



Press Release

October 9, 2026

Widescale investment into Fenland play areas under way

Widespread investment into improving Fenland play areas has begun following public input into proposals.

In the summer, the public were asked to indicate their feelings on Fenland District Council plans to invest £1.5million Pride in Place Government funds into play areas. And a further £240,000 from Government's Playground Fund, ring fenced by Government for Wisbech.

Following public support, work on some of the projects is already under way with others due to start soon.

The district council's elected members set out an aspiration to invest in the district's play areas as part of its 'Fenland Inspire!' capital investment plan.

Cllr Sidney Imafidon, portfolio holder for Fenland Inspire! open spaces and play area project, said: "The investment into Fenland parks is extremely exciting. Some of the schemes are more ambitious than others, but we know large and smaller, they'll all make a difference at a very local level to people who use these areas.

"Some of the projects are now getting under way with spades in the ground. For others, such as where sites aren't owned by Fenland District Council, planning permission may be required or there's a need for us to tender for contractors, further background work is ongoing to finalise the details and ensure people can benefit from this investment as soon as possible."

District-wide schemes being progressed include:

In **Chatteris**, improving lighting at Furrowfields and Wenny Road recreation grounds. Other enhancements to those areas are also expected as are improvements at Cricketers Way, Hunters Close, Huntingdon Road, Larham Way, St Pauls Drive.

In **March**, investment in new or improved equipment at Alberts Drive, Gaul Road, North Drive, Peas Hill Road, Robingoodfellows Lane, Southwell Close, The Avenue and West End Park.

In **Whittlesey**, a new meeting and seating area has been created at Church Street, next to St Andrew's Church, with benches and improved landscaping. There's also set to be the addition of some play equipment and additional lighting closer to Station Road; new benches in Manor Field and play equipment investment at Manor Field, Pinewood Avenue and Thornham Way.

In **Wisbech**, there are proposals to invest in improved or additional features at Burcroft Road and Wisbech Park, off Lynn Road.

In **Fenland's villages** there's a proposal to create a new play area in Tydd St Giles, close to the community centre, in Broad Drove East.

Investment is planned at play areas in Christchurch, Doddington, Elm, Leverington, Manea, Murrow, Newton in the Isle, and Wimblington.

Not all of the play areas are owned by Fenland District Council, therefore agreements must be reached with landowners. In some cases, proposals may be subject to a tender process, planning approval or other regulations being met.

With Playground Fund funding there are plans to invest in Conference Way and Heron Road play areas. And a proposal to create a new play area in Guild Road.

Most of the schemes are due to be started or complete by the end of next year (2027). Playground Fund schemes will most likely be complete in late 2027 or 2028.

Westmead Avenue play area, Wisbech, has also been recently transformed with new equipment for two-to eight-year-olds in a separate project funded directly from Council budgets.

Ends

Photos

- Cllr Sidney Imafidon, left, and Cllr Jason Mockett, at the new meeting and seating area created at Church Street, next to St Andrew's Church, Whittlesey.
- Cllr Sidney Imafidon and Cllr Sam Hoy at the transformed Westmead Avenue play area in Wisbech.
- Before: Westmead Play Area
- After: The transformed Westmead Play Area has all new equipment aimed at two- to eight-year-olds.

Notes to Editors

For media enquiries, please contact the Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226 or email: communications@fenland.gov.uk

