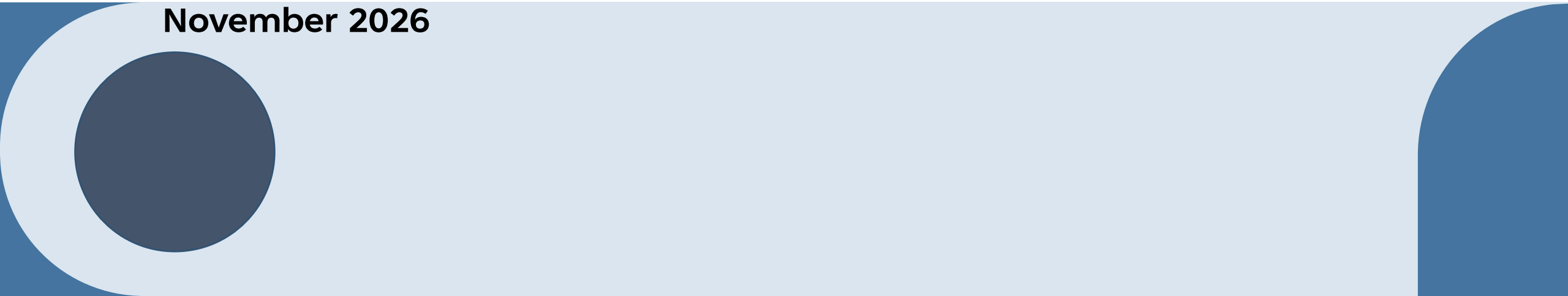




Pride In Place Impact Fund

Culture & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Summary
presentation

November 2026



Introduction

- To provide the committee with an update on the progress of the Pride in Place Impact Fund programme, funded through MHCLG.
- To provide an update on progress and overall programme cost.
- To provide updated timescales for completion of works on site.

Pride in Place Impact Fund

- The Council has received £1.5m in capital funding from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to be delivered by March 2027.
- The programme focuses on community spaces and public spaces and achieving “quick wins”.
- Targets areas of deprivation / high need or ensure that the scheme has citywide benefit and is available to all residents such as a destination park / place
- Ensures a fair geographical spread across the city
- S106 monies to be used as match funding where appropriate - £229k available for use

Project Activities

Objective	Key	Indicative Activities
Community spaces The focus of this objective is buildings and indoor spaces.	1a 1b 1c 1d 1e 1f	- providing funding to a community group to take ownership of a disused asset - providing funding to refurbish or improve an asset already in community ownership - funding to refurbish or improve assets owned by public bodies for community activity - funding to create, improve or refurbish maker spaces - funding to create or improve art galleries, theatres, museums, libraries, cultural or heritage sites, sports facilities - creating or expanding on existing community assets to promote community cohesion
Public spaces The focus of this objective is outdoor recreation spaces.	2a 2b 2c 2d 2e 2f 2g 2h	- creating or improving parks or community gardens, particularly in areas with poor quality parks and gardens - improvements to a canal towpath, riverside walk or other leisure space - creating or refurbishing play areas and sports pitches/courts, installing outdoor gym equipment - providing new or replacing street furniture, repainting of public spaces, creating new shaded areas such as new shelters for bus stops, improved lighting and adaptations to reduce crime and the fear of crime - public art that reflects local culture and history, creating trails and installing new signs to help with wayfinding - creating and refurbishing footpaths, cycle ways and shared use paths - creating or refurbishing a pavilion or bandstand to support cultural, heritage, sporting and creative events - provision of public toilets or improvements to existing facilities, including providing Changing Places toilets
High street and town centre revitalisation The focus of this objective is regenerating high streets and local shopping areas.	3a 3b 3c 3d 3e	- improving street surfaces, street furniture, repainting of public spaces, creating new shaded areas such as new shelters for bus stops, improved lighting, measures to reduce the fear of crime, cycleways and shared paths - shop front improvement grants - grants to bring disused premises back into commercial use - provision of public toilets or improvements to existing facilities, including providing Changing Places toilets - providing infrastructure that supports street markets

