Director and Principal Consultant

Rob Wheway MSc. MEd. MCIMSPA, MCMI, FRSA

Professional Qualifications

- ❖ MSc is in Public Service Management
- ❖ MEd is in the Management of Community Education
- Certificate in Playwork
- Basic Certificate in Youth Work
- ❖ Assessed competent for Annual Inspections (Sprint 1996) (RPII 2003, 2007)

Summary of Skills and Experience

One of the country's leading children's play consultants. Since 1990, he has regularly undertaken contracts on behalf of Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT), ILAM (now ISPAL), National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) and RoSPA.

He has worked in children's play since 1971, holding the following positions: adventure playground worker in Birmingham, field officer for Belfast Adventure Playgrounds, regional play adviser for National Playing Fields Association, regional officer for PlayBoard, regional sales manager for a supplier of impact absorbing and sports surfaces.

He is a member of the British Standards committee, which deals with playground equipment.

Strategic Management Consultancy

He is the country's leading practitioner of observational and consultation research of children at play in the streets as well as in playgrounds and public open spaces. This work, leading to strategic recommendations, has been carried out for a wide variety of Local Authorities and Housing Trusts.

His also regularly undertakes:

- ❖ Safety Audits (Annual Inspections) of fixed equipment playgrounds
- ❖ Post Installation Inspections of fixed equipment and "natural" playgrounds
- ❖ Expert Witness Reports on fixed equipment and school playgrounds
- Tutor on training days and seminars for inspectors and managers of play facilities
- Operational Management assisting Local Authorities to improve their inspection regimes whilst at the same time reducing paperwork

Published Work (see also "Publications" section of website)

- "Play and Volunteer Directory" (1979, rev.1980); pub. NPFA
- "Talking about Play" (with A. Akehurst) (1982); pub. HPFA, 2nd ed. pub. NPFA.
- "Play Work and Safety, Background Paper One"; A section in 'Accident prevention in day care and play settings, a training resource' (1992); pub. CAPT
- "Why boys and girls stay in to play"; pub. The Guardian 12 Aug 1992 p19
- "Child's Play: Facilitating play on housing estates" (with Dr Alison Millward) (1997) (reprint 98); pub. Chartered Inst. of Housing & Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Download free from http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/childs-play-facilitating-play-housing-estates
- "Can Play Will Play" (with Alison John) (2004); pub. NPFA, download free from http://www.fieldsintrust.com/downloads/can play will play.pdf
- "NOT a risk averse society" (2008); pub. Fair Play for Children, download free from http://www.fairplayforchildren.org/pdf/1214738463.pdf
- "Fallen Trees at Climbing Structures" (2009); pub. London Play, download free from http://www.londonplay.org.uk/document.php?document_id=1469

