



Blenheim Drive Play Area Tender Document v2

Re-design, supply and install play equipment and safety surfacing as required to fully redevelop the existing play facility at Blenheim Drive Play Area, Blenheim Drive, Filton, BS34 7AX.

Filton Town Council is seeking tenders from suitably qualified and experienced suppliers to undertake the full redevelopment of the Blenheim Drive Play Area in Filton.

Blenheim Drive takes its name from the Bristol Blenheim aircraft, which was designed and manufactured in Filton. Reflecting this strong connection to the town's aerospace heritage, the Council is seeking to transform the existing play area into a modern, inclusive and engaging aviation-themed play space that celebrates Filton's unique identity.

The play area has recently transferred to Filton Town Council from the district authority, providing an opportunity to deliver a high-quality facility for the local community. The redevelopment will be undertaken within the existing footprint of the site.

Blenheim Drive Play Area is the only children's play area within the Conygre Ward, which has approximately 5,000 residents. The site is located on Blenheim Drive and is adjacent to Filton Hill Primary School, which serves the local Conygre area and has 196 pupils. Across Filton, there are approximately 1,649 children aged 15 and under, while the Blenheim Drive facility is one of only two play areas serving the wider Filton community.

The Council anticipates that the contract will commence on 1st December 2026 (subject to successful PWLB application), with construction works expected to begin in January 2027. The successful supplier will be required to develop a programme that achieves practical completion by 31st March 2027, with any necessary snagging works, no later than 31st June 2027.

The estimated value of the contract is up to £300,000 excluding VAT. Filton Town Council will be applying for a loan from the public works loan board to fund this project.

Draft Tender Description – Blenheim Drive Play Area

1. Project Overview

The Council is seeking to appoint a suitably experienced play area designer and contractor to undertake the design, supply and installation of a new play area at Blenheim Drive, Filton.

The redevelopment should provide a high-quality, modern, inclusive and engaging play environment that responds directly to local consultation feedback and reflects Filton's strong aerospace heritage.

Consultation undertaken with local schools, young people, residents and the wider community demonstrated strong support for the redevelopment of the play area, with a clear preference for an aviation-themed play space.

The successful tenderer will be expected to develop a cohesive design which balances imaginative play, physical challenge, accessibility, visual appeal, safety, durability and ease of maintenance.

The successful tenderer will also facilitate the removal and disposal of the outdated current equipment.

2. Design Theme and Character

The play area should incorporate a strong aviation theme, reflecting Filton's association with aerospace and aircraft manufacturing. An appropriate Aeroplane themed climbing frame should be the play area's centrepiece.

Designers are encouraged to consider imaginative and distinctive features inspired by:

- Aeroplanes
- Helicopters
- Specific aircraft inspired structures
- Air traffic control towers
- Runways and aircraft runways
- Pilot training
- Rocking aircraft

- Aviation-related imaginative play

These ideas were repeatedly identified through the consultation. The design should avoid simply applying superficial aviation graphics to standard equipment; wherever practicable, the aviation theme should be integrated into the form and function of the play equipment.

The use of colours and materials should also be considered carefully, with consultation feedback expressing a preference for colours associated with the original Blenheim aircraft rather than predominantly bright plastic equipment.

3. Play Equipment

The proposed play scheme should provide a varied range of activities and challenge levels for children of different ages and abilities.

The consultation identified the following equipment as priorities:

High priority

- Swings, including basket, pod, combination and accessible swings
- Climbing frames, particularly aircraft-themed climbing equipment
- Trampolines
- Monkey bars

Moderate priority

- Slides
- Spinning equipment, such as carousels, spinning bowls, Rota Roka or equivalent

Inclusive play

- Wheelchair-accessible roundabout
- Inclusive swings
- Other accessible play equipment and opportunities

Seesaw provision received moderate support and may be considered as part of the overall design where appropriate.

The final equipment mix should create a balance of climbing, sliding, swinging, spinning, balancing, physical challenge, imaginative play and social interaction.

The play area should not include a zip wire, as this is something already in place at the neighbouring primary school used to reward children for good behaviour, so we will not be looking to undermine this incentive.

Due to its isolated location away from The Council's offices and therefore reduced supervision, the play area will need to be made of durable materials as least prone to vandalism as possible such as powder-coated steel – however the play area will be locked out of hours.

4. Inclusion and Accessibility

Inclusivity should be a fundamental consideration in the design rather than an additional feature.

The completed play area should provide meaningful opportunities for children with different ages, abilities and mobility needs to play alongside one another. Consultation specifically identified accessible swings, a wheelchair-accessible roundabout and accessible play equipment as important requirements.

