

<b>Crescent, Portstewart / Short Term Development Option</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2016</b>
<b>TO: Leisure &amp; Development Committee For Decision</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Resilient, healthy & engaged communities
<b>Outcome</b>	Citizens will have access to Council recreational facilities and protected natural environments which help them to develop their physical, emotional and cognitive health
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Wendy McCullough – Head of Sport & Wellbeing
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	£85,000 (Capital)

**The purpose of this report is to request permission to progress this project to Stage 2 of the Capital Programme Management System to improve the recreational play activities available at The Crescent, Portstewart.**

**A subsequent report will be brought back to Council, to inform the Investment Decision.**

**Background:**

In September Council approved the termination of the existing lease agreement for The Crescent in Portstewart. Included in the Council report was the intention to reconfigure the water play element of the provision as it was deemed high risk in terms of health & safety guidelines relating to water play facilities.

It was noted that plans would be developed to revise the water play provision on site in time for the 2017 Summer Season with details to be taken to the L&D committee for approval prior to any implementation.

**Current position:**

Council's Capital Works & Infrastructure department have developed plans (see Annex A) which show a canopied seating area in place of the "boat" pool and a refreshed "paddle" pool which will be of a lower depth to allow for a safer water experience valued by parents with young children who fear the risks associated with sea bathing.

To complement the existing play equipment located throughout the site there will be additional pieces added in close proximity to the paddle pool which will generate increased enjoyment and an opportunity for interactive play with water.

A general refurbishment of the internal space within the Café building is planned, however the service on offer will be limited to confectionary and soft drinks to cater for the needs of the play park users. Council, for the first year of operations, will not have on offer any catering / hot food options, as the private sector is providing extensive options throughout the Promenade.

The refurbishment of the area is designed in such a manner as to be capable of withstanding any winter / sea damage that has blighted the area in recent times, either through the strength of the equipment or by being removable and stored off-site during winter months.

Officers will continue to make progress on developing a more robust and longer-term development plan for the Crescent and explore potential external funding sources. Following consultation with key stakeholders such plans will be brought back to Council for approval.

Table 1 is an indicative breakdown of the costs associated with the refurbishment of the water play area;

