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## Imagination in regeneration

Ridley Park in Blyth, Northumberland is a wonderful example of how modern, exciting and technically advanced solutions can be incorporated into the regeneration of tired and underutilised public facilities. The scheme, led by Blyth Valley Borough Council, aimed to comprehensively restore this historic park whilst adapting it to meet contemporary needs.

SSP Waterplay designed and installed the key first phase elements including a low depth 'splash-pool', water-jets, interactive fountains and a brightly coloured safety decking area. This created a public facility that has dramatically increased accessibility for children of all ages and abilities.

The facilities have been a phenomenal success with the public. It is estimated that over the summer 5,000 children and their families per week used the park and surveys revealed very high approval levels.

In awarding this phase of the regeneration scheme a Commendation in its North East Regional Awards Scheme, the RTPI concluded that "The quality and imagination involved in the project helped challenge preconceptions of Blyth, and combine a major attraction for residents with a facility which attracts visitors from further afield".

**For more information please contact Greg Seale, Managing Director of SSP Waterplay on 01276 489999 or go to [www.sunsafe.co.uk](http://www.sunsafe.co.uk).**