Shortlisting steps



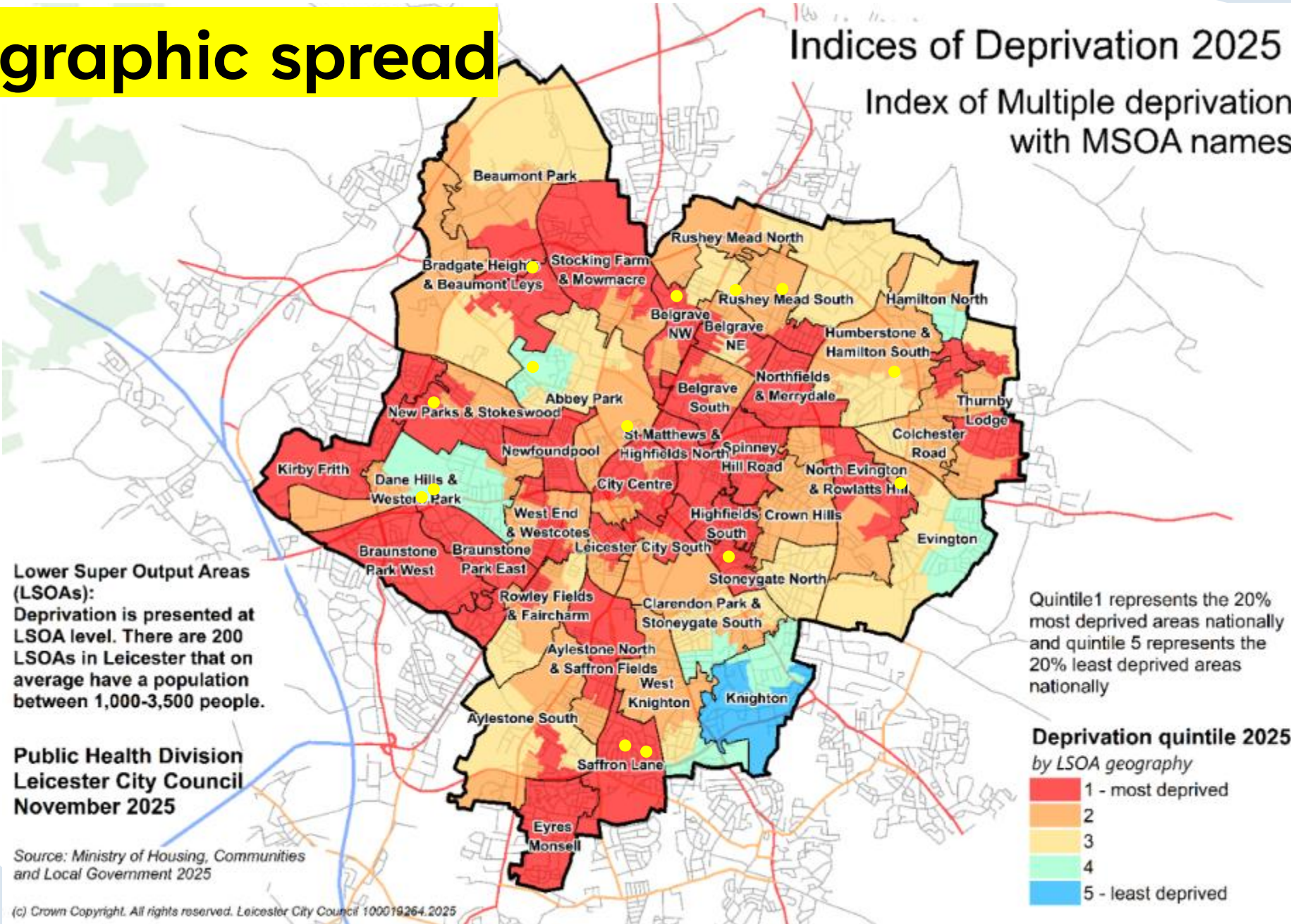
Geographic spread

Indices of Deprivation 2025

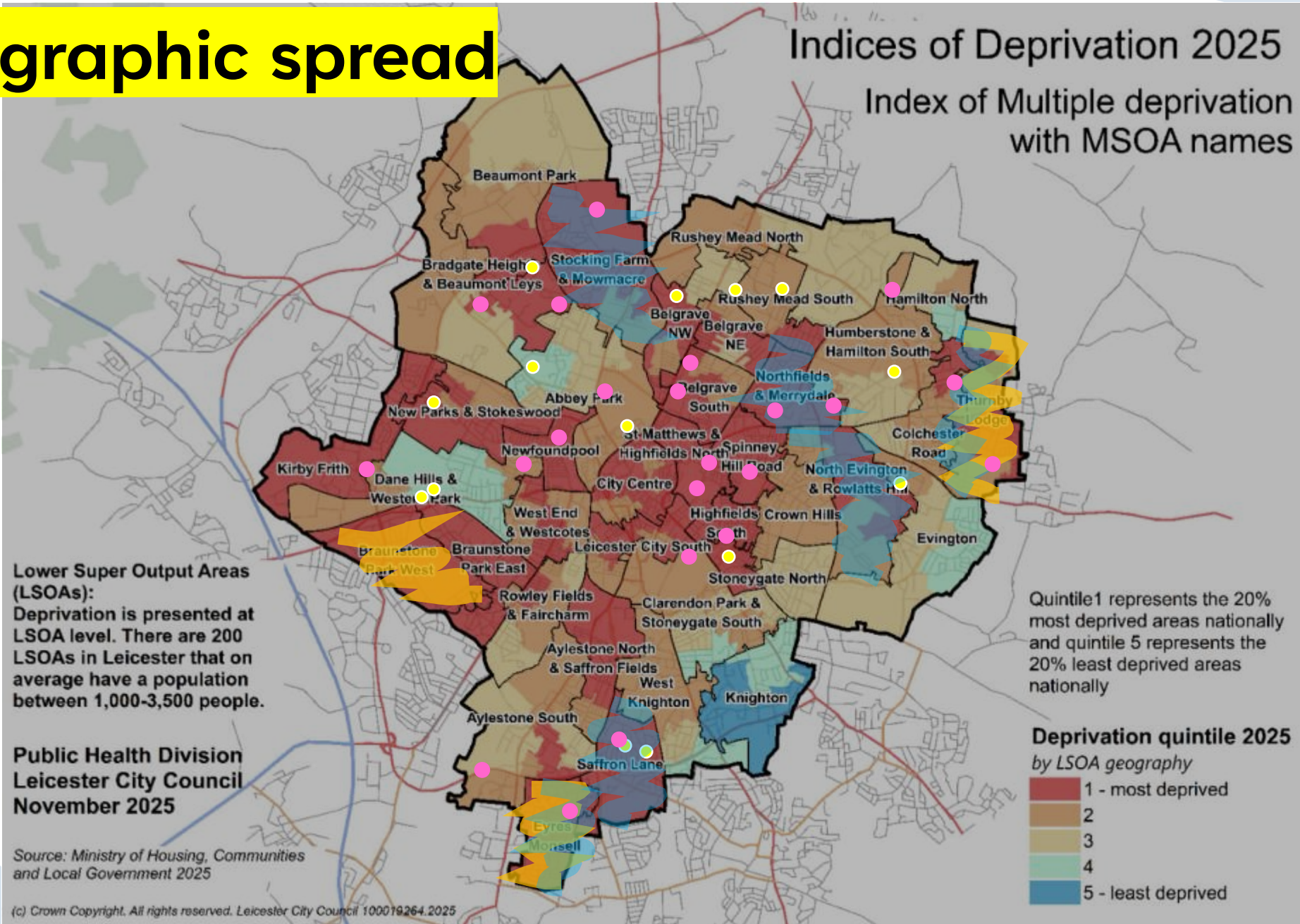
Index of Multiple deprivation
with MSOA names

Key

Public Space



Geographic spread



Programme update and costs

Project name	Design	Equipment Procured	On site (or planned date)	Complete	Budget (£000's)
Kingfisher Youth Centre					£70
Abbey Park play area					£450
Stoughton Street South					£70
Growing place - New Parks			Expected November 26		£50
Growing places – Saffron			Expected November 26		£50
Rushey Fields play area					£100
St Helen's Close Play Area				Expected December 26	£80
Keyham Lane / Windmill Park					£120
Glovers Walk Play Area				Expected December 26	£80
Thomasson Road Play Area					£80
Appleton Park Play Area				Expected December 26	£120
Loughborough Road Play Area					£52
Western Park - Toddlers Area				Expected December 26	£75
Western Park BMX track					£20
Total					£1,417

Other Matters

- **3 other schemes requested for consideration**
 - Knighton – Church Lane Gardens (Decile 3) - £70k for full play area refurbishment. Recommended from play area provision underspend.
 - Cedar Rd play area – estimated cost £70k – PIPIF (Decile 1) – is a good fit for refurbishment works.
 - Gwendolen Gardens (Decile 2) – Proposal to tidy and clear site. Additional seating and bins – estimated cost of £20k for works.
- **Programme underspend**
 - Any further underspend will be assigned to low level schemes across the city.
 - Works to include the provision of additional furniture, signs etc, small scale equipment replacement across various sites.

