Play helps to promote learning and communication among youngsters. That’s why play areas in new housing developments are so important in bringing the entire community closer together.

All of the play areas on Greenbelt developments are inspected and maintained in accordance with European guidelines, which come under BSEN 1176/77 regulation. As part of our management service we provide a year-round inspection service with three levels:

- **Visual inspections** – these are carried out by contractors and our staff, this includes checking equipment, surfaces and reporting any damage; removal of litter and any other foreign objects from the safety surface or pieces of equipment.
- **Quarterly inspections** – carried out by our own qualified staff or qualified contractors these identify issues such as wear and tear.
- **Annual inspections** – these are in-depth inspections carried out by independent qualified play area inspectors to ensure continued compliance with European guidelines.

Where repairs or other works are identified at these inspections or reported by residents we assess the work required, obtain a quotation and carry out the repairs. Because we manage so many play areas we are able to obtain very competitive prices for both independent inspections and for works required. Many of the suppliers of equipment and spare parts are based in Europe, which can mean that repairs take six to eight weeks to complete. During this time it may be necessary to disable particular equipment or even close a play area. We appreciate this can be inconvenient but hope you understand safety is paramount at all times.

An cost is included in the Annual Management Charge (AMC) to pay for inspections and insurance. Where repairs are needed or where play areas are damaged by vandalism, we regret we have to add this to the AMC as a separate cost.

Even though inspections are carried out regularly, damage can happen at any time, even when equipment is maintained to a high standard. If you spot damage, it is important you let us know as soon as you can by calling our freephone number 0800 028 1749. If you witness anti-social behaviour in a play area, such as vandalism, littering or dog fouling, please help us to help you by reporting this to the police.