Petitioner: Kareem Omar
Total Signatures: 139

Presented by: Kareem Omar
Contact officer: Jaqueline Murray
Director responsible: Greg Orchard

Officers' recommendation:

Officers recommend that the Committee:

1. *Receive the petition.*

Background:

The ePetition "Bring Forward Improvement of Cheyne Walk Play Area" was initiated by Kareem Omar on 13 January 2014 and closed on 13 March 2014.

The purpose of the petition is to request that the Council do the work on Cheyne Walk Play Area earlier than planned so that families in the area have a safe and interesting place to meet and play. The equipment is old and there is not much for children to play on. The other playgrounds in Newlands are too far away for children to walk.

The Petitioner is aware that it is in the Council's Ten Year Plan to replace the play equipment after 2014, which is considered too long to wait.

The petition was open to all members of the public with internet access to the Council's website. It received 139 signatures.

Officers' response:

"The playground at Cheyne Walk is scheduled to be renewed in the 15/16 financial year as part of our 2012 -2022 playgrounds Asset Management Plan.

The playground whilst aged is safe and is on a regular inspection regime by our playgrounds safety officer.

We understand that this playground is the closest playground to your residence, we do however have to balance the renewal priorities of playgrounds across the whole city..

Across the city we have 103 playgrounds to maintain and renew and 5 skate parks.

19 playgrounds were renewed between 1997 and 2002

47 were renewed between 2002 - 2013

14 were removed

In the Current Long term plan we have one planned school partnership, 20 potential planned renewals, one additional community play area and two more planned through development contributions.

In terms of the Newlands Area – Brandons Rock/Edgcombe st Play area was renewed in 2009 and Lynfield Lane Play area was renewed in 2012.

An additional community play area is also scheduled for development at Newlands Park in the 2018/19 financial year.

When we do undertake the Cheyne Walk Play Area renewal we would be happy to have your input around its development as a local play area.