

Annual Inspection

Mid Suffolk District Council

Drinkstone

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RPII Inspection Methodology

This document outlines the RPII position on inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed on the RPII Register of Inspectors for Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it the date of the standard will be that current at the time of inspection with the exception of where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this would include public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below);

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, including ancillary items).

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standard (BS EN 71 – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will still refer to BS EN 1176.

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

- BS EN 15312 Free access multi-sports equipment
- BS EN 14974 Skateparks
- BS EN 16630 Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment
- BS EN 16899 Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area up to 3.0 metres around, or the fence line if closer.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include for any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all standing surfaces as necessary on the equipment and assess all parts up to 2.5m above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on-site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).

Where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no aboricultural or horticultural assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken; the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/ or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person at all times when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

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Table 1

The operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual Outdoor/ Fully enclosed Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	\checkmark	V [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	\checkmark	V [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	\checkmark	✓ [2]
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	~	✓ [3]
6.1 d) Effects of weather	\checkmark	
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	\checkmark	V [1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	\checkmark	✓ [4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	\checkmark	×
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	\checkmark	V [5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	\checkmark	V [1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	\checkmark	×

NB: The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176 - Part 7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein. Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant standards.

[1] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested or with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[2] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on RPII annual inspections.

[3] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment.

[4] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance

[5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.

Risk Assessment Matrix

			Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Seve			x Severity		
	1				Sev	erity>>		
	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)
	High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.	4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)
Likelihood	Moderate probability an incident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)
				Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
				1	2	3	4	5
	PI			No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes	Minor injury, laceration or bruising requiring first aid only	Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. cuts requiring stitches	Serious injury including concussions or fracture of long bones	Severe injury involving a potential life changing injur or fatality
	Severity>>							
Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multipication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severi								

(3).

Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators responsibility to ensure that there is a continuing level of maintenance to keep the equipment in good working order and the site fit for use.

Equipment has been assessed to the following standards where relevant:

BS EN 1176 Parts 1-11 (Playground equipment and surfacing)

BS EN 14974 (Facilities for users of roller sports equipment)

BS EN 15312 (Free access multi-sports equipment)

BS EN 16899 (Parkour Equipment)

BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Fitness Equipment).



Drinkstone

Inspection Ref: 1437908

Site Ref: 16529

Inspected: 12-August-2021 - 06:00 by Lyn Williams RPII Annual Inspector

Risk Assessment: 8 Low Risk



Location:

The site is located in an area of public open space and is not directly overlooked by any properties in the local community.

Disabled Access:

Some accessible features; an area that presents difficulties to the majority of people with disabilities but in favourable circumstances and certainly in partnership can be accessed.



👚 8 - Low Risk		
Item:	Site General	
Manufacturer:	Not Applicable	
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	4	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There are a number of molehills within the area and these may present unforeseen hazards for users - Remove moles by appropriate means, reinstate surfaces to level and maintain the area		The timber has a number of splits/shakes or air cracks and this may affect the stability or allow water ingress which will accelerate the rotting process - Monitor to ensure the splits do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability
Finding 3		Finding 4
There is strimmer / machinery damage apparent on the posts, this can penetrate the preservative applied to the timber and accelerate the rotting process - Monitor for any deterioration (rot) and replace as required		The grass mats are silted up and the soil is compacted; this may have an effect on the impact absorbing properties of the surface - Consider HIC testing impact absorbing properties to ensure the correct surface qualities are maintained for the equipment and replace as required

5 - Very Low Ri	sk
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ltem:	Sign	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	
Surface Type:	N/A	Drinkstone Parish Council
tem Quantity:	1	Keep integranue Jean Net anno The discovered automatics for the
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	and the design and there is provided in the second se
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	Theready area reconciliable for the day of the set of the day requirement.
Total Findings:	1	The senter de and experience of the senter de and experience o

Finding 1

BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall include the site name / address - Provide additional information



4 - Very Low Risk Item: Bench Manufacturer: Owner/Operator Surface Type: N/A Item Quantity: 2 Equipment Compliance: N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A **Total Findings:** 1 Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