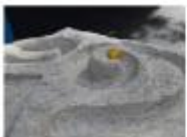
Abbey Park Play Area

- Complex site due to historical and ecological designations. Planning permission required for multiplay unit. Scheduled Monument Consent needed for all works (through Historic England).
- Ambition to create a destination play area for visitors to the city to visit as well as regular park users.
- Programme will split into 3 phases
 - replacement of existing play equipment
 - Installation of large-scale multi-play unit through separate procurement as supply and install contract
 - Completion of remainder of landscaping funded through S106 balance

Abbey park play area: mood board

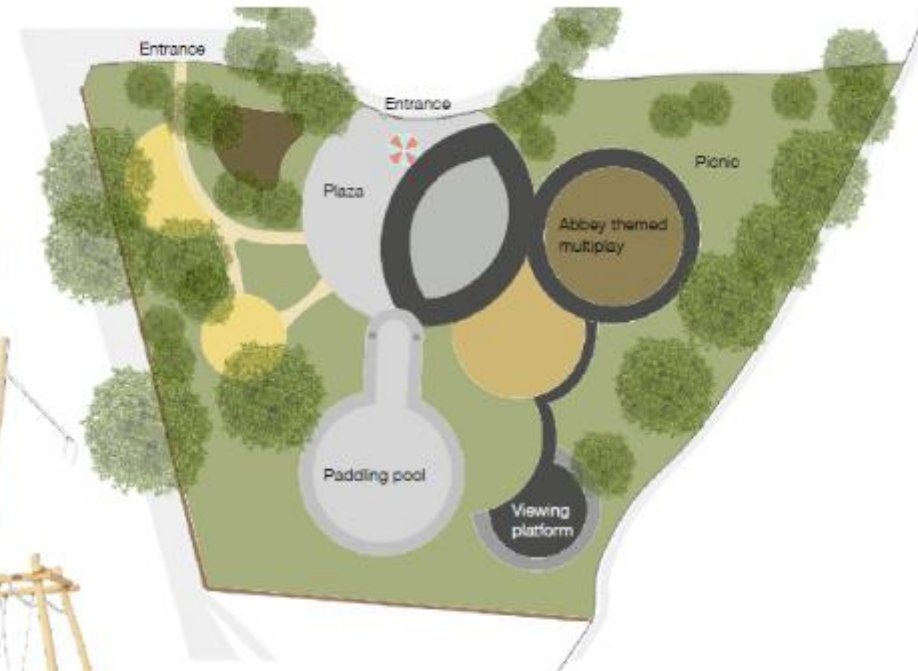
Equipment palette

The equipment represents a shortlist compiled to satisfy initial consultation with historic England. It has been selected based on criteria around neutral and natural materials that are robust and durable. They will blend into the surroundings and compliment the history of the scheduled ancient monument by not dominating.



Layout

The layout has been sensitively designed around the existing site. The entrance will be shifted to create a better spatial experience and highlight the historic paddling pool. Paths in black highlight accessible and inclusive space. Design of the new play equipment will create a sense of Abbey park inspiration in terms of traditional appearance and modern use. Some arboricultural work will be undertaken to reduce the density of the canopy to the West of the site for enhanced transparency and natural surveillance. Some of the trees will be removed for clear lines of sight to the paddling pool as a multi-functional event celebration point from the entrance. An interpretation panel will be installed highlighting the history including the prior use as fish ponds. There will be more seating installed and picnic areas to provide gathering space for general public use. A viewing platform in the south of the site next to the river highlights the waters proximity and provides legibility.



Materials palette

Materials have been selected based on durability, site context and sustainable credentials. The equipment will be manufactured using materials with longevity and that will continue to look good over a long period of time including for example robinia and galvanised steel, the safety surfaces will also be durable and have good end of life credentials. A cork based impact absorbing surface is proposed as well as a coconut husk based carpet called cocoturf. Both have excellent end of life characteristics because they are natural products unlike wet poor rubber and plastic carpet.



Rock



Cocoturf



Bark



Galvenised steel



Corkeen



Robinia



Sand

Progress Photographs



Loughborough Road
Play Area - complete



Thomasson Road Play Area – complete



Appleton Park Play Area – completion December



St Helens Play Area –
completion December



**Glovers Walk Play Area –
completion November**



**Stoughton Street –
completion January / February**

Western Park BMX works— complete



Questions