

# South East Region Update

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**LOTTERY FUNDED**

# Play England



Is BIG Lottery and DCSF funded

Provides advice and support to promote good practice

Works to ensure that the importance of play is recognised by policy makers, planners and the public



# Other work includes



# Children's Plan



## Children's Plan – 10yr strategy

“...the best country in the world for children to grow up...”

### 5 underpinning principles, including:

“Children and young people need to enjoy their childhood as well as grow up prepared for adult life.”



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# The Play Strategy



# Play Strategy Aims



More places to play

Supporting play throughout childhood

Playing safely

Child-friendly communities

Embedding play in local priorities



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# Play Strategy Outcomes



Making space for play

Play England contracted as national delivery partner

**£235 million** investment in 3,500 play spaces through the **Play Pathfinder** and **Playbuilder** Programme

To create a 'play-friendly' public realm



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# SE Play Pathfinders



Portsmouth

East Sussex

Oxfordshire



# SE Playbuilders



Bracknell Forest  
Brighton & Hove  
West Berkshire  
Reading  
Slough  
West Sussex  
Kent  
Medway

Surrey  
Hampshire  
Southampton  
Isle of Wight  
Buckinghamshire  
Milton Keynes  
Wokingham  
Royal Borough of Windsor &  
Maidenhead



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# Design for Play



# 10 key principles



1. Be designed for their site
2. Be well located
3. Make use of natural elements
4. Provide a wide range of play experiences
5. Be accessible to both disabled and non-disabled children
6. Meet community needs
7. Have an element of flexibility built into the layout
8. Build in opportunities to take risks and challenges
9. Be sustainable, and appropriately maintained
10. Allow for change and evolution



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# Darnley play space, Stirling Old Town