6 - Low Risk		
Item:	Picnic Table	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	T T
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Part Number:		
Item Quantity:	2	and a second
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	1	
Finding 1		

There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required



😭 4 - Very Low Risk

Item:	Litter Bin
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator
Surface Type:	N/A
Item Quantity:	1
Equipment Compliance:	N/A
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A

Total Findings:

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

4 - Very Low Risk

Cable Runway
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd
Grass Matrix Tiles
1
Yes
Yes

3

1

Total Findings:



Finding 1 Finding 2 We have completed a visual inspection of the cable and There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the fixing points from ground level, however it is not possible to item - Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers fully inspect the cable and fixings without either hiring equipment to gain access or removing the cable and inspecting at ground level. We recommend that the main cable and fixing security is thoroughly inspected at least in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations to check for damage, security or internal rusting, this will help to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment - Inspect in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations Finding 3 The seat connection cannot be inspected without dismantling the seat - Dismantle the seat to inspect the seat connection for wear



6 - Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance: Total Findings:	Climbing Frame Adventure Playgrounds Grass Matrix Tiles 1 No Yes	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required		There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers - Monitor - No remedial work recommended
Finding 3		Finding 4
The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.2 for head and neck entrapment in the framework - Monitor - No remedial work recommended		The connecting links are in excess of 8.6mm and less than 12mm and fail the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1; clause 4.2.13, Chains - Monitor use and replace with compliant links at the next maintenance cycle
Finding 5		Finding 6
The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or replace as required		There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the item - Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers



8 - Low Risk		
Item:	Multi Play (Junior)	
Manufacturer:	Adventure Playgrounds	
Surface Type:	Grass Matrix Tiles	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	No	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	4	
Finding 1		Finding 2
The unit is easily accessible appropriate barriers installed BS EN 1176 Part 1 as the he 600mm - Monitor - No remed	to meet the requirements of hight of the unit exceeds	There are areas or parts of the timber on the structure that have rotted - Replace all affected timbers
Finding 3		Finding 4
A number of fixing(s) have worked loose - Secure all loose fixings		There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers - Monitor - No remedial work recommended



🕜 8 - Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance: Total Findings:	Embankment Slide Owner/Operator Grass 1 No Yes 5	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There are a number of dents for any further deterioration a	in the slide surface - Monitor and repair as required	There are areas or parts of the timber access ramp that have rotted - Replace all affected timbers
Finding 3		Finding 4
The surface has eroded and Reinstate surrounding surfac	the foundations are exposed - es to cover the foundations	There is / are toggle entrapment/s present in contravention of the recommendations set out in BS EN 1176 Part 3 - Monitor - no remedial work recommended
Finding 5		
it should slope towards the d	e is not in the direction of travel; irection of the sliding surface to EN 1176 Part 3 - Monitor - No	
2 - Very Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance:	1 Bay 2 Seat (Cradle) Adventure Playgrounds Grass Matrix Tiles 1 Yes	
Surface Area Compliance: Total Findings:		

Finding 1

The item has missing component(s) - Consider replacing missing components



6 - Low Risk		
Item:	1 Bay 2 Seat (Flat)	
Manufacturer:	Adventure Playgrounds	
Surface Type:	Grass Matrix Tiles	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	3	
Finding 1		Finding 2
The item has missing compo missing components	onent(s) - Consider replacing	The bushes are showing signs of wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required
Finding 3		
There is some wear to the sl further deterioration and repl		
4 - Very Low Risk		
Item:	Basket Swing - Type 1	
Manufacturer:	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	
Surface Type:	Grass Matrix Tiles	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	The second
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -



6 - Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance:	Multi Use Games Area (MUGA Sport England Tarmac 1 Yes N/A	s)
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
The backboard is damaged - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required		The hoop nets are damaged - Replace the damaged hoop nets



Findings information





6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Manufacturer:

Ancillary Items - Site General

Risk Level: Surface:

L - Low Risk N/A



Finding: The timber has a number of splits/shakes or air Action: Monitor to ensure the splits do not cross through cracks and this may affect the stability or allow water ingress fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability which will accelerate the rotting process

