



Tender Specification: Play area design, build and installation

Tender reference: COS CMP-01

RAF Museum, Cosford

1. Purpose of the product

The RAF Museum has a very large constituency of visitors who are under 11 but very few facilities to cater specifically for them. The outdoor playground will offer a specific area at our Cosford site for children under 11 to:

- Engage with the heritage of the site, the RAF Cosford School of PTI and the RAF Story in the context of play
- Engage with Science, Technology Engineering, and Maths (STEM) principles through play
- Burn off some energy so they are better able to enjoy the rest of the Museum
- Draw their families into the site to better appreciate its heritage and the full RAF Museum offer
- Enjoy a high level of adventure and play that children will want to return to again and again

The Play Area project will deliver several Museum Objectives:

- Inspiring innovative engagement, debate and reflection
- Embedding an entrepreneurial, agile and sustainable approach
- Connecting with communities and partners

Overarching approach:

- We will provide Access for All: intellectually, emotionally, physically, aesthetically and socially.

Key project objectives:

Interpretive objectives

- Sense of place for the airfield heritage
- Sharing the RAF Story
- Light touch STEM learning outcomes
- Outdoor spaces for enjoyment, inspiration and reflection.

Business objectives

- Small increase in visitor numbers
- Improved commercial resilience
- Offer for fun-focussed families
- Improved family customer satisfaction/ visitor experience.

Visitor operations objectives

- Balanced use of the indoor and outdoor site
- Coherence with local regeneration and public realm
- Discreet but effective security and safeguarding measures.
- Welcoming frontage

2. Successful Play Spaces

Reference should be made to the DfCSF and DCMS 2008 publication *Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play spaces*. This outlines the 10 principles for designing successful play spaces:

Successful play spaces:

- are 'bespoke'
- are well located
- make use of natural elements
- provide a wide range of play experiences
- are accessible to both disabled and non-disabled children
- meet community needs
- allow children of different ages to play together
- build in opportunities to experience risk and challenge
- are sustainable and appropriately maintained
- allow for change and evolution.

In addition, the RAF Museum outdoor play space will be:

- Located close to the restaurant so that parents and children have access to the toilets, baby changing facilities and refreshments
- Constructed of materials that make reference to those found in the construction of aircraft
- Visually appealing and appropriate to the feel of the airfield site
- Designed and build to use sustainable materials as far as possible
- Created in consultation with the PTI School at RAF Cosford and local community users.

Adjacencies

- Co-location with the restaurant is a key driver for the location of the playground
- Access to WCs and baby changing facilities in the Visitor Centre
- Nearby staffed location for the reporting of first aid incidents and enquiries.

Security & Safeguarding considerations

- The ability to lock off access to the playground should be included
- Seating for supervising adults must be close by
- Clear ingress and egress points to support safeguarding and family enjoyment
- Short- and long-term changes to surrounding area to be considered to reduce likelihood of incidents (minor or major)
- Lighting of the area to be considered, supporting events out of opening times
- CCTV coverage (if appropriate) to cover day and night operations.

Commercial considerations

- The playground will be free to access. However, access through the (eventual) single point of entry and proximity to the restaurant are required
- Ability to add electrical infrastructure for future outlet points.

Environmental considerations

- All wood will be sourced from FSC registered suppliers
- Recycled plastic products to use UK plastics to reduce landfill.

Size Sq.m and other metrics

- The allocated area is 1,525 m² (see Appendix C)

Constraints

- The site will be open to the public throughout construction
- The site will be visible to the public
- The site is near to a live airfield and a Foreign Object Debris (FOD) prevention programme needs to be in place throughout the build.

Number users

- Class of 30 children/30 families

Profile of users

- 30% of visitors to the RAF Museum are under 10 years old. A further 10% of children visiting are aged 11-16.

Usage roughly divides as follows:

- Weekday term time 10am – 4pm: Pre-school
- Weekday term time 4pm – 5pm: School age up to 11
- Weekends and holidays: School age mixed ages

Specialist skills required

In order to ensure a level of originality and challenge, the development of the outdoor playground requires consultation and input from creative designers, project architects and the site operations team.

The designers will be registered ROSPA members.

Quality expectations – subjective

Please Appendices A and B for inspiration images

- The playground will be relevant to and inspire a connection with the heritage of the site, the RAF Story and our collections
- Materials will be appropriate for the location and the local aircraft industry
- It must be exciting and enticing
- Equipment will bear an accurate likeness if representing the Museum's subject matter

- Equipment should inspire children with STEM principles through play.
- Equipment should be usable by children with a wide range of physical/learning needs including wheelchair users.

Acceptance criteria – objective

- Equipment meets relevant standards: BS EN 1176
- Surfacing meets BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177
- Further criteria will be defined as part of the development process.

3. Requirements

3.1 Objectives

The contractor will be responsible for the design, offsite construction, onsite installation and any required remediation work of both the playground equipment and surfaces. Any base works (such as earth movement) will be incorporated into a separate RAF Museum landscape works contract.

3.2 Detailed Requirements

3.3 Contractor Deliverables

The contractor will provide:

- A detailed, costed plan for the playground including surfaces
- Sketches or computer renditions of the individual playground items and overall playground layout with the option for two rounds of client led changes
- Construction drawings and specifications
- Consultation with the RAF Cosford School of PTI and local community groups (the Museum will facilitate this consultation)
- A detailed programme for the design, build and installation
- Project management for the installation of the playground
- Risk assessments and method statements for onsite working
- Appropriate warranties to industry standards
- Detailed maintenance schedules and operating manuals
- User risk assessments
- Arrange a ROSPA visit and report to be made available to the client before opening
- One year's warranty with quarterly inspections.

3.4 Responsibilities

The appointed individual or company will at all times ensure:

- Compliance with the Health & Safety at Work Act (including risk assessments, method statements, and relevant certification) and be able to show proof if required
- Compliance with the Museum's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- The company will be deemed the Principal Contractor for the playground design and construction
- Compliance with site induction processes and rules
- Provision of required insurance details to comply with the induction process.

The appointed individual or company will also:

- Provide all equipment necessary to carry out the agreed contract
- Show actions to reduce impact on the environment.
- Take into consideration site operations when planning and delivering set tasks
- Liaise daily and provide a weekly briefing of outcomes to the site liaison(s)

4. Location

The project will be delivered at the RAF Museum in Cosford, West Midlands.

5. Key dates

The play area should be installed and tested by end June 2020.

6. Project Information

A site visit can be arranged through the Project Manager, Kimberley Corral who's contact details are below.

Kimberley Corral

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7. Site information

The RAF Museum is open to the public from 10am – 5pm seven days a week (summer hours), 10am – 4pm (winter hours)

Site access is 8am – 6pm unless a four weeks notice period is provided

All site deliveries must be within site access times avoiding 10am-5pm and 10am-4pm respectively.

Appendix A: Photographs from our new (2018) Play Area, London site.



Appendix B: Other images for inspiration



Appendix C – site plan and proposed playground location highlighted in red with an area of 1525 m².