Bidders should demonstrate within their proposals how the design will encourage shared and inclusive play, rather than simply providing isolated accessible items.

5. Wider Site Improvements

The tender proposal should consider the play area as part of the wider site and include appropriate improvements to the surrounding environment.

Consultation identified a desire for:

- Plentiful comfortable seating including picnic areas with good sightlines across the play area
- Additional bins
- Retention and incorporation of existing mature trees.
- Shade provision
- Landscaping and opportunities for planting
- Clear separation or zoning of play opportunities for different age groups
- Good visibility throughout the park
- Potential opportunities for wall art

The successful contractor should seek to create a welcoming, attractive and comfortable setting for both children and accompanying adults, rather than treating the play equipment in isolation.

6. Safety, Security and Neighbour Considerations

The design should take account of concerns raised by neighbouring residents regarding the existing management and use of the site.

The design should therefore maximise natural surveillance and visibility, avoid unnecessary concealed areas and provide good sightlines from seating areas.

The position and height of climbing equipment should also be carefully considered in relation to neighbouring properties. In particular, the design should minimise inappropriate overlooking of neighbouring gardens and maintain suitable separation from boundary fences.

7. Overall Design Objective

The overall objective is to create a distinctive, durable and inclusive aviation-themed destination play area which reflects the identity of Filton and responds to the priorities identified by the local community.

The consultation's strongest consensus was for aircraft-themed climbing equipment, swings, trampolines, monkey bars, large slides, inclusive play opportunities, and comfortable seating and landscaping.

Tenderers should demonstrate how their proposed design delivers these priorities while providing a coherent, exciting and high-quality play environment that is practical to maintain and welcoming to the whole community.

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 37535000 - Roundabouts, swings, shooting galleries and other fairground amusements
- 45112723 - Landscaping work for playgrounds
- 45236210 - Flatwork for children's play area

Contract locations

- Filton, Bristol.
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Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT

The council will complete a basic economic and financial assessment.

INSURANCE

The supplier must hold or be able to obtain the following insurances:

- Employers' (Compulsory Liability Insurance) of £10million for each and every claim
- Public Liability Insurance of £10million for each and every claim
- Product Liability Insurance of £10million for each and every claim
- Professional Indemnity Insurance of £2million for each and every claim

Technical ability conditions of participation

GDPR COMPLIANCE

The supplier has the ability, including the relevant resources and processes, to deliver the contract in accordance with GDPR.

TECHNICAL ABILITY

Provision of 3 contract case studies that evidences delivery of similar goods/works/services to the council's specification. For this contract the case studies must demonstrate the following minimum experience:

- All 3 examples must demonstrate delivery of refurbished play parks of a similar size and value to the Blenheim Play Area scheme.
- At least 1 example must demonstrate experience of incorporating co-designs from stakeholders into the final design.

ORGANISATIONAL STANDARDS

The supplier must be accredited with/be a member of the Association of Play Industries (API).



HEALTH AND SAFETY

The supplier demonstrates appropriate health and safety arrangements.

SUB-CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT

The supplier demonstrates experience of maintaining healthy supply chains

SUBCONTRACTOR AND SUPPLY CHAIN PAYMENTS

The supplier demonstrates effective systems in place to pay the supply chain promptly and effectively, evidenced through demonstration of at least 95% of invoices payable to the supply chain, paid within 60 days in at least one of the last two six-monthly reporting periods (or a suitable action plan setting out how this will be achieved).

PROCURING STEEL

The supplier demonstrates healthy supply chains for delivery of steel or steel goods.

MODERN SLAVERY

The supplier demonstrates its modern slavery statement (or equivalent)

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

05/10/2026, 11:59pm

Tender submission deadline

12/10/2026, 11:59pm

Submission address and any special instructions

All tenders must be submitted by emailing
Conygre.regeneration@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

29/10/2026

Award criteria

This table contains award criteria for this lot

Name	Type	Weighting
Proposed design	Quality	40%
Maintenance and warranty	Quality	25%
Quality control	Quality	10%
Sustainability	Quality	10%
Total price	Price	10%
Social value	Quality	5%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Contracting authority

Filton Town Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNWH-1659-RXYM

Elm Park Leisure Centre

Elm Park

Filton

Bristol

BS34 7PS

United Kingdom

Email: Conygre.regeneration@filtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Site Location

Blenheim Drive Play Area, Blenheim Drive, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7AX

The Play Area occupies an area of approximately 1250m*2

Front fence line 63.3m

Right hand side fence 20m

Back fence 65m

School 19.1m