Risk Level:

6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Ancillary Items - Site General Item: Not Applicable Manufacturer:



Finding: There is strimmer / machinery damage apparent on the posts, this can penetrate the preservative applied to the timber and accelerate the rotting process

Surface: N/A

L - Low Risk



Action: Monitor for any deterioration (rot) and replace as required



8 - Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Manufacturer:

Ancillary Items - Site General Not Applicable

Risk Level: Surface:

L - Low Risk N/A



Finding: The grass mats are silted up and the soil is compacted; this may have an effect on the impact absorbing ensure the correct surface qualities are maintained for the properties of the surface

Action: Consider HIC testing impact absorbing properties to equipment and replace as required

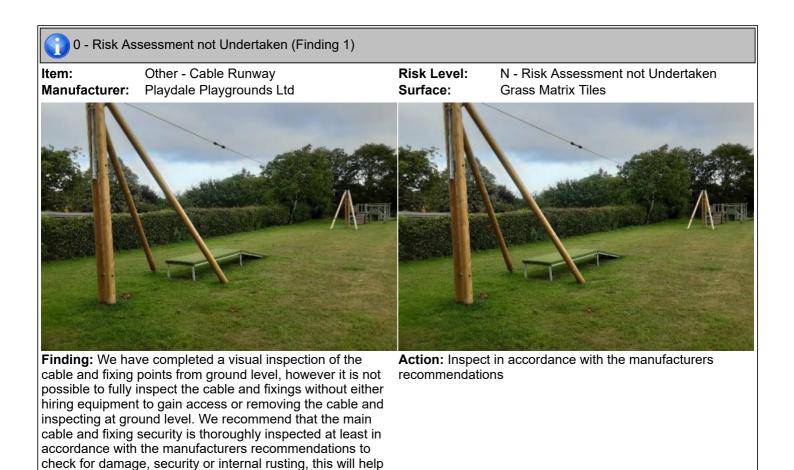


Finding: BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall Action: Provide additional information include the site name / address



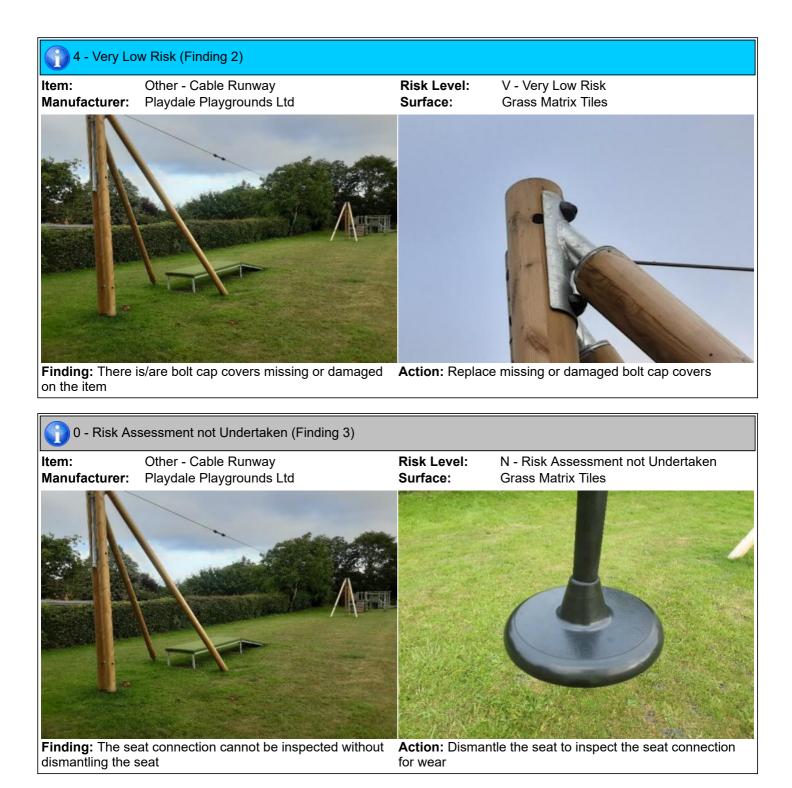






to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment







6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Manufacturer:

Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame Adventure Playgrounds



L - Low Risk Grass Matrix Tiles



Finding: There is some evidence of rot in the timber



Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item:Activity Equipment - Climbing FrameManufacturer:Adventure Playgrounds

Risk Level: Surface: V - Very Low Risk Grass Matrix Tiles





Finding: There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers

Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended



5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Manufacturer:

Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame Adventure Playgrounds

Risk Level: Surface:

V - Very Low Risk **Grass Matrix Tiles**





Finding: The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.2 for head and neck entrapment in the framework

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Manufacturer:

Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame Adventure Playgrounds

Risk Level: Surface:

V - Very Low Risk Grass Matrix Tiles



Finding: The connecting links are in excess of 8.6mm and less than 12mm and fail the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1; clause 4.2.13, Chains

Action: Monitor use and replace with compliant links at the next maintenance cycle



6 - Low Risk (Finding 5)

Item: Manufacturer:

Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame Adventure Playgrounds Risk Level: Surface: L - Low Risk Grass Matrix Tiles



Finding: The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or replace as required



Finding: There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the item

Action: Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers



6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item:

Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)

Adventure Playgrounds Manufacturer: Surface: Grass Matrix Tiles

Risk Level:

Finding: The unit is easily accessible and should have the Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended appropriate barriers installed to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 as the height of the unit exceeds 600mm

8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

structure that have rotted

Item:

Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)

Risk Level: Surface:

L - Low Risk Grass Matrix Tiles

L - Low Risk





6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Manufacture Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior) Adventure Playgrounds



Risk Level:

L - Low Risk

Finding: A number of fixing(s) have worked loose

Action: Secure all loose fixings

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4)





Finding: There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers



Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended



4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1) V - Very Low Risk Other - Embankment Slide **Risk Level:** Item: Manufacturer: Owner/Operator Surface: Grass Finding: There are a number of dents in the slide surface Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required 8 - Low Risk (Finding 2) Item: Other - Embankment Slide **Risk Level:** L - Low Risk Manufacturer: Owner/Operator Surface: Grass Finding: There are areas or parts of the timber access ramp Action: Replace all affected timbers

Finding: There are areas or parts of the timber access ramp **Action:** Replace all affected timbers that have rotted



1176 Part 3

The Play Inspection Company Ltd Unit 5 Glenmore Business Park Blackhill Road Poole Dorset BH16 6NL 01202 590675

8 - Low Risk (Finding 3) Other - Embankment Slide **Risk Level:** L - Low Risk Item: Owner/Operator Surface: Manufacturer: Grass Finding: The surface has eroded and the foundations are Action: Reinstate surrounding surfaces to cover the exposed foundations 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4) Item: Other - Embankment Slide **Risk Level:** V - Very Low Risk Manufacturer: Owner/Operator Surface: Grass **Finding:** There is / are toggle entrapment/s present in contravention of the recommendations set out in BS EN Action: Monitor - no remedial work recommended



Item: Other - Embankment Slide Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk Manufacturer: Owner/Operator Surface: Grass

2 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)







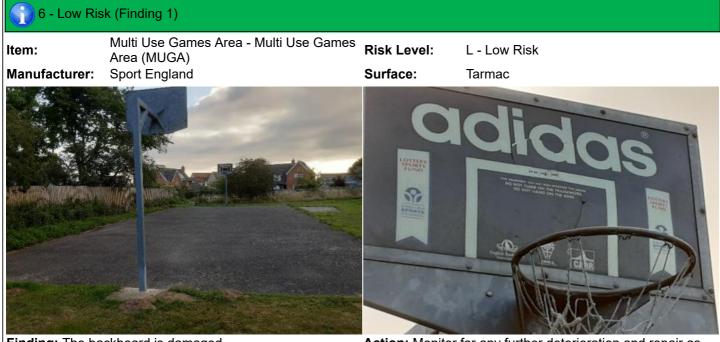


6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)



Finding: There is some wear to the shackles.

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace when 40% worn



Finding: The backboard is damaged

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



