

61498 Planning Expenditure on Play Areas 2026-27

In 2023 the Scottish Government announced a dedicated package of funding which was to be allocated to each of Scotland's Local Authorities, for the renewal of play parks across Scotland.

Your Council was a recipient of some of this funding, to a value of £4,054,000

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

Of your total allocated funding, throughout the financial years of 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26, how much of this funding has been either spent or allocated to work still to be undertaken?

If that not all of the funding has either been spent or allocated before the end of the financial year of 2025/26, please can you confirm what value remains, and whether this remaining funding will be carried over into the 2026/27 financial year.

If there is funding to be carried over into the 2026/27 financial year, please confirm whether this funding remains ring-fenced for investment into the renewal of Council play parks, or whether this funding has now become un-ring fenced.

If any remaining funding remains ring-fenced for the upgrade of play parks please confirm how you intend to procure these play park renewals.

Finally, outside of the above-mentioned funding programme please confirm what capital investment has been budgeted towards the further development of play parks by the Council throughout the 2026/27 financial year.

Our response is contained within the table below. £3.956m has been spent as of 31/03/26. A budget of £1.475m remains for 2026/27 which includes a balance from additional grant income leverage over the last 4 years. All funding not spent is fully allocated to pre-programmed play equipment projects which have been carried forward into 2026/27. No funding has been un-ring fenced. Procurement route remains a combination of competitive tendering and the use of Scotland Excel Play Equipment and installation framework contracts.

Financial Year	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27
Play Funding	0.414	0.406	0.811	1.216	2.027	
+Slippage/-Acceleration	0.121	0.263	-0.621	-0.011	0.239	1.209
Income/Realignment	0.052	-0.121	0.438	0.067	-0.266	0.266
Revised budget	0.587	0.548	0.628	1.272	2.000	1.475
Less Actual spend	0.324	1.169	0.639	1.033	0.791	
+Slippage/-Acceleration	0.263	-0.621	-0.011	0.239	1.209	