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**Supply and Installation of New Play Equipment at ‘The Little Play Area’, Katherine Park, Corsham**

**Background:**

The Little Play Area at Katherine Park is located within a small public open space, off Freestone Way (SN13 9GD). The play equipment sits within a circular fenced area, approximately 21m in diameter and was installed c.2007 by the developer when the Katherine Park housing development was being built. The play area caters for younger children (a larger play area further up Freestone Way contains play equipment for older children) and features four pieces of timber-framed equipment. Since being installed, the play area has been operated by Wiltshire Council. In July 2021 the play area failed a safety inspection and has been closed ever since. Much of the wooden equipment is affected by rot and is not repairable.

In December 2022, Corsham Town Council entered into a seven-year lease to manage the play area (we expect to take more permanent responsibility for the play area at some point over this seven-year period). The Town Council wishes to bring The Little Play Area back into use as soon as possible, by removing the old equipment and installing exciting new facilities that will appeal to young children and their parents. The Council has conducted consultation with residents (using SurveyMonkey) to ascertain what type of equipment they would want to see at the play area. The results of the consultation have been used to inform this specification.

The area in question is approximately 350m2 and is shown outlined in red below:

Diagram

Description automatically generated

**Specification:**

Corsham Town Council invites quotes for the following works:

1. The removal of the following items:

* Timber-framed swings.
* Timber-framed train & carriages.
* Timber-framed house rocker and associated surfacing.
* Slide, mound, play rocks and timber stepping stones.
* Old timber posts/footings (from previously removed equipment).

*Photos of each of these pieces of equipment are appended to the end of this document.*

The Town Council will retain the timber frames from the swings as well as the metal slide. The contractor is expected to price for the removal and proper disposal of all other items.

1. To design, install and appropriately surface new play equipment in The Little Play Area, Katherine Park.

The new design should cater mostly for younger children (approx. 3-7 years of age).

The layout and equipment should be interesting, fun and visually appealing and create a place where children want to go and where their parents want to take them.

Corsham Town Council feels that there is sufficient room for around six pieces of equipment in the area. During consultation with residents, the following were the most requested items of equipment:

1 – Multi-play (148 votes).

2 – Swings (134 votes).

3 – Climbing frame (91 votes).

4 – See-saw (85 votes).

5 – Slide (76 votes).

6 – Vehicle such as a car, train, plane etc (72 votes).

7 – Trampoline (This was not presented as an option, but was mentioned by 13 respondents in the ‘any other comments’ section).

The contractor would be expected to produce a design which included most of these items.

The consultation also identified a need to provide accessible equipment which could be used by disabled children or children with special educational needs. The contractor would be expected to ensure that, as far as possible, the equipment can be accessed by such children.

The choice of materials is at the discretion of the contractor at the quotation stage, but the Town Council favours robust, metal equipment which entails less maintenance and ensures greater longevity of use.

On occasion the play area has been the scene of anti-social behaviour, so the proposed equipment needs to be vandal-resistant (surfaces from which it is easy to remove graffiti and equipment for which it is easy to source spare parts would be beneficial).

All equipment must conform to the ROSPA Code of Good Practice for Play Areas and to the British and European Standard for Playground Equipment: BS EN 1176.

For each piece of equipment, the appropriate surfacing should be installed.

All surfacing must accord with BS 7188 and EN 1177.

More generally, the design should accord with BS EN 1176 with regard to minimum spaces around equipment and zones (spatial networks).

**Site Visits:**

Prospective contractors are strongly advised to undertake a site visit before submitting a proposal. Please contact James Whittleton (Head of Technical Services) to arrange a time/date: [jwhittleton@corsham.gov.uk](mailto:jwhittleton@corsham.gov.uk) 07879 256215.

**Submission of Tenders:**

Tenders are to be sent by post or delivered by hand in an envelope clearly labelled “Tender – The Little Play Area”, addressed to:

David Martin – Chief Executive

Corsham Town Hall

High Street

Corsham

Wiltshire, SN13 0EZ

Alternatively, tenders can be sent via email to [dmartin@corsham.gov.uk](mailto:dmartin@corsham.gov.uk) **AND** [mjones@corsham.gov.uk](mailto:mjones@corsham.gov.uk) with “Tender – The Little Play Area” in the title bar.

Tenders should be received no later than **12noon on Friday 27 January 2023.**

The submission must include:

* A proposal/design for The Little Play Area, showing the pieces of equipment you propose to install, their proposed locations and any surfacing.
* Technical specifications for all proposed pieces of equipment.
* Details (material, specific product/supplier, thickness, extent, edging and colour) of any proposed safety surfacing.
* Confirmation that the proposed design conforms to the ROSPA Code of Good Practice for Play Areas; that all proposed equipment conforms to BS EN 1176 and that all surfacing conforms to BS 1788 and EN 1177.
* An overall price for all the proposed work – the removal of existing equipment and surfacing, the installation of new equipment and surfacing.

All costs are to be included in this price. Corsham Town Council does not expect to incur (and will not pay) costs which could have been reasonably foreseen by the contractor. Costs such as the disposal of materials, erection of fencing, storage, security or provision of welfare facilities should all be factored into the overall price. The contractor will also be expected to make good any ground dug up or rutted as a result of the works.

* Warranty details for the works and warranty details for each piece of equipment and surfacing.
* A copy of your company’s environmental policy.
* A proposed start date (Corsham Town Council will make a decision and inform tenderers w/c 6th February 2023)

The Town Council does not have a fixed budget for the project, but estimates that tenders will be in the region of £35,000 +VAT.

**Before Starting Work:**

Before the commencement of works, the chosen contractor will be required to provide a method statement for the entirety of the works as well as a risk assessment.

The contractor will also need to provide evidence that they hold public liability insurance of £5 million minimum (and that this is valid for the duration of the works) before starting work at the site.

**Selection:**

Corsham Town Council does not bind itself to selecting the lowest quote. Instead, it will conduct an assessment having regard to:

* Overall cost.
* The quality of the proposed equipment – the extent to which the proposal might enhance the user experience.
* The durability of the proposed equipment and the ease of maintenance.
* The extent to which the proposed design accords with the consultation undertaken with residents.

Corsham Town Council reserves the right not to award the contract if it feels that none of the proposals are suitable.

Corsham Town Council may reject any tender that does not supply the information asked for in the specification.

**Timetable:**

Tenders issued to shortlisted companies: 9 December 2022.

Return date for Tenders: 12noon Friday 27 January 2023.

Council assessment decision: w/c 6 February 2023.

**Items to be Removed:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Slide, mound, play rocks and timber stepping stones:**  Image preview | **Timber-framed train and carriages:**  Image preview |
| **Timber-framed house rocker with associated surfacing:**  Image preview | **Timber-framed swings:**  Image preview |