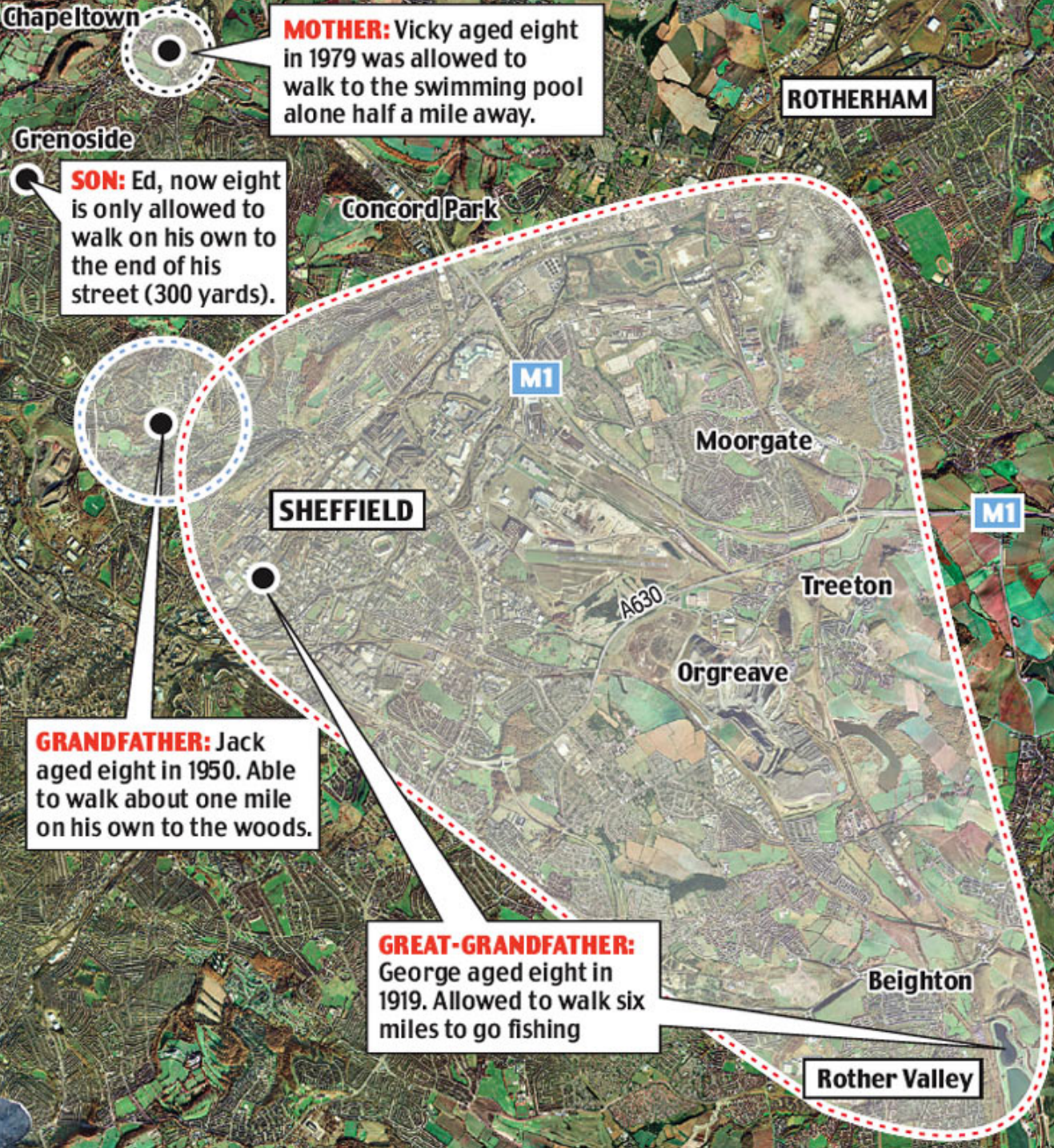
**LOTTERY FUNDED**

# Princess Diana playground, Kensington Gardens

**Play  
England**  
Making space for play



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**MOTHER:** Vicky aged eight in 1979 was allowed to walk to the swimming pool alone half a mile away.

**SON:** Ed, now eight is only allowed to walk on his own to the end of his street (300 yards).

**GRANDFATHER:** Jack aged eight in 1950. Able to walk about one mile on his own to the woods.

**GREAT-GRANDFATHER:** George aged eight in 1919. Allowed to walk six miles to go fishing



Making space for play

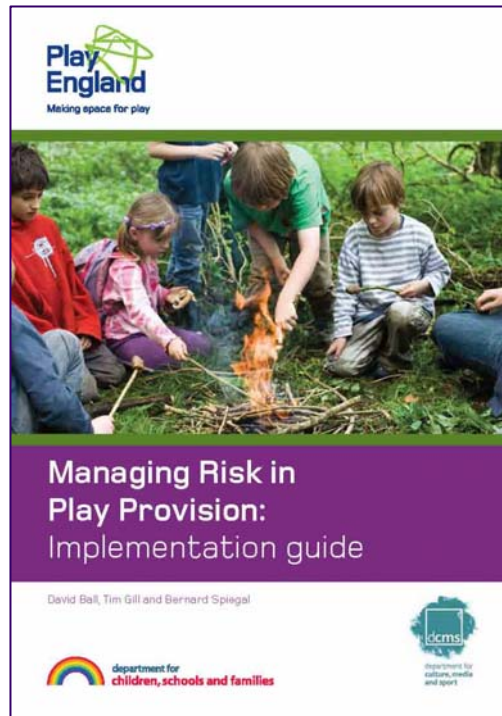
# Four generations of the Thomas family

Natural England  
2007



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# Risk v Benefit



# Playshaper



A cross professional programme bringing together professionals who build, design and manage local neighbourhoods to improve opportunities for children's play

Additional specialist modules for:

- Planners/Built Environment
- Police/Supervisory



# Children's Trusts



Making space for play

***“Local authorities should work in partnership with schools and relevant agencies to promote safe environments so children and young people are protected, but also allowed opportunities to experience risk and develop independence. Chief among the relevant services are transport, leisure and housing. This means actively engaging district councils or other departments within the top-tier local authority to champion children’s interests in the wider Local Strategic Partnership – combating bullying, tackling emissions and noise from traffic, access to quality green spaces, and opportunities for outdoor play and safe places for teenagers to meet.”***

Children’s Trusts: Statutory guidance on inter-agency co-operation to improve well-being of children, young people and their families  
(DCSF, 2008)



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# Play National Indicator



New national indicator for Play (NI199) - part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)



# Linked Agendas

- ✓ Child Road Safety Strategy (DfT) – improving safety for children
- ✓ Manual For Streets (DfT) – guidance for planning, design and provision of new residential streets
- ✓ Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation





Methleys  
Yorkshire



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**Play  
England**

Making space for play

**Methleys  
Yorkshire**



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**Play  
England**

Making space for play



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[www.playengland.org.uk](http://www.playengland.org.uk)

Play England: a five-year project to promote strategies for free play and create a lasting support structure for children's play in England

