

City Hall briefing: Play attrition since 2013

Borough	Provision	Impact on children
<b>Brent</b>	Stonebridge Adventure Playground	Council closed the playground September 2015
<b>Ealing</b>	Log Cabin Adventure Playground	In 2017, the staff at the Log Cabin were unable to take part in London Play's <i>PlayWorks</i> project due to funding restraints. The project is designed to help APs draw in funding by evidencing their benefit to the communities they serve.
<b>Enfield</b>	Florence Hayes Adventure Playground	Florence Hayes, Enfield's only Adventure Playground, closed in June 2016. This coincided with the demise of the council's play service.
<b>Haringey</b>	Somerford Grove Adventure Playground	This award-winning playground is now only able to open one day a week.
<b>Kensington &amp; Chelsea</b>	Hornimans Adventure Playground  Notting Hill Adventure Playground	In 2017, the staff at Hornimans were unable to take part in London Play's <i>PlayWorks</i> project due to funding restraints.  Notting Hill Adventure Playground, established in the late 1950s, recently announced a reduction in hours of a third.
<b>Lambeth</b>	Triangle Adventure Playground	Triangle lost its core funding from the council in 2016 with a negative impact on staffing levels and opening hours.  <b>Of the borough's 15 Adventure Playgrounds only 6 are currently open.</b>
<b>Lewisham</b>	Tide Mill School Nature Garden Edward Street Ball Park	Both spaces are threatened with closure for development  <b>It is claimed by campaigners that Lewisham council has given away 20% more community land than any other London borough for development purposes.</b>
<b>Southwark</b>	Peckham Rye Adventure Playground  Mint Street Adventure Playground	Plans to redevelop into a rigid, factory built play structure.  This playgrounds future is uncertain.  <b>Borough's Play department disbanded at the beginning of 2016.</b>
<b>Wandsworth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Battersea Park Adventure playground</li> <li>Kimber Adventure Playground</li> <li>York Gardens Adventure Playground</li> </ul>	All three playgrounds demolished 2013.  Battersea Park Adventure playground was replaced with a two-tier play option. An uninspiring selection of factory-made play structures replaced the adventure playground while overhead an aerial adventure play offer is available at a cost of £20 per child per session.

<p><b>UK-Wide</b></p>	<p>School Playing Fields sold</p> <p>Daily physical activity targets</p> <p>Impact on children’s health</p>	<p>2016 saw the highest number of playing field sell-offs since 2013 with 27 being sold to developers<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Only 9% of children aged 5 to 16 get the recommended hour of activity each day<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Three-quarters of UK children spend less time outside than prison inmates<sup>3</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2015/16, over 1 in 5 children in Reception, and over 1 in 3 children in Year 6 were measured as obese or overweight.</li> <li>• 20% of 10-11 year olds children were obese in 2015/16, compared to 17% in 2006/07</li> <li>• Of the same age group 26% of children living in the most deprived areas were obese compared to 12% of those living in the least deprived areas.<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>England</b></p>	<p>Municipal Play Areas</p>	<p>Local authorities across England closed 214 playgrounds in two years and are planning to close another 234<sup>5</sup></p>
<p><b>London-wide</b></p>	<p>Councils divesting themselves of responsibility for play</p> <p>Children’s access to nature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Camden</b></li> <li>• <b>Islington</b></li> <li>• <b>Kensington &amp; Chelsea</b></li> <li>• <b>Lewisham</b></li> <li>• <b>Westminster</b></li> </ul> <p>In an average year 15% of London kids will <b>not</b> visit the natural environment - including the local park<sup>6</sup></p> <p>London boroughs’ spending on open spaces, allowing for inflation, has fallen by 18 per cent – with a drop of more than 10 per cent in 2014/15 alone.<sup>7</sup> The biggest users of public parks are children and their families<sup>8</sup></p> <p><b>Every day 300,000 London children will not play outside<sup>9</sup></b></p>

<sup>1</sup> UK government figures, 2016

<sup>2</sup> Sustrans 2017

<sup>3</sup> *Dirt is Good* survey, 2016

<sup>4</sup> Source NHS, 2017

<sup>5</sup> Association of Play Industries, 2016

<sup>6</sup> Natural England, 2016

<sup>7</sup> London Councils, 2016

<sup>8</sup> Heritage Lottery Fund, 2016

<sup>9</sup> *Dirt is Good* survey, 2016