

**COUNCIL, 28 JULY 2016 : WRITTEN QUESTION**

**LEADER – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS**  
**(COUNCILLOR PHIL BALE)**

W1	<p><b><u>WRITTEN QUESTION FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHAUNDY</u></b></p> <p>Why are the maintenance costs or reasonable supporting maintenance plans <i>not</i> included or <i>considered</i> in the assessment process for Member's Neighbourhood Renewal Projects (e.g. such as children's play areas)?</p> <p><b><u>Reply</u></b></p> <p>Neighbourhood Renewal Schemes are funded from the Council's Capital Programme, which cannot be used to fund ongoing maintenance costs. However, maintenance implications are a consideration in the assessment process used to determine which Neighbourhood Renewal Scheme project ideas are prioritised.</p> <p>In many cases, Neighbourhood Renewal Scheme projects involve the replacement of run-down and obsolete infrastructure with high quality public realm improvements, which result in reduced maintenance requirements and associated cost savings. Where new facilities, such as play areas, are prioritised and where ongoing maintenance costs present a challenge because of pressures on directorate budgets, then the use of supplementary funding sources (such as Section 106 monies) may be explored in order that a project can be progressed.</p>
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