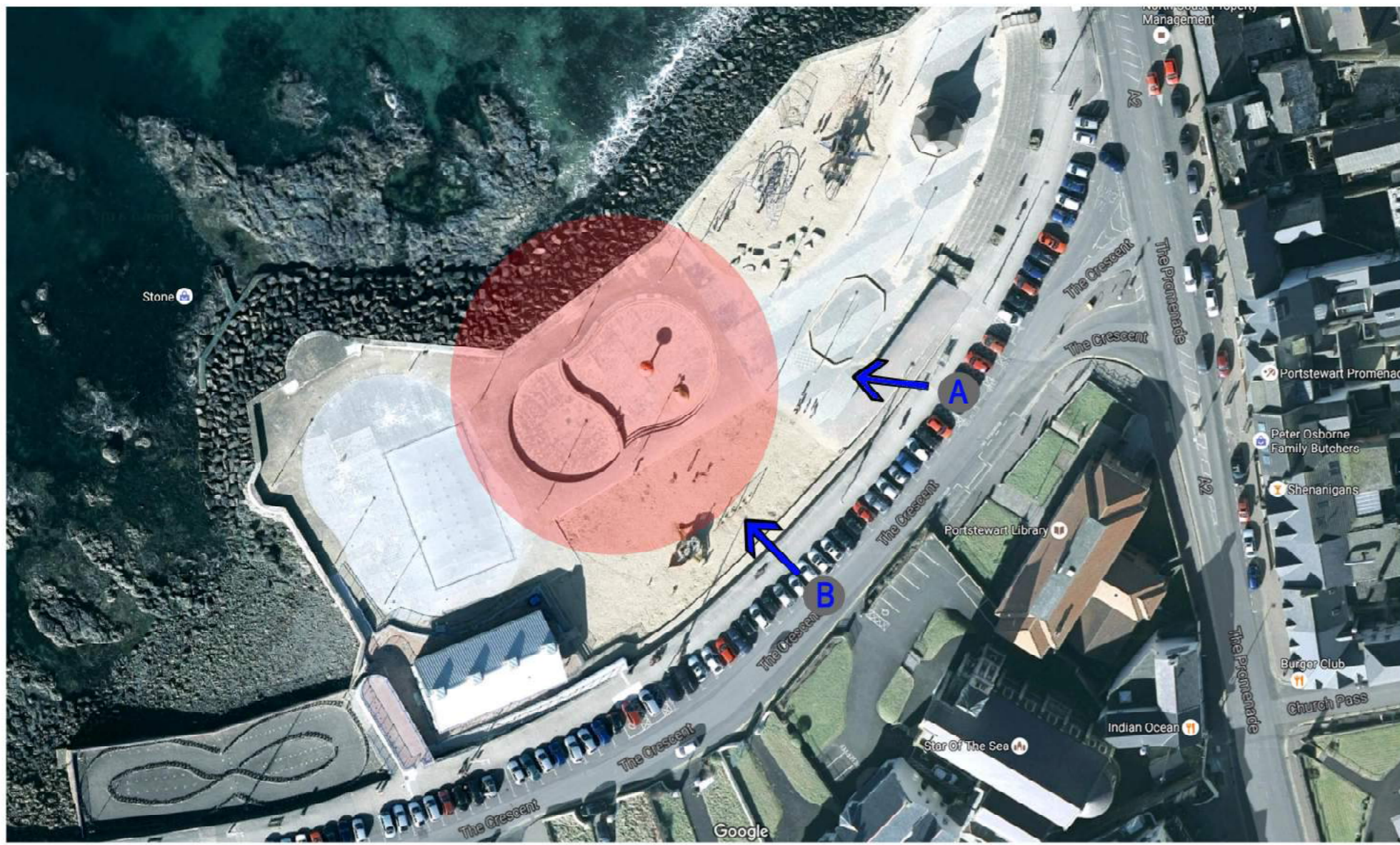
Equipment (furniture & seating)	£30,000
Renovation of existing paddle pool	£20,000
Coring to sea wall – for pool filling	£3,000
Infill & concrete of boat pool	£20,000
Prelims	£8,000
Contingency	£4,000
<b>Total budget cost</b>	<b>£85,000</b>

Subject to Council approval, the aforementioned work could progress in Q1 of 2017 and scheduled for completion prior to the Irish Open Golf Tournament in July 2017.

The scheme is to be considered a short – medium term option, capable of serving the needs of the users of the recreation play area for minimally 3 - 5 years whilst Council considers longer-term options for the site.

**Recommendation:**

The Leisure and Development Services Committee is asked to consider the progression of this project to Stage 2 of the Capital Programme Management System, i.e. detailed design and procurement of a contractor.



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFYING SUBJECT SITE / AREA  
SCALE:- N.T.S.



Photograph 'A'



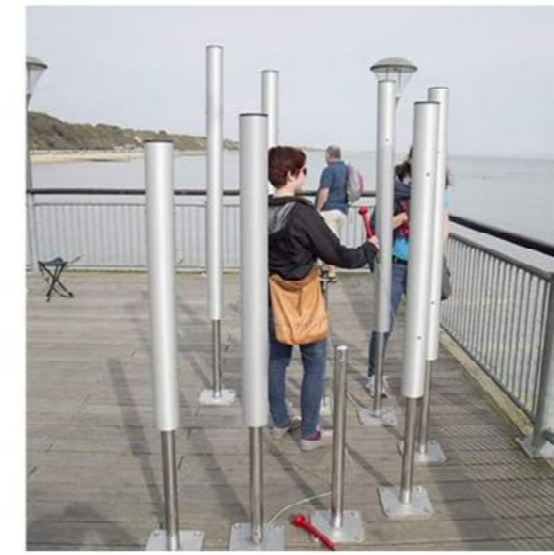
Photograph 'B'



D. Water Play Feature



Typical view of mixed exposed concrete aggregate to be used, as identified within Play Area



