

Carolyn Godfrey
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Clerks to Parish Councils in Wiltshire

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Our ref: CP/CMG

Your ref: CP 250108 Risky Business
Council

25 January 2008

Dear Clerk

'Putting the Challenge Back into Play' – 1 day FREE Risky Play Conference, 17 March '08

As the Play Development Advisor for the county, I am aware that there has been an increasing reluctance to allow children to engage in play which carries any kind of risk, and I am also aware of the detrimental effect that this can have upon the development of our children, particularly in experimentation, trial and error, and in learning how to manage their own risks later in life. I understand that many of the reservations that councils have about children's play equipment are related to the potential for litigation and, in some cases, the feeling that the organisers or supervisors of the play activities do not have a thorough enough understanding of how to assess or manage risk.

To allow these obstacles to be overcome and put risky play back onto the agenda, the Wiltshire Play Partnership and Bright Horizons have organised a FREE one day conference at the Civic Hall in Trowbridge on 17 March 2008, with eminent speakers (many internationally renowned) and experts on litigation, plus Zurich Insurance and RoSPA who will be able to give you the position of their organisations in relation to children's play on your playgrounds and playing fields. Most of the speakers will be available for the whole day and will be able to answer questions and discuss issues with you in break times. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

If you, or a delegate from your council, would like to attend the conference, please complete the attached booking form and return it to Bright Horizons as soon as possible. Places will be allocated after the closing date of 22 February to allow for a fair distribution of places and you will be notified of your allocation in writing before the end of February.

Should you have any queries about the event, please telephone Bright Horizons on 01380 736336. I look forward to hopefully meeting you on the 17 March.

Yours faithfully

Carolyn Port
Play Development Advisor
Early Years and Childcare