

Council on ropes

McDONALD'S play equipment should have been used as a model for Rockdale's parks instead of the contentious rope structures, councillor Peter Poulos said at last week's Rockdale Council meeting.

Cr Poulos said the fast-food giant had done the research and understood what children wanted.

"Why are we deviating from that? We can't allocate public money and get it wrong," he said.

Slides and slippery dips for younger children were removed to make way for the rope "climbers" in the first stage of Rockdale playgrounds' redesign.

Rockdale Mayor Bill Saravinovski said he had received an "earbashing" and a petition from parents.

Councillor Gary Green rejected the Mayor's claim that the council had made a mistake and said council officers should be given time to complete the three-stage redesign that would see "Rockdale Council with the best play equipment of any council in the world".

"Berating council on unfinished playgrounds is like criticising Michelangelo halfway through his Sistine Chapel frescoes," Cr Green said.