

Report on potential impact of closure of Llangefni golf course on play opportunities – Llangefni area

1.0 Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 places a duty on local authorities to assess and secure sufficient play opportunities for children in their area. “Wales: A Play Friendly Country” is the Statutory Guidance that Local Authorities must follow to comply with the duty to assess for and secure sufficient play opportunities.

1.1 The Play Sufficiency Assessment completed in March 2019 emphasised the Local Authority’s acknowledgement of the value and importance of play in the lives of children.

“That every child and young person on the Isle of Anglesey is able to access and enjoy play, leisure, sport and cultural activities of their choice to improve their physical and emotional wellbeing. We will work in partnership to support families and communities to ensure that all services contribute to improving the lives of children and young people. ”

1.2 In evaluating the proposed sale of the golf club as an open space, the following have been taken into account to evaluate the impact on play opportunities for children and young people in the immediate area and Anglesey as a county.

1.3 The existing open spaces in Llangefni. The local authority completed an Open Space Assessment in 2015 which concluded that Llangefni at the time had more than sufficient open play spaces ranging from fields, outdoor facilities and play areas with 19 areas in total. The assessment has been updated and it continues to confirm that the area of open spaces for Llangefni is more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the children and young people in that area.

1.4 Since 2015 in the Llangefni area there have been considerable developments which have further improved the play facilities for children and young people; the redevelopment of the Urban Sports Park with additional outside gym equipment and the development of a 3G Pitch on the same site.

1.5 Mon Actif, a service provided by the Authority’s Leisure department has also extended its services to more schools and regularly visit and support schools to provide a range of outdoor leisure and play activities for children, signposting them to clubs and outdoor activities available in their area.

1.6 There is no particular group of children or young people with cultural, language, diverse needs, additional needs that appear to be impacted by the closure of the golf course.

1.7 The Play Sufficiency Assessment completed in March 2019 did not identify Llangefni as an area where provision was inadequate and consequently, it did not warrant any specific developments.

Conclusion

Given the more than adequate open spaces available in the Llangefni area, the additional new developments and services over the last 2 years the proposed closure of the golf club would not be detrimental to the rights of the children and young people to play opportunities in this area.

Bethan Hywel Jones,

Supporting Families Unit Manager responsible for the play sufficiency assessment.

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