A. Musical Chimes, (Sensory & Play)



B. Activity Wall, providing Play & Sensory



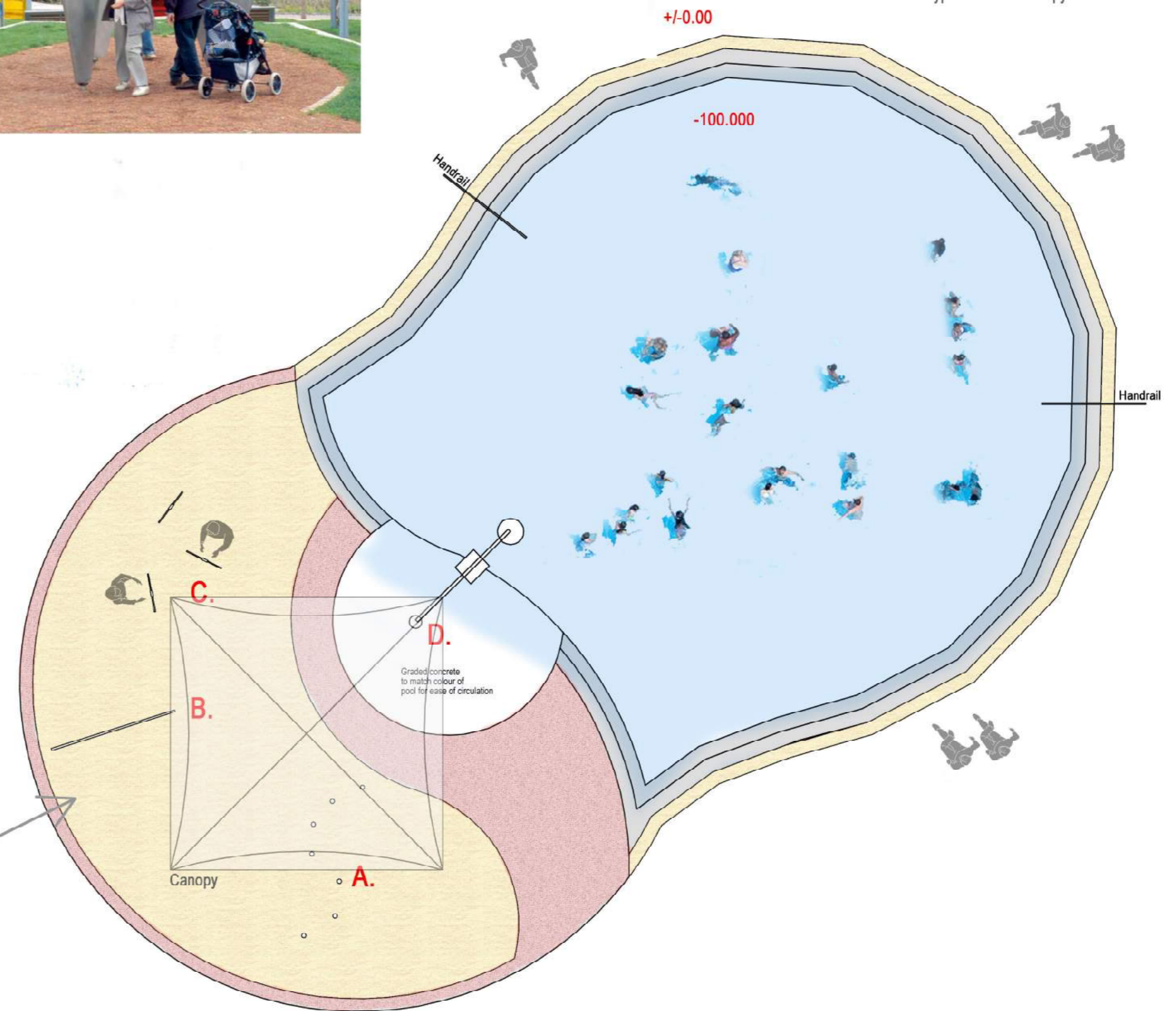
Typical view of seating proposed under canopy



Typical view of canopy for consideration



C. Street Musicians, (Play & Sensory)



PROPOSED SITE PLAN OF REFURBISHED POOL & PLAY AREA  
SCALE:- 1